

# Grade 6 Summer Reading Study Guide

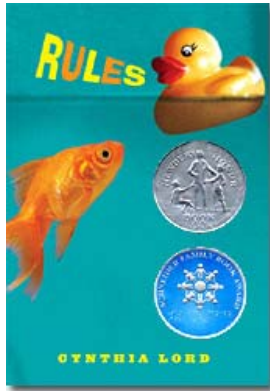
## RULES BY CYNTHIA LORD SCHOLASTIC PRESS, 2006

### About the Author

Cynthia Lord has been a bookseller, behavior specialist, teacher, and now a writer. She began writing songs with her sister at age 4. They grew up in New Hampshire, and she now calls Maine home. Lord has 2 children, one with autism. Her book Rules is loosely based on her son. She aimed to show readers the full picture, both good and bad, of raising a child with autism.

Rules is her first novel, and she has received nominations and awards for this first attempt. Some awards she has received include: the Newberry Honor Award, KY Bluegrass Award, Maine Student Book Award, and a nomination for the Young Hoosier Book Award. Her newest novel is called Touch Blue, Scholastic, 2008.

Susan Reiff



### Literary Terms

**Familiarize yourself with the following literary terms:**

Setting – where and when a story takes place

Character – person (or animal) in a story

Point of view – perspective from which the story is told

Theme – message or “lesson learned” in a story

Plot – what happens in a story, in order

Conflict – problem or challenge in a story

### Pre-reading Questions

**Read and think about the following questions *before* you read the novel, Rules. You do NOT need to answer these in writing.**

What does it mean to have special needs?

Are rules necessary? Why?

What are the everyday rules in your house?

How do you use your free time in the summer?

Have you ever had to choose between two friends? Why?

## **Grade 6 Summer Reading Study Guide, P. 2**

**Use loose leaf paper to complete the vocabulary and chapter questions sections of this study guide. Be sure to follow each section's directions carefully. When finished, staple your loose leaf to the study guide and bring it to school on the first day.**

### **Vocabulary**

**Write the definitions of the following words. Make sure the definitions fit the way the words are used in context. Chapter and page numbers are given.**

Ch. 1, p. 8	autism
Ch. 2, p. 20	wayward
Ch. 3, p. 31	initiating
Ch. 4, p. 45	peer
Ch. 5, p. 56	beams
Ch. 6, p. 65	wearily
Ch. 7, p. 69	accommodate
Ch. 8, p. 78	sarcastic
Ch. 9, p. 95	smirk
Ch. 10, p. 98	gingerly
Ch. 11, p. 110	avalanche
Ch. 12, p. 113	perspective
Ch. 13, p. 126	frilly
Ch. 14, p. 135	distortion
Ch. 15, p. 146	surges
Ch. 16, p. 159	flushed
Ch. 17, p. 163	acoustic
Ch. 18, p. 168	muted
Ch. 19, p. 181	mazes
Ch. 20, p. 189	logo
Ch. 21, p. 191	blares
Ch. 22, p. 199	slay

### **Chapter Questions**

**Answer the following chapter questions in complete sentences. Write neatly.**

#### **CHAPTER 1**

How does Catherine feel when she sees a moving van next door? P.5

#### **CHAPTER 2**

What does Catherine say her reason is to continue going to the clinic? P.13

#### **CHAPTER 3**

Explain how Ryan Deschaine treats David. P. 30

#### **CHAPTER 4**

Why does Catherine put so much time into Jason's word cards? P.46

## **Grade 6 Summer Reading Study Guide, P. 3**

### CHAPTER 5

What is the one rule in this chapter with which David has no trouble? P.56

### CHAPTER 6

Name the example on p.63 where Catherine follows her own rule.

### CHAPTER 7

Describe how Catherine explains her rule system to Jason on P. 71.

### CHAPTER 8

How do you know David DID put a toy in the fish tank on P.85?

### CHAPTER 9

Why does Catherine think Kristi's house is so different from hers? P. 93

### CHAPTER 10

Who comes along for the first time to the clinic in chapter 9? P.103

### CHAPTER 11

Why do you think Mom wants Catherine to sign up for a summer class? P. 105

### CHAPTER 12

List the most important events in this chapter in order.

### CHAPTER 13

What was the game Catherine played with her dad when she was little? P.124

### CHAPTER 14

Describe Kristi's feelings about her parents' separation. P.139

### CHAPTER 15

Name the two special things in Jason's life today. P.145

### CHAPTER 16

Why is David so impatient? P.155

### CHAPTER 17

Why does Catherine go into the antique store? P. 162

### CHAPTER 18

What is funny about the chapter title, "Pantless Brothers are not my Problem"? P.167

### CHAPTER 19

Explain the conflict between brother and sister. P.182.

### CHAPTER 20

Why is "Late doesn't mean not coming" an important rule for David? P.186

### CHAPTER 21

What makes Catherine mad at the dance? P.194

### CHAPTER 22

Why is it so fitting that the novel ends with a scene from a Frog and Toad book by Arnold Lobel? P.199

### **Extended Response**

Please think about the following extended response prompt. You will write your essay on the day of the test at the beginning of the school year. You will need to write in complete sentences, using information from the story and your own ideas.

*Is Catherine a good sister? Think of specific examples to support your position.*