

## Study Guide Questions for *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

**Part A:** The following events from the book are in the wrong order. Number them so they are in the correct order. (2 points each)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Basketball season begins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Leo and Stargirl become friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Kevin and Leo ask Archie about Stargirl.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Leo follows Stargirl home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl becomes Susan.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl starts school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl leads the bunny hop.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl becomes popular.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl appears on *Hot Seat*.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stargirl dances at a football game.

**Part B:** Match the names in the first column to their description in the second column. (2 points each)

- |                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ Stargirl  | 1) A unique pet                    |
| _____ Cinnamon  | 2) Prehistoric rodent              |
| _____ Leo       | 3) Most popular boy                |
| _____ Kevin     | 4) Stargirl's "boyfriend"          |
| _____ Ron Kovac | 5) Another name for Stargirl       |
| _____ Archie    | 6) Co-host of "Hot Seat"           |
| _____ Barney    | 7) Formerly Susan                  |
| _____ Hillari   | 8) Friendly Paleontologist         |
| _____ Wayne     | 9) Broken legged basketball player |
| _____ Mudpie    | 10) Most popular girl              |

**Part C:** Circle the letter of the answer choice that best completes each statement. (2 points each)

1. The purpose of *The Hot Seat* was:
  - A. to make the subject squirm.
  - B. to humiliate the subject.
  - C. to congratulate the subject.
  - D. to quiz the subject.
  
2. What game does Stargirl like to play at the mall?
  - A. She liked to guess what people like to buy.
  - B. She liked to play "Hide and Seek".
  - C. She liked to guess what type of card people needed.
  - D. She liked to run up the escalator the wrong way.
  
3. What event made Leo realize that no one was talking to him?
  - A. Kevin told him during lunch.
  - B. Stargirl mentioned that no one noticed them together.
  - C. Renshaw ignored his call.
  - D. Dori stopped sitting with them at lunch.
  
4. When did Leo finally admit that Stargirl was his girlfriend?
  - A. When she called herself Susan and wore jeans.
  - B. When she called herself Susan and gave Cinnamon away.
  - C. When he spoke to Archie.
  - D. After *The Hot Seat* episode.
  
5. What made Stargirl popular again?
  - A. The oratorical contest.
  - B. The Ukee Doos.
  - C. The greeting cards and cookies.
  - D. The Bunny Hop.

**Part D:** Write a response to each of the following open-ended questions on a separate piece of paper (Your responses must be at least one paragraph each, but may be longer as needed). Be certain restate the question within your response, and answer in complete sentences. Organize your paragraph with a clear opening and closing. (10 points each)

1. What do you believe is the meaning of the following quote? “On the contrary, she is one of us. Most decidedly. She is us more than we are us. She is, I think, who we really are. Or were.” (Page 32) Explain. What impact did Stargirl have on Mica? Explain and give specific examples.
2. As the saying goes, “Love is blind.” How is this truly the case with Leo and Stargirl? How can you tell that Leo is falling for her? And does he stay in love with her even after she moves away?
3. Popularity, fitting in, and “sameness” are all key themes in *Stargirl*. Find places in the novel that deal with these themes and discuss. Do you think Stargirl ever wanted to be popular? How might she define popularity?
4. The Ocotillo Ball at the end of the novel represents a turning point. Do you think Stargirl makes a deliberate attempt to say goodbye at the ball? What do you make of the students’ behavior at the ball, and what does this tell you about the student body of Mica High as a whole?
5. Archie says about Stargirl, “Star people are rare. You’ll be lucky to meet another,” (p. 177). Do you think Leo was grown-up enough for his relationship with Stargirl? How about the students of Mica High? Will Leo ever figure Stargirl out?