James and the Giant Peach

As you read, answer the questions below. Please type your answers.

Chapter 1:
What happened to James' parents while they were shopping in London?

Who is James sent to live with?

How is James treated in his new home?

Why is James not allowed to leave the garden?

What sort of people are Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker, do you think?

How, do you think, did James feel when he had to move in with his two aunts?

James is badly mistreated by his aunts. Why, do you think, does he stay in their house? What are the advantages of staying with them?
Chapter 2 & 3:
What is James doing in the garden with his two aunts?

Describe Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker.

What does James request to do with his aunts?

What unexpected thing happens that day?

How are the tiny green crocodile tongues inside the bag made?

Do you think James is scared of the old man?

If you were James, what questions would you have asked the man?

Chapter 4 & 5:
What does James need to do to the little green crocodile tongues to get them working?

How does James feel when the man leaves him with the bag?

What happens to the green crocodile tongues when they hit the ground?
What punishment does Aunt Sponge suggest for James?

If you were James, what questions would you have liked to ask the man about the green crocodile tongues?

What do you think will happen next in the story?

Chapter 6 & 7:
What do James’ aunts see on the peach tree?

What do James’ aunts order him to do?

What surprises James’ aunts about the peach?

How does the author describe the peach?

How, do you think, does Aunt Spiker plan to make money from the peach?

What thoughts are going through James’ mind when he sees the enormous peach, do you think?
Chapter 8:
How do James’ aunts make money from the peach?

How much does it cost to see the giant peach?

Where is James during all the excitement? Why is he there?

Why would James’ aunts not feed him that day?

Do Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker remind you of characters from other stories? Explain your answer.

If you were in James’ situation how would you cope with being mistreated by Aunt Spiker and Aunt Sponge, do you think?

Chapter 9 & 10:
How does James feel when he was outside at night?

How does the peach feel when James touches it?
What did James find inside the peach?

If you were James, would you have gone into the peach? Give a reason for your answer.

What makes James go into the peach?

How would Aunt Spiker and Aunt Sponge react if they knew James had climbed into the peach?

**Chapter 11:**

Name the creatures James finds inside the giant peach.

What creatures are sitting on the sofa?

What is lying on the floor? 4. Why does James look ill with fear?

What does the Centipede need help with?

What, do you think, did the creatures mean when they told James he was one of the crew?
If you were James, would you believe the creatures?

Chapter 12:
How many feet does the Centipede have?

Why did the Earthworm think he was better off than the Centipede?

How does the Centipede get to be so big?

Why does James like the Centipede?

Which character would you like to learn more about? Why?

Why, do you think, do the creatures have a tough day ahead of them?

Chapter 13:
What type of beds does Miss Spider make?

Why is it difficult for James to take off the Centipede’s boots?
How was James' old bed different to his new bed?

What noises do the creatures make as they sleep?

What did James see on the ceiling?

**Chapter 14:**
What is happening when James wakes up?

Who is trying to break the peach away from the tree?

What do the creatures sing about as the peach begins to move?

What effect does the moving peach have on the creatures inside?

**Chapter 15-16:**
Do Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker seem worried about James? How do you know?
What causes the noise in the garden?

What happens when the peach rolls over James’ aunts?

What obstacles did the peach pass as it travelled downhill?

What happens when the peach passes through the factory?

**Chapter 17 & 18:**
Why is the journey inside the peach a terrible one for the creatures?

Where do the creatures predict they are located?

Why does the Centipede not want to go upstairs?

Write some adjectives to describe the Earthworm.

What would the creatures have done if James had not been there, do you think?
Chapter 19 & 20:
What approaches the peach from the water?

Which of the creatures can make string?

How does James plan to rescue the peach?

What does the word ‘martyr’ mean? Write a sentence using the word.

Chapter 21 & 22:
What is the Earthworm afraid of?

What orders does James give to the creatures?

Where is the Earthworm positioned?

What makes the sharks attack the peach more furiously?
Who, do you think, is the biggest hero in this chapter? Explain your answer.

**Chapter 23:**
How do the creatures celebrate their flight?

Why is James worried about the peach?

What sort of condition did Miss Spider find the underside of the peach in?

Why were the sharks not able to do much damage to the peach?

**Chapter 24 & 25:**
What causes the creatures to become spellbound?

What does James learn from the Old-Green-Grasshopper?

How are earthworms and ladybirds useful for farmers?

What does Aunt Sponge do to Miss Spider’s father?
Chapter 26 & 27:
How does James try to help the Centipede?

Why does the Old-Green-Grasshopper play the ‘Funeral March’?

How is travelling by aeroplane different to the journey on the peach?

What did the Cloud-Men do?

Why, do you think, is the Centipede unkind to the Cloud-Men?

Chapter 28 & 29:
In what way do the Cloud-Men make the peach’s journey more difficult?

What does the peach collide with?

How does the peach become trapped?
Describe the appearance of the Cloud-Men.

**Chapter 30 & 31:**
What are ‘faucets’?

How do the peach and the travellers on it escape the water?

How does the Centipede become clean?

What sort of activities were the Cloud-Men doing that night?

**Chapter 32 & 33:**
What did James and the creatures see when they looked down?

Where are they flying over?

How will they lower themselves to the ground?

How do the American’s react to the arrival of the peach?
**Chapter 34-37:**
How does the Centipede help the peach to land?

What causes the peach to suddenly hit the ground?

Where does the peach land?

Who first spoke to the Chief of Police on behalf of the visitors?

Do you like James' descriptions of each of the creatures? Why? Why not?

Do you think people will like the creatures once they come down to the ground? Why? Why not?

**Chapter 38 & 39:**
How is the peach lowered to the ground?

What does the ticker tape parade involve?
Why are children chasing the peach on Fifth Avenue in New York?

What do each of the creatures go on to do?

How was James’ life different at the end of the novel to his life at the start of the novel?

What would happen to James today if he lived by himself without a guardian?