

# James and the Giant Peach

## End of the Unit Activities

### End of Unit Questions (answer 3):

1. If you had been along on the journey, what would have been the scariest part? Why?
2. Earthworm seems quite pessimistic. Why do you think he might be this way?
3. Why do you think Miss Spider is “not loved at all”? Should she be loved? Explain how this might apply to human relationships.
4. At what point does James become the leader on the journey? Why do you think he became the leader instead of one of the others?
5. Which insects were used in the story and what made them good choices?
6. If you could add another insect, what would it be and what would be its part in the story?
7. The peach finally landed in New York City. What if the peach had landed in Los Angeles? How might its reception and final destination have been different?
8. How did the old man know that James was so mistreated and needed the inhabitants of the peach?
9. With all of the things that happened to James what do you think was the best and worst?
10. What would happen to James today with the situation he was in at the end of the story, living by himself without a guardian?
11. What fairy tale is similar to James and the Giant Peach? In what ways?
12. Why do you suppose Roald Dahl made Miss Spider a character rather than any other insect?

### End of Story Activities (students pick 2)

#### Creature Research

Research each creature in the peach. Tell about their life cycles, body parts, habitat, food, and if each creature is considered harmful or helpful. Present your findings to the class.

#### Vocabulary Research

Look up the words, “anthropomorphism” and “entomologist”. Write a short paper (1 page) describing how each word relates to the story

#### Compare and Contrast

At the beginning of the book James is a boy who appears to have everything going wrong including wicked aunts, being an orphan, missing his home and family and

# James and the Giant Peach

## End of the Unit Activities

dropping the magical green crystals that could have made his life happier. Write (1 page) and illustrate a comparison of James at the end of the story to James at the beginning.

### Bug Search

You will need:

Bug guide book from the library

A magnifying glass

A journal

Search your home, backyard or neighborhood for bugs. Remember, some bugs like to be out at night. Some like to hide under rocks, in crevices or other dark places. Write (1 page) and illustrate your observations.