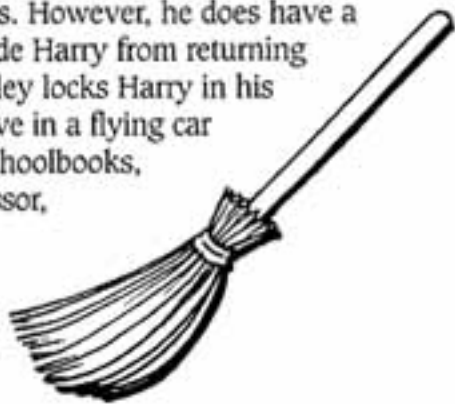


Exploring the Book

CHAPTERS 1-7

WHAT HAPPENS

Harry's birthday goes uncelebrated by the Dursleys. However, he does have a visit from an elf named Dobby who tries to dissuade Harry from returning to Hogwarts. After Dobby creates havoc, Mr. Dursley locks Harry in his room. He's rescued by the Weasley boys, who arrive in a flying car and take him to their home. While shopping for schoolbooks, Harry and his friends meet a new Hogwarts professor, Gilderoy Lockhart. When Harry and Ron can't get through the barriers to catch the train for Hogwarts on platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$, they again "borrow" the car to get to school. At the first Quidditch practice, the Gryffindors are surprised to learn that Draco Malfoy is the new Slytherin Seeker; Malfoy's father has bought the whole Slytherin team new 2001 broomsticks! The practice deteriorates when Malfoy calls Hermione a Mudblood—a foul name for someone born into a Muggle family. Soon after, Harry serves detention by helping Lockhart and hears a venomous voice that speaks of killing.



QUESTIONS TO TALK ABOUT

COMPREHENSION AND RECALL

1. Why is Uncle Vernon so upset about Harry's use of the "M" word? (*He thinks magic is abnormal.*)
2. Why doesn't Dobby want Harry to return to Hogwarts? (*He says there's a plot; Harry is in peril if he returns.*)
3. Why do Harry and Ron go to Hogwarts in Mr. Weasley's car? (*They can't get through the barrier to platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ at the station.*)
4. Why does Draco get to be the Slytherin Seeker? (*His father buys new Nimbus 2001 broomsticks for the whole team.*)

HIGHER-LEVEL THINKING SKILLS

5. How does Mr. Malfoy act toward Draco in Knockturn Alley? (*He seems angry, disappointed in him. He may have other things on his mind.*)
6. Why does Gilderoy Lockhart make Harry have his picture taken in the bookshop with him? (*Harry's famous; Lockhart likes fame.*)
7. Why is Mr. Weasley so interested in Muggle things? (*He's curious about them because he comes from a wizard family. He works for the Ministry of Misuse of Muggle Artifacts Office and so sees many Muggle items.*)

LITERARY ELEMENTS

8. **Conflict:** What conflict does the author introduce at Mr. Borgin's shop in Knockturn Alley? (*the difference between Muggle-born people and those from old*

wizard families.) Why is Lucius Malfoy so angry about the Muggle Protection Act? (He doesn't like Muggles; he thinks they're beneath him.) How is this conflict first shown at Hogwarts? (Draco calls Hermione a Mudblood, an offensive term for a Muggle.)

PERSONAL RESPONSE

9. Dobby tells Harry that he knew of Harry's "greatness but not of his goodness." What is the difference between greatness and goodness?

10. Ron and Harry break rules by taking Mr. Weasley's car to Hogwarts. Do you think they are justified in doing this or should they have found another solution? Explain your answer.

CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ART: Start a Chart

Draw students' attention to the interesting colors mentioned in the book. For example, Gilderoy Lockhart appears in mauve robes. Other colors mentioned include magenta, lilac, turquoise, salmon pink, forget-me-not blue, and electric blue. Have students create an art chart on which they name and show samples of these colors. Encourage students to add to their charts as they continue reading the book.

SOCIAL STUDIES: A Look at London

Remind students that Harry and the other Hogwarts students go to an imaginary place—Diagon Alley—in a real place—London—to buy their books and other school materials. Have students look at maps of London and decide where they think a magical place like Diagon Alley might be located.

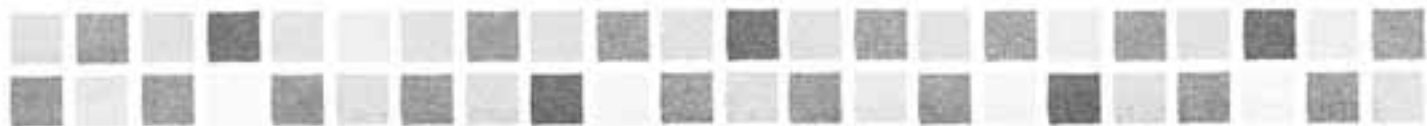
WRITING: A Potter Party

Recall with students the title of the first chapter ("The Worst Birthday"), and discuss the events that take place on Harry's birthday. Then invite students to write plans for a terrific birthday party for Harry. Students might want to include traditional as well as magical things. You may wish to have different students focus on different parts of the plans. For example, some students might create invitations, some might describe the birthday cake and other refreshments, some might describe the gifts, and others might outline the games or entertainment.



TEACHER TIP

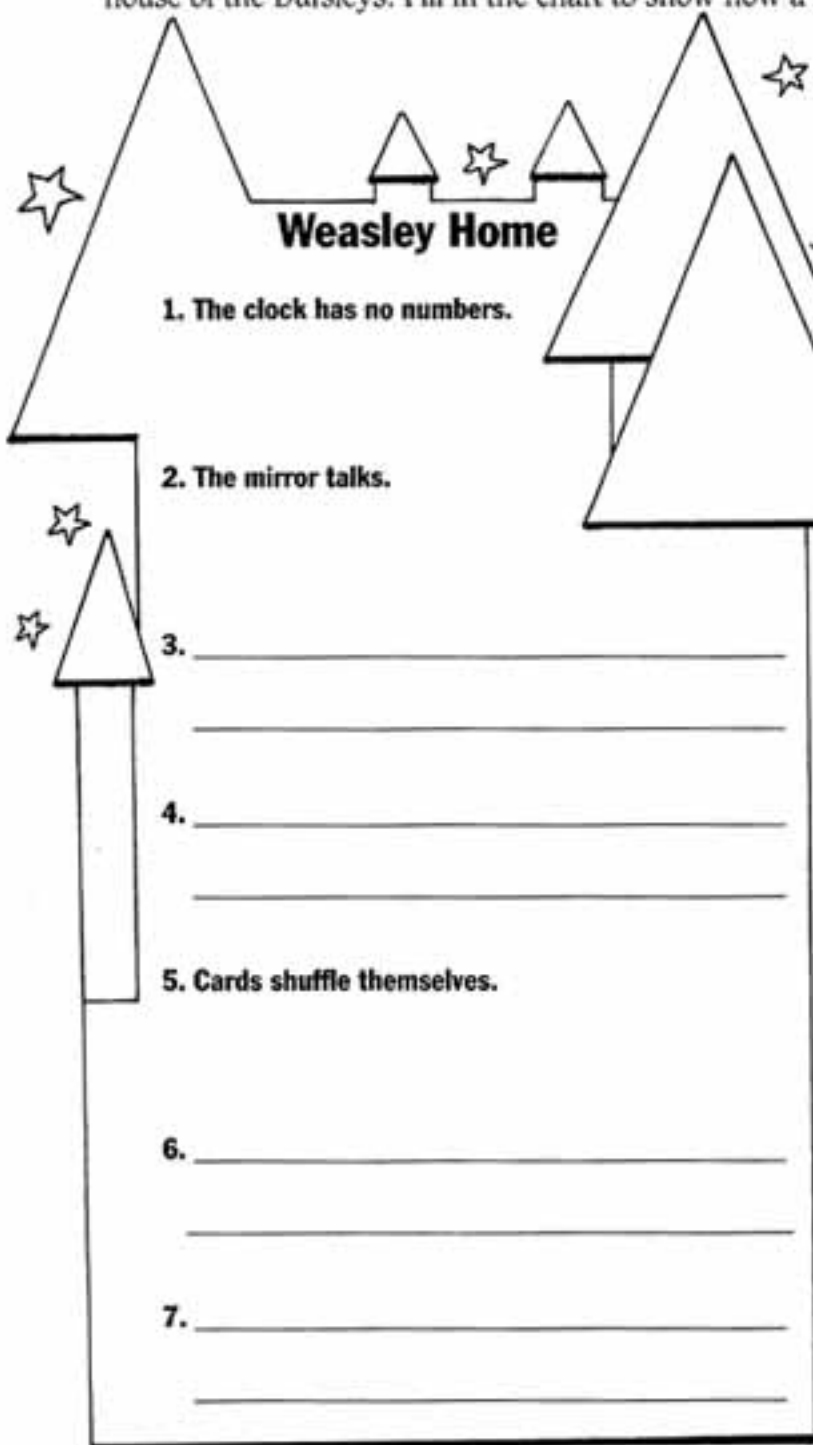

Use the Mudblood incident as an opportunity to discuss name-calling. Why do certain words or names have so much power? Why do people use them? How does it make people feel to be called by these names?



Name: _____

Home Sweet Home

Harry enjoys his stay at the Weasley home and can't help noticing how different it is from the Muggle house of the Dursleys. Fill in the chart to show how a Muggle home differs from the Weasley home.

 <p>Weasley Home</p>	 <p>Muggle Home</p>
1. The clock has no numbers.	1. _____
2. The mirror talks.	_____
3. _____	3. The garden has plants and insects.
4. _____	4. It's quiet in the attic.
5. Cards shuffle themselves.	5. _____
6. _____	6. Dishwashers clean dishes.
7. _____	7. People travel by Floo powder.