

# At-Home Discussion Questions For HT's Reading of *A Boy Called Bat*

Find reader videos for each chapter at [www.htpta.org/HTReads2024](http://www.htpta.org/HTReads2024) - don't forget to track your book time for Read-a-thon!

Chapters	Discussion Questions
Monday 4/1  CHAP 1-3 Pgs. 1-16	1) What are the reasons almost everyone calls Bixby by the nickname "Bat?" How would you feel about this nickname if you were Bixby? 2) Why is Bat's room his favorite place in the world? What's your favorite place? Why? 3) When Bat's mom didn't bring home vanilla yogurt, Bat felt that this was the "last straw" and he was very angry. How was Bat feeling before he knew that she didn't bring home yogurt? Why?
Tuesday 4/2  CHAP 4-6 Pgs. 17-34	1) Bat knows that there are "lots of rules when it comes to Janie." What's one of those rules? Why do you think Janie has this rule? Would you agree with Janie? 2) How do you think Bat and Janie get along? Do they see things the same way? Do they agree or disagree about things? Why do you think they have this relationship? 3) Bat says he loves the baby skunk. What happened that led him to love the baby skunk? Have you ever loved an animal?
Wednesday 4/3  CHAP 7-8 Pgs. 35-51	1) Why is Bat having an especially hard time going to his dad's apartment for "Every-Other-Friday?" Do you think he also wants to see his dad? How would you feel if you were Bat? 2) How did Bat embarrass Lucca? Do you think he meant to embarrass Lucca? Why do you think Israel's face was red and eyebrows pointed toward each other when he said, "Dude?"
Thursday 4/4  CHAP 9-11 Pgs. 52-71	1) Mr. Grayson has an "unspoken rule" that you can't skip classroom activities by spending a long time with Babycakes. Why do you think Mr. Grayson has this rule? Can you think of an "unspoken rule" in your life? 2) What are some of the reasons doesn't Bat like group work? Do you like group work, or do you prefer to work on your own? 3) What are the two reasons Bat doesn't like it when his father says "Be careful, sport" after Bat spills hot chocolate on his shirt?
Friday 4/5  CHAP 12-14 Pgs. 72-90	1) Sometimes, when Bat was nervous about something, he thought about animal facts. What do you do when you feel nervous? Does it help you feel less nervous? Why? 2) At the end of chapter 13, Bat thinks to himself that sometimes Janie is brilliant. What did she say to make him think this? Do you agree? 3) Bat and his mom agree to work together to care for Thor. What are some of the things they have to do each day for Thor?

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Saturday 4/6  CHAP 15-16 Pgs. 91-94	1) Dr. Jerry Dragoo says that "while skunks in general do not make good pets, what makes a good pet is a good pet caretaker." What is a caretaker? What does it mean to be a "good pet caretaker?" Have you been a caretaker? 2) Bat wasn't sure why Mr. Grayson's face looked "squinched up" after hearing Bat's email. Why do you think he made a face?
Sunday 4/7  CHAP 17 Pgs. 103-116	1) One day, Bat wants to wear a white jacket with the words "Dr. Tam DVM" just like his mom. What skills and personality do you think Bat will need to become a veterinarian. Does he have some skills already? 2) What events in this chapter tell you that Laurence trusts Bat?
Monday 4/8  CHAP 18-20 Pgs. 117-139	1) What topic does Bat find interesting and loves to learn about? What does Janie find interesting? What topic do you find very interesting and love to learn about? 2) What "nice gesture" did Bat make to help Thor get to know Janie's scent? Did Janie appreciate what he did? How do you think Bat felt after Janie shared her feelings about what he did? 3) Chapter 20 is titled "Problems." What are some of the problems Bat is facing in this chapter? How would you feel about these problems?
Tuesday 4/9  CHAP 21-23 Pgs. 140-164	1) Go back and read pages 142-143. Do you think Israel sees Bat as a friend? Why? Do you think Bat sees Israel as a friend? Why? Do you think one or both of them want to be friends? 2) Bat has a hard time figuring out what people mean when they make certain faces at him. Find someone at home. Take turns to see if you can guess each others facial emotions. Start with happy, sad, angry, surprised, scared. Can you come up with more emotions? 3) Look into the eyes of the person you are talking with. What colors do you see in their eyes? Do you share some of the same colors? Can you see parts of their personality in their eyes?
Wednesday 4/11  CHAP 24-25 Pgs. 165-182	1) If you were Bat and you read Dr. Dragoo's email, how would you feel about what he said? How would you feel about keeping Thor? 2) Bat's mom describes Bat as "dedicated" to taking care of Thor. What do you think this means? Are you dedicated to doing something?
Thursday 4/12  CHAP 26 & Author's Note Pgs. 183-196	1) At the end of the book, Bat feels really, really happy? Why? 2) Dr. Dragoo says owning a skunk is complicated. What's your opinion about keeping wild animals as pets? What would be complicated?



Questions written by Frank Kleyn, LFP Teacher-Librarian