THE JELLY BEAN EMPORIUM / BOOK ONE

Teacher answer and discussion guide

Use this guide with the 30 print-friendly activities for The Seven Flavour Gems. Suggested ages 9–14.

Using evidence

Credit responses that point to a detail from the assigned chapters and explain what that detail shows. The suggested answers are a starting point for discussion.

Supporting participation

Offer quiet working time, a partner, a reader, a scribe, drawing, AAC or spoken responses. Pupils can write through the characters and keep personal experiences private.

Finding a sheet

Activities 1–30 are in story order. Each sheet gives the reading reference. Activity 30 uses two pages for a whole-book response.

Printing

Use the A4 file for desks or the A3 file for larger writing space. Choose the correct paper size when printing.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

1. Theo’s Inside Weather

Chapter 1

Look for the cumulative pressure of the ruined lunch, failed arithmetic test, Marcus’s bullying, wet shoes, hunger and worry about his mother. Theo feels grey, hollow and detached. he has stopped drawing and playing guitar. Strong responses connect outer weather and physical sensations to the fear and numbness he carries inside.

2. Behind the Word “Fine”

Chapter 2

“Fine” works as a mask rather than a complete account. Accept answers that contrast spoken reassurance with body language, hesitation, over-cheerfulness or the family’s unspoken worry. Evidence should show why a listener might gently check again without demanding disclosure.

3. The Colour Drain

Chapter 3

The slipping seals and fading colour signal that feelings and memories are being removed, not simply that the shop looks different. Answers should identify sensory changes and explain that loss of feeling can make a place or person seem safer while also making it less alive.

4. When a Memory Loses Its Feeling

Chapter 4

The archive separates a remembered event from its emotional force. A sound answer distinguishes “what happened” from “what it meant or felt like” and notices the cost: a factual memory without feeling is incomplete and easier to control.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

5. Every Flavour Belongs

Chapter 5

Bitter, sharp or difficult flavours have a function alongside sweet ones. Accept evidence showing that unpleasant feelings can warn, protect or tell the truth. The central idea is inclusion: value does not depend on being easy, cheerful or immediately liked.

6. The Line You’re Supposed to Walk

Chapters 6–7

The Stacks and the Geometry of Peace prize order and prescribed movement. Strong answers compare the apparent calm of uniform behaviour with the lost freedom of people forced into categories. “Peace” without choice becomes control.

7. Anger Is Information

Chapter 8

Anger signals offence, unfairness and threatened boundaries. Evidence may include heat, tension, fast thoughts or impulsive action. The best responses separate the message of anger from the action chosen because of it: the feeling can be valid while behaviour still needs care.

8. Keep Your Weight

Chapter 9

In the Grey Quarter, losing emotional weight means becoming easier to move, sort or erase. Answers should connect “weight” with memory, identity and attachment. Grounding details and relationships help characters stay present and resist being made blank.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

9. The Weight of the Badge

Chapter 10

The badge represents role, duty and authority, but also pressure. Look for answers that evaluate what the wearer is protecting, what the rules cost, and whether obedience removes personal responsibility. Authority should be judged by its effects on people.

10. It Hurts Because It Matters

Chapter 11

The siphon threatens to remove painful feeling. Theo’s response and Sunny’s presence show that pain may be connected to love, loyalty and what has been lost. Accept answers that do not glorify suffering but explain why erasing it can also erase meaning.

11. The Wall Made of Memories

Chapter 12

The wall is built from memories that have been collected and contained. Students should identify how individual stories become structural material and discuss the ethical problem of using someone’s experience without consent.

12. What Cannot Be Sorted

Chapters 13–14

The Living Verge and shadowed bough resist neat categories. Strong responses identify mixed feelings, changing identities or experiences that belong in more than one box. Uncertainty is not failure. it may be honest evidence that a living person cannot be reduced to a label.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

13. A Heart That Feels

Chapter 15

The Root-Iron Stair tests more than toughness. A feeling heart notices fear, attachment and other people. Accept answers that frame sensitivity as information and connection rather than weakness.

14. Courage Under Glass

Chapter 16

The Sluice of Sifted Virtues turns qualities into things that can be isolated or displayed. Courage is not the absence of fear and cannot be proved by appearance alone. Evidence should show a fearful character making a purposeful choice.

15. The Objects That Hold Our Names

Chapter 17

In the Corridor of Unmade Names, objects can preserve identity and story. Pipkin chose smallness and forgetfulness as protection. this should not be described as simple weakness. Accept answers that explain how an object anchors a name, relationship or chosen self.

16. The Offer That Sounds Like Peace

Chapters 18–19

Silas’s offer promises relief through removal of conflict, pain or difference. Students should notice persuasive language and the hidden cost: safety bought by surrendering agency, memory or feeling. A useful test is to ask who chooses and who benefits.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

17. The Thread and the Wrench

Chapter 20

Elsie’s practical action and the connecting thread show complementary strengths. Expected answers identify observation, making, persistence and cooperation. The group succeeds because different ways of thinking are combined rather than ranked.

18. Alive Doesn’t Mean Pain-Free

Chapters 21–22

Uncorking the world restores sensation, but the Price of Sugar makes clear that aliveness includes discomfort and consequence. Full-credit answers reject both extremes: pain need not be sought, but a pain-free life created by removing love, memory or freedom is not whole.

19. The Morning After

Chapters 23–24

Home is recognised through ordinary sensory details and changed relationships. Claire, Paul and Theo are not instantly restored. Paul’s question should be met with honesty and space. The lingering ache shows that recovery and relief can coexist.

20. Rules, Risks and People

Chapters 25–26

The card describes Sector 07 as “Ungoverned,” warns against the Unbound and lists J. Mallow, age ten, as missing. Sealing the threshold may reduce immediate risk but abandons Julian. Theo and Elsie recognise that locks can become cages and records can erase people. Their choice prioritises finding the truth while accepting managed risk.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

21. The Bridge Believes the Truth

Chapters 27–28

Theo’s fear for his mother narrows his attention and destabilises him. Elsie first asks him to look at her, bringing attention to a trusted present cue. She reminds him of what the group has already survived and states with certainty that they will not let Silas take the town. the truthful plank strengthens. Grounding combines body, attention, evidence and support.

22. Care Without Giving Yourself Away

Chapter 29

The Excised seek names because identity has been removed. Theo does not give his name. he offers a cedar shaving that is his to share. The paper child gains a sketched face and sinks gently. This is both compassionate and boundaried: he notices need without surrendering identity or safety.

23. The Unfinished Door

Chapters 30–31

Silas uses Theo’s real pain about home to manipulate him. truth can be selected or framed dishonestly. Theo answers that pain proves something mattered. Theo, Elsie, Lucien and Julian contribute different knowledge and action to finish the door. “P. Barnaby - age 9” in the sill reveals Paul’s childhood connection and opens a new question.

24. The Memory Is His to Open

Chapters 32–33

Theo’s anger appears in his fists, sparks/freckles and behaviour. Elsie helps him stop, look, breathe and notice that Lucien is frightened. Theo refuses to turn the rosewood knot because the childhood memory belongs to Paul. He needs answers but chooses consent, distinguishing himself from Silas.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

25. Anchored to Home

Chapters 34–36

Theo uses Paul’s brass collar-stud, meaningful through family occasions and its place in the house. Familiar scullery sights, smells, sounds and textures confirm home. The group crosses with Paul because he did not freely choose forgetting and should not face return alone. The small object is strong because relationship gives it meaning.

26. When Memory Becomes History

Chapters 37–39

Paul names and shares memories with Claire, changing them from extractable commodities into claimed history. Jamie explains that removing hurt would also remove the love attached to it. Paul chooses to speak, chooses his listener and participates in defining what the memories mean now. this agency blocks Silas’s ownership.

27. Recovery Has Rough Edges

Chapter 40

Claire remains weak, Paul feels strange, Theo expects a finished ending and the household is noisy and imperfect. Elsie’s splinters and damp corners show that real things bear wear. Accept balanced statements: relief and difficulty, return and adjustment, love and frustration can all be true together.

28. A Safe Door Has Boundaries

Chapter 41

The four rules protect consent, truthful identity, memories and privacy: no outside locks/knock three times. names spoken true. no harvesting. red towel on latch/ring twice. Healthy boundaries communicate access and needs. harmful barriers control, trap, take without permission or refuse all accountability.

Suggested answers and chapter evidence

Invite pupils to show how a story detail supports what they think.

29. The Things That Stay

Chapter 42

Paul’s full account allows informed response. Claire can be angry and still care. care does not cancel harm. Repair requires truthful speech followed by repeated action and ordinary commitments. Jamie rejects being a remainder or bargain and claims an identity that belongs to him.

30. Home Is a Door You Share

Chapters 43–44 and whole book

Theo waits rather than entering the High Joinery immediately, showing choice and responsibility. Claire’s rule—leave by the door, come back by the door—contains honesty, consent, return and responsibility. Whole-book evidence should support: memory without consent is theft. protection without freedom is a clean cage. courage includes ordinary acts. home is a shared threshold.