

## **The Pigman** Study Guide

Discussion Questions: Chapters 5-6 (Answer all parts of all questions!)

1. Who make the best friends: those of the same sex or those of the opposite sex? Why? What are the advantages of each?
  
2. Compare Mrs. Jensen (Lorraine's mom) and Mrs. Conlan (John's mom). How are their personalities similar and different? How does each treat her child? What does each seem to want from her child? What advice would you give these moms to improve their relationships with their kids?
  
3. John describes Mr. Pignati as a "great big kid." In what ways is Mr. Pignati like a kid? How are his actions sometimes childlike? Explain.
  
4. How does Mr. Pignati treat John and Lorraine differently than their families treat them? What does he offer them that their families don't? What do they offer him?
  
5. Why does John lie so extravagantly and so often? How do his lies complicate his life? How do they help him cope?
  
6. How has being John's friend helped Lorraine? How might it have harmed her? What would you advise Lorraine to do about her relationship with John? Should she get more deeply involved with him? Why or why not?