

Number the Stars

By Lois Lowry

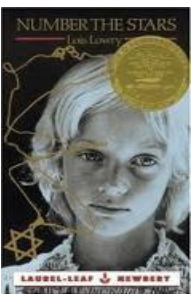
6th Grade Summer 2011 Reading Project

A major theme in *Number the Stars* is **bravery**, especially the bravery of "ordinary" people. Annemarie does not think of herself as brave, but she learns from her uncle that being frightened does not mean that one is not brave. Instead, bravery means somehow ignoring the dangers of a situation, often because one does not fully understand them. Bravery also means being determined to do what is right, even when it is dangerous to do so.

Other themes in the book include **pride** and **friendship**. Annemarie's father remarks that King Christian X must have been very proud (as well as sad) on the day Denmark sank its own naval fleet to avoid having the Nazis take it over. Annemarie recognizes that the Rosens and the other Jews at Great-aunt Birte's funeral have a source of pride within themselves that shines through the ragged clothing they must wear to keep warm during their escape. Her close friendship with Ellen is symbolized in her desire to wear Ellen's Star of David necklace until her friend is able to return home at the war's end.

Assignment: Create a Personal Reflections Diary

- Design a cover for your diary. Create an illustration for the cover.
- Inside the cover, **on separate sheets of paper**, write a reflection of one-two paragraphs for each chapter. There are 17 chapters. Each reflection should include:



1. Your reaction to the themes of the novel. Pay attention to the moods and feelings the setting, the conflicts, and the plot of the story create for you. Do the themes relate to your life in any way?
2. Think about the characters - are you similar to them? Do you agree or disagree with their actions in the chapter? Why or why not?
3. Are you able to visualize the setting of the book? Describe what you are visualizing.

- The diary must be done in your best cursive handwriting or typed.
- Create a title for each chapter that you write about.