

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS FOR ***BILLY BOBBLE MAKES A MAGIC WAND***

1. Can you relate to these characters? Do you have a Billy and Suzy in your school, office, family? What traits in Billy and Suzy do you see in yourself?
2. Why do you think Billy is so driven to make a magic wand?
3. Why does Suzy help him?
4. Billy and Suzy were both bullied in lower grades. How did they handle it? Have you been bullied before? How did you handle it?
5. What would you do if you had a magic wand?
6. How does your answer to question number five reflect on your character?
7. Suzy says the magical place she and Billy travel through is the wardrobe from *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*, and Billy briefly turns it into *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Did you notice other allusions to famous children's literature or movies that Billy might not have noticed?
8. The Teacher – aka Prometheus, aka Merlin, etc. – says "I have been the wise old father-teacher since the first poor human wondered who his or her father might be." How many historical, fictional, or religious characters can you name that are very old men with long white hair and beards? How many of them carried a wooden staff or wand?

9. Do you think Suzy and Billy will become a couple, or are they one already and don't know it yet?
10. Billy asks "why is there war?" Why do you think humans have wars? Do you think some of the reasons are shown in this story?
11. Billy's Mom says that the gnomes make people do bad things. Have you ever felt "influenced" to do something you knew you shouldn't do? Did you do it, or did you fight off the urge?
12. What do you think Dr. Menaus is up to?
13. Will Billy and Suzy go to Oakridge or stay at Winston High?
14. How might their new wand be different from the old one?
15. What will the world be like once everyone knows magic is possible?
16. Do you think magic would make the world better, or worse?