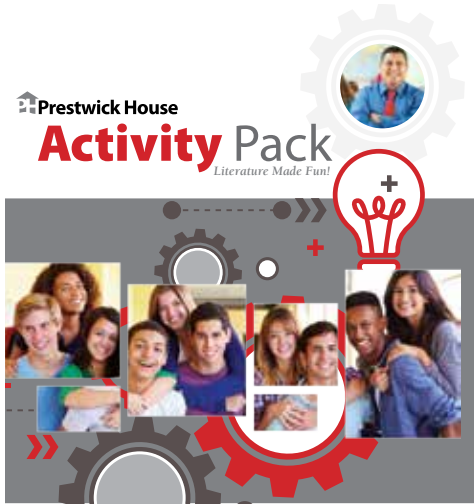




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# Sample



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***Flowers for Algernon***  
BY DANIEL KEYES



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-reading**

**Prediction Chart**

**Objective:** Generating thought on what is to come in reading *Flowers for Algernon*

**Activity**

By looking at the cover, the title, chapter titles, what do you think this story is about? Who might Algernon be? Why would someone give him/her flowers? Why are the chapters titled by dates? Why does the spelling change throughout the book? What are the “progress reports” for?

Complete the following prediction chart before you read the novel. After you finish reading the book, look over your previous predictions and see how many you predicted correctly.

**Prediction Chart**

Questions	Pre-Reading	After Completing
What is the story about?		
Who is Algernon?		
Why would someone give Algernon flowers?		
Why does the spelling change?		
What are the progress reports for?		

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**April 10****Persuasive Essay****Objective:** Writing a persuasive essay**Activity**

Joe and Frank were not nice to Charlie when they took him to the party. They made fun of him and caused him to make a fool of himself. They treated him poorly for their own entertainment.

Pretend you are a prosecutor. Joe and Frank have been charged with bad behavior. You need to write your closing argument against Joe and Frank. You need to persuade the jury to find them guilty. Use any information or language from the text that will support your argument. Think creatively about other textual information you could use, such as evidence of other times they have made fun of him.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**April 27****Debate****Objective:** Constructing arguments and participating in debate**Activity**

This chapter raises a number of issues for debate. Charlie talks to other students about politics, art, and God. He “began to think about what God means.” (Pg. 70) He also says that he has learned the real reason people should go to college—“to learn that the things you’ve believed in all your life aren’t true, and that nothing is what it appears to be.” (Pg. 71)

Your team will be assigned one of the following topics and positions to argue in a formal debate. In constructing your argument, you may choose to conduct research on your topic. If you feel you can build a strong argument without research—by appealing to your audience on an emotional or purely logical level—you may take that approach.

At the conclusion of each debate, the audience (your fellow classmates) will vote as to which side argued its position more effectively. NOTE: Do *not* automatically vote for the team whose position you agree with. Rather, concentrate on how well teams presented their arguments and responded to those of the opposition.

**Topic #1—Continued Education**

**Position A:** People attend college to further their education and learn more.

**Position B:** People attend college to learn if what they always thought of as truth is incorrect.

**Topic #2—Shakespeare**

**Position A:** Shakespeare wrote all of his plays.

**Position B:** Someone else wrote Shakespeare’s plays.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**June 19**

**Survey**

**Objective:** Taking a survey and summarizing its results

**Activity**

When Charlie meets Fay for the first time, she goes into his apartment and starts looking around. She sees the three-dimensional maze he built for Algernon and thinks it is modern sculpture with a living element. Her first reaction to it is based on a different perspective than Charlie had when he built it. She was an artist so she immediately thought art.

There are infinite things in life that can be taken more than one way, based on the perspective of the viewer or thinker. Take a survey of twenty people you know that are not in this class. Ask them to respond to the following five statements, and mark their answers as tally marks under “yes” or “no.” After you have completed the survey, write a brief comment on why you think the results turned out the way they did.

**SURVEY**

Statement	Yes	No
Time heals all wounds.		
It is better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all.		
Ignorance is bliss.		
Money is the root of all evil.		
Building a memorial at the site where someone died helps those who are still live.		



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

September 17

Symbolism

Objective: Understanding symbolism

**Activity**

When Algernon died, Charlie took him home and buried him. He then put flowers on his grave. This is symbolic of how Charlie felt about Algernon. What is the significance of the flowers on the grave?

Keyes uses other symbols throughout the book as well. Complete the chart below with symbols from the book.

SYMBOLISM CHART

Symbol	Description of Symbol	Explanation/Associated Meanings