

Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet
Discussion Guide
Grades 2-5

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- What does it mean to be a trouble magnet?
- How should you deal with a bully at school?
- When is change good? When is it not?
- Frontload vocabulary

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections. Prompt students to provide support for their answers from the text.

- Describe Omar and his family. (Ch. 1, Ch. 3, Ch. 4, Ch. 8, Ch. 11, Ch. 12, Ch. 13)
- Why doesn't Omar like change? What examples does he give? (Ch. 2)
- Why did Omar's family move? What is good about the move? What is not? (Ch. 2)
- What is Omar's family's relationship with their neighbor, Mrs. Rogers? (Ch. 2, Ch. 7, Ch. 8, Ch. 9, Ch. 12, Ch. 15)
- How are the different members of Omar's family all accidental trouble magnets? Give examples. (Ch. 3, Ch. 4, Ch. 6)
- Why does Omar's mom get frustrated with Omar? (Ch. 5)
- Why is Omar nervous for his new school? (Ch. 5)
- How does Omar's imagination help him? (Ch. 6, Ch. 9, Ch. 10, Ch. 11)
- How does Omar make things better when Daniel is being mean to him? (Ch. 8, Ch. 10)
- How does Daniel escalate his problem with Omar? (Ch. 10)
- Why do you think Daniel is so mad at Omar? Find examples to support your thinking. (Ch. 14)
- Why doesn't Omar want to talk to Mrs. Hutchinson about Daniel being a bully? (Ch. 14)
- How does Daniel affect Omar's school experience? Give examples. (Ch. 17, Ch. 18)
- What does Omar learn about Daniel on their field trip? (Ch. 19, Ch. 20)
- Why was Daniel mean at school? (Ch. 22)
- How do their experiences on the field trip help Daniel and Omar become friends? (Ch. 21, Ch. 22)

Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet
Discussion Guide
Grades 2-5

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

Omar uses different fonts and little cartoon pictures to add emphasis to his words and to illustrate parts of his day. Write about one part of your day and use illustrations and different fonts like Omar to add emphasis.

Omar's imaginary dragon, H2O, helps him a lot throughout the book. Why is H2O a good choice for Omar's imaginary friend? If you had an imaginary protector, what animal or creature would it be? Why?

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.