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| **Making Bad Choices**  Georgina knows that stealing the dog is wrong, but she does it anyway.  \*Do you think she had no other choice but to do this?  \* Do you think that desperate times calls for desperate measures?  \*Have you ever done something you knew was wrong but you felt you had no other choice?  \*How did you feel after doing it? Did guilt set in like it did for Georgina? | **Mookie**  What role does Mookie play in the story? Compare and contrast Mookie’s homelessness with Georgina’s situation.  \* What is similar about Mookie and Georgina? What is different?  \*Do you think Mookie understands Georgina and why she did what she did? What makes you think that?  \* Why do you think Mookie is always so happy and has a good outlook on life when he is homeless? | **Lesson Learned**  At the end of the story, things get better for Georgina. Her family is living in a house again, Willie is back home with his owner, and Carmella forgives Georgina for stealing a dog. Georgina finally determines that stealing a dog is NOT a good idea.  \*What lesson did Georgina learn from this situation?  \*How do you think she finally came to fully understand that she was wrong? |
| **Future Georgina**  Write about Georgina’s life a year down the road. What does it look like?  \*Do you think she is still friends with Luanne after she ditched her for Lisa?  \*Do you think she is doing better in school?  \*Is she still sharing a house with another family?  \*What is her relationship like her with mother and Toby now? | **Toby**  Toby never gets to share his feelings. What do you think was going on through his head? Write a chapter as if you were Toby. Include how you think he felt throughout the book. | **Different Ending**  At the end of the story, Georgina’s guilt builds up and returns the dog to Carmella and tells her everything. Carmella is very forgiving to Georgina.  Rewrite a different ending. This time Carmella is not so nice and forgiving. What happens? |
| **Mottos**  When Georgina meets Mookie in the woods he ends up giving her positive advice in the form of mottos.  \*What do the two mottos below mean and why would he tell them to Georgina?  **-- “Sometimes the trail you leave behind you is more important than the path ahead of you”**  **-- “Sometimes, the more you stir it, the more it stinks”** | **Georgina’s Mother**  On p. 49, Georgina says to Mama, “Maybe you could act like a mother!”  \*Do you think Mama acts like a mother?  \* Is she doing everything she can to take care of her kids?  \*Would you be mad at your mother if you had to live in a car?  \*Do you think Georgina is wrong for the way she treats her mother? Do you think Georgina really means the things that she says? | **Luanne**  Throughout the text Georgina starts to physically change. Her hair becomes very greasy and her clothes are ratty and dirty. Georgina’s attitude also changed for the worse.  \* Do you think that Luanne is a true friend? Why?  \*How does her friend Luanne react to Georgina and her changed appearance and personality?  \*If you were Luanne and knew there was something wrong with your friend, what do you think you would do? |

**How to Steal a Dog Reading Entry Choice Board**