“WEIRD RICHARD”

BY
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DURING READING FOCUS:

1. The narrator develops respect and admiration for Richard. Record details from the story that reveal these feelings.

2. Do you think that Richard and the narrator will remain friends? Explain your reasons.

3. In what ways is Richard different from most of the other kids? Find three examples in the story that suggest that Richard has very little interest in being like the other kids.

4. Pretend that you are Richard. Explain why you would prefer to be a loner.

5. What, if any, is the injustice that is represented in the story?

6. Define “stereotype”.

7. What is the popular stereotype of a teenager? How and where do people get their images of teenagers?

8. What is unfair about negative teenage stereotypes?

9. Make a chart, similar to the one below. Fill in the chart. On one side, explain the stereotype of a teenager. On the other side, explain how you are or are not different from it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE STEREOTYPE</th>
<th>THE TEENAGER</th>
<th>THE REAL ME</th>
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