



After reading  
the book

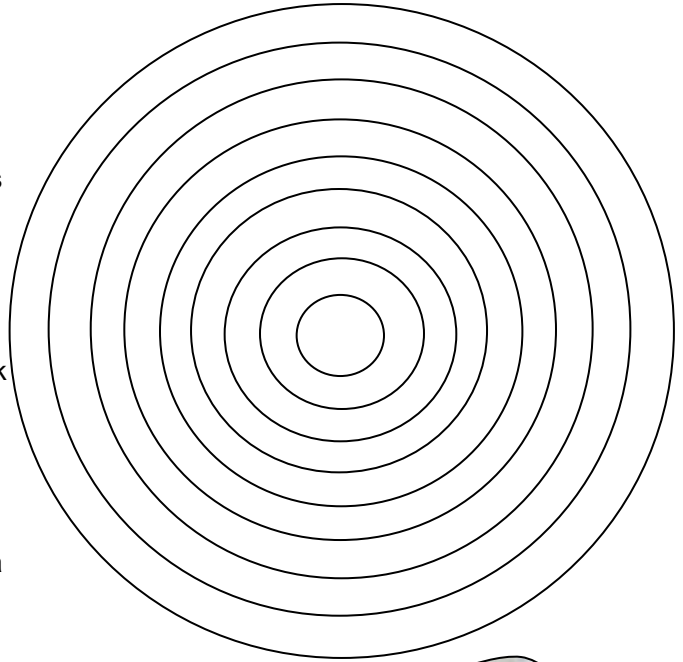
Objectives: ... draw inferences such as conclusions and generalizations and support them with text evidence  
... use the text's structure or progression of ideas such as cause and effect or chronology to locate and recall information  
... answer different kinds of questions  
... describe mental images that text descriptions evoke

## Jessica's Ripples

One event can cause a series of ripples, each causing another event to happen. One decision or changed event can be like a new rock dropped in the stream, causing the ripples to lead to a whole new outcome.

What ripples were caused in St. Catherine's School after Jessica joined the class? When she left, did the ripples continue?

Cut out the ripple chart and rocks below. Stack the rocks face down in the center of the ripple chart. Each rock represents something that would have changed the story. With your group, turn over one stone at a time, passing it around the group, discussing the ripples from its splash that would have carried the story in a different direction. (Analyze the small steps...what would happen first? What would that cause? And so on.)



What would have happened if the class had been more welcoming?

What would have happened if Tom had started talking to Jessica sooner?

What would have happened if Jeff's parents had not divorced?

What would have happened if Jessica had told the class about the accident?

What would have happened if Jessica had heard the gossip going around the school?

What would have happened if Tom had continued to be good friends with Jeff?

What would have happened if Jessica had not dropped the picture on the floor?

What would have happened if Mrs. Tracy had asked Jeff to take Jessica's homework to her?

What would have happened if Jessica had never come to St. Catherine's School?

