What are the challenges of living in two cultures?
Plan Your Schedule

My group members are: ____________________________________________________________

We plan to read *The Star Fisher* and meet on these dates:

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<th>Date We Will Discuss</th>
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Our Exchange meeting will be on this date: ______________________.
Prepare to Read

Think About What You Know

What is your cultural background? Tell about it.

Preview and Predict

- Look at the front cover.
- Read the book summary on the back cover.
- Read The Exchange question on the title page.

1. Look at the title. In the story, Joan tells about a magical creature called a star fisher who can live both on the earth and in the sky. How do you think Joan is like the star fisher?

2. The Lees came to Clarksburg to start a new life and a new business. Do you think they’ll stay? Why or why not?
Use a Reading Strategy

Use a Story Map

As you read each part of *The Star Fisher*, use a Story Map to show what happens when the Lees move to a new town.

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Respond to Chapters 1–2

Story Map

Think It Over
Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Miss Lucy liked to talk to people. She said that people were her hobby. What is a hobby you have? Explain.

2. **Narrator’s Point of View** Joan is the character who narrated the story about her family. How would the story have been different if Mama had told it?

3. **Opinion** Would you have liked to have tea at Miss Lucy’s house? Why or why not?
Respond to Chapters 3–4

Story Map


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response Miss Lucy wanted to help the Lees by inviting them to dinner, but Papa refused. Tell about a time you offered to help someone, but they didn’t want your help. What happened?

2. Sequence What happened to the star fisher after she married the farmer? Write your answer. Include as many details as you can.

3. Paraphrase On page 56, Papa said that “the nail that sticks out gets hammered.” What does this proverb mean? How could it be both good and bad to listen to this advice?
Respond to Chapters 5–6

Story Map

Think It Over
Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. **Personal Response** Emily and Bobby made friends easily, but Joan did not. Have you ever had a hard time making friends? Why?

2. **Paraphrase** On page 80, Joan said her anger was armor against curious looks from other people. Tell in your own words what she meant.

3. **Monitor Reading** Reread Joan’s conversation with Miss Blake on pages 90–92. Choose a part of what you just read that was difficult to understand. Then summarize it. Write your summary.
Respond to Chapters 7–8

Story Map


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response Joan had more than one role in her family. She was a daughter to her parents, but she was like a parent to Emily and Bobby. What roles do you have in your family?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

2. Perspectives In Chapter 8, Mama fought with Miss Lucy and with Joan. What would you have done if you were Mama? Explain.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

3. Latin and Greek Roots The word *philosophy* comes from Greek and means “love of wisdom.” *Phil* means “love of” and *soph* means “wisdom.” Read the sentence with *philosophy* on page 110. Why would Papa be reading a book about philosophy? What does *philosopher* mean? Use a dictionary if you need to.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Respond to Chapters 9–10

Story Map


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response Joan felt like the star fisher’s daughter. Think of a story you have heard. How are you like a character in the story? How are you different?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Paraphrase On page 167, Mama said, “You can be a stranger in your own family.” What did she mean?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Generalization Joan and Bernice both felt that people were embarrassed to be seen with them. Why is it wrong to make assumptions about how other people feel?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Respond to Chapters 11–12

Story Map


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response  Joan and her family had never been to a pie social before. Tell about a time you went to an event that was not part of your culture. How did you feel about it?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Conclusions  Mama knew her pies tasted bad. Why did she want to donate a pie to the social anyway?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. Character’s Motive  Why did the woman with the silver-blue hair want Bernice to leave the church?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Respond to Chapters 13–14

Story Map


Think It Over

Think about what you read and answer these questions.

1. Personal Response  Miss Lucy defended Joan’s family against Mister Snuff and his friends. Have you ever defended someone? What happened? How did it make you feel?

2. Conclusions  What did Miss Lucy want the sheriff to do about Mister Snuff? Why didn’t the sheriff want to do it?

3. Perspectives  If you were Miss Lucy, how would you have acted toward Mister Snuff? Explain.