



CEC READING LIBRARY • GRADE 6 • R3 CHALLENGE

Pinocchio

12 Chapters

Day 1-12

Q3 W21-W24

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 1: A Puppet and a Lie

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, lie, nose, fairy

Geppetto, a poor woodcarver, carved a puppet from a piece of talking wood and named him Pinocchio. That night a kind fairy gave the puppet the gift of life. Geppetto was overjoyed. He sold his only coat to buy Pinocchio a schoolbook, because he wanted his son to learn. But Pinocchio found school boring, and a puppet show seemed so much more fun. When the fairy asked where he had been, he made up a story. At once, his wooden nose grew longer. He tried to hide it with another lie, and the nose grew again, until it poked out of the window. A little talking cricket told him that lies are like weeds: one grows and then another grows to cover it. Pinocchio only laughed and ran away. The tangle of untruths soon became far worse than the first small mistake. ★ **Lies**

made things worse.

THINK What did Geppetto sell for a schoolbook?

Chapter 2: The Easy Way Out

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, lie, theater, shark

Every time Pinocchio got into trouble, he made up an explanation. He told the fairy that he had been to school, but in truth he had spent the day at the puppet theater. He told Geppetto that he had studied hard, but really he had sold his school books to buy a ticket. Each lie felt like a little door he could slip through to avoid being punished. The fairy kept shaking her head, because she could see the nose growing. Yet each door opened onto a smaller and harder room than before. One evening, a lie about the theater led him far from home. A storm rose, the sea grew wild, and a great shark swallowed Geppetto's small boat while he searched for his son. Pinocchio kept choosing the quick, easy path, and he kept arriving at harder and harder places. ★ **Pinocchio**

told lies to avoid consequences.

THINK What did the fairy keep doing?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 3: The Pattern

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, lie, problem, shark

Pinocchio's story follows a clear and painful pattern. First he makes a small mistake, perhaps a lost book or a late hour. Then he tells a lie to hide it. The lie creates a new problem, which is bigger than the first. So he tells another lie, and that problem is bigger still. After many repeats, he finds himself far from home, with no friends beside him. By the time he reaches the shark's belly, he is completely lost. And yet, none of his troubles came from real wickedness or cruelty. He never wanted to hurt anyone. Every one of them came from the small, repeated choice to avoid a little discomfort with a convenient untruth. The cricket's old warning came back to him in the dark. He thought of the fairy's patient face and wondered how many times she had forgiven him without his noticing. Only now did he see that every small lie had also been a small step away from the people who loved him. ★ **Pinocchio told lies to avoid consequences but every lie made his situation progressively worse.**

THINK Whose warning came back to him?

Chapter 4: The Lighter Heart

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, truth, weight, honesty

After many adventures and mistakes, Pinocchio began to notice something. Whenever he told the truth, he felt a small weight lift from his chest. Whenever he lied, the weight came back heavier than before. The Blue Fairy had always known when he was lying, because the nose made it impossible to hide. But even if his nose had stayed small, Pinocchio was learning that honesty felt better in the long run. One cold evening he sat alone by a canal and said a hard truth aloud, even though no one was listening. Strangely, the night air felt warm. A passing duck quacked as if it approved, and Pinocchio laughed out loud for the first time in many days. He decided that he would try to be that light every day, even when the truth was hard to say. The truth was uncomfortable in the moment, but it left nothing heavy or secret to carry around. A person of integrity does not choose honesty because it is easy. They choose it because it is right. ★

Integrity means honesty.

THINK Where did Pinocchio sit alone?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 5: The Hardest Truth

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, Geppetto, truth, books

The hardest moment for Pinocchio was when he had to admit to Geppetto what he had done. He had sold his school books to buy a ticket to the puppet show, and he had lied about it afterward. Geppetto had worked hard and gone without food to buy those books for his beloved son. Standing in front of the old man, Pinocchio felt his wooden knees shake. He knew that telling the truth meant seeing hurt appear on that kind face. It would have been so much easier to invent another story and put off the moment of pain. The cricket's voice rang softly in his head. Pinocchio took a deep breath and told the whole truth from beginning to end. Geppetto cried and held him close, and Pinocchio felt something new. It was the relief of being truly known. ★

Integrity means honesty even when it is painful.

THINK What shook in front of Geppetto?

Chapter 6: The Price of Lies

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, honesty, price, shark

Pinocchio did not learn honesty from a book or a lecture. He learned it through painful experience over a long time. He was put in prison for something he had not done, he nearly drowned in the sea, and a giant shark swallowed him whole. Each disaster could be traced to one of his lies. When he added up the cost of all those choices, the price of dishonesty was extremely high. Yet the price of honesty turned out to be far smaller than he had feared. It was a moment of embarrassment, a short punishment, or a difficult conversation. In the shark's dark belly, he sat down and counted these things on his fingers. The first list was long and heavy. The second list was short and light. He nodded slowly. It surprised him how simple the answer was, and he wished he had learned it before his nose had grown as long as a broom. ★ **Integrity means being honest even when costly — Pinocchio paid a very high price to learn.**

THINK What did Pinocchio count on?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 7: The Island with No Rules

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, freedom, rules, Pleasure Island

Pinocchio had always wanted to be free to do exactly as he pleased. He wanted to play instead of study, eat candy instead of vegetables, and stay up all night. One day a friend told him about a place called Pleasure Island, where every day was a holiday. A coach with a dozen donkeys pulled him there across the hills. The island had no adults, no rules, and no bedtimes. For a short while it was the most wonderful place Pinocchio had ever seen. There were carousels, sticky sweets, and games in every street. But without rules and responsibilities, the boys gradually began to change. Their ears grew long, and their voices turned into brays. The carousels kept spinning, but nobody laughed any more, and the sweets tasted of dust. True freedom, Pinocchio learned, is not the absence of all limits. It is the ability to make choices you can live with. ★ **Freedom requires responsibility.**

THINK What pulled Pinocchio's coach?

Chapter 8: Lampwick's Idea

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, Lampwick, rules, freedom

On Pleasure Island, Pinocchio met a tall boy named Lampwick, who seemed to enjoy everything freely. Lampwick laughed at rules and teased anyone who mentioned duty or homework. He said that real freedom meant doing whatever felt good at that moment, without thinking twice. Pinocchio was tempted by this idea and spent several happy, careless days following along. They threw stones at windows, ate until they felt sick, and slept in until noon. But slowly the transformation began. Boys who lived only for pleasure started to lose themselves, and one morning Pinocchio saw his own ears growing long and furry. In horror, he ran for the gate. He escaped just in time, but the experience stayed with him for the rest of his life. Doing whatever you want is not freedom. It is simply another kind of trap. Back on the road, he met a snail who asked, very slowly, where he had been. Pinocchio told the whole truth and was surprised at how good it felt. ★ **Real freedom requires taking full responsibility for actions.**

THINK What did Pinocchio see growing?

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 9: A Freely Made Choice

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, freedom, choices, Geppetto

Pinocchio's journey from wooden puppet to real boy is really a journey toward true freedom. At the beginning he thought freedom meant having no rules and doing whatever he felt like. He discovered through great pain that this kind of freedom always destroys itself in the end. Real freedom came later, when he began to make choices he could stand behind honestly and without shame. The choice to rescue Geppetto from the shark was freely made and freely owned. Nobody told him he had to do it. No fairy waved a wand, and no cricket scolded him. He chose it because he loved his father completely. He knew that the sea was cold and dark and that he might not come back. That choice, made with full awareness of the cost, was the freest thing Pinocchio ever did in his life. ★ **Real freedom is not doing whatever we want — it means accepting full**

responsibility for choices.

THINK *Did a fairy wave a wand?*

Chapter 10: The Wish

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, real, Blue Fairy, wish

From the beginning, Pinocchio had wanted one thing more than any other. He wanted to be a real boy, not a puppet of wood but a living, breathing child. The Blue Fairy had told him that this wish could come true someday, but she had not said exactly how. Pinocchio thought it would happen like magic, suddenly and without effort. Some nights he stood before the mirror and tried to feel less wooden. Every morning he still found strings of sawdust in his hair. He wondered whether a puppet who tried his best could ever be as real as a boy of flesh and blood. The fairy only smiled, and her smile said that the answer was already on its way. But the fairy was waiting for something specific, and it had nothing to do with magic at all. She was waiting for Pinocchio to show through his actions that he deserved to be called real. The moment he risked himself to save his father was the moment she granted the wish. ★ **He became real through goodness.**

THINK *What did Pinocchio find in his hair?*

Read the story. Then think about each question.



Chapter 11: Inside the Shark

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, Geppetto, shark, sea

Inside the belly of the great shark, Geppetto sat in the dark and waited without hope. He had been searching for Pinocchio across the wide sea, and a storm had swallowed him along with his little boat. Now he was old, cold, and very far from the workshop where he had carved his beloved puppet. A tiny candle, stuck to a floating barrel, gave the only light. Then he heard a familiar voice calling his name from somewhere deeper in the belly. Pinocchio had come, not carried by luck or fairy magic, but by his own determined swimming. He had dived into the dark sea alone, because leaving his father there was simply not something he could do. Together they climbed out through the shark's open mouth while it slept. Their escape was an act of courage and love. ★ **He became truly real through goodness and courage.**

THINK What gave the only light?

Chapter 12: Real at Last

VOCABULARY Pinocchio, Blue Fairy, courage, real

The Blue Fairy did not make Pinocchio real because he wished hard enough. She did not do it because he had suffered enough, or because enough time had passed. She did it at the exact moment when Pinocchio stopped thinking about what he wanted for himself. He had jumped into the cold, dark sea to find his father, with no guarantee of survival. He had done the right thing at the cost of his own safety and comfort. When the two reached the shore, Pinocchio fell asleep on the sand, tired and cold. In the morning he woke up in a warm bed and saw that his hands were soft, his hair was brown, and his heart was beating. Geppetto stood by the window, smiling through tears. That act of self-sacrifice had been the proof the fairy waited for. Being real is not given to us. It is earned through who we choose to be. ★ **Pinocchio became truly real not through magic but through goodness, courage, and self-sacrifice.**

THINK What color was his hair?