Aphasia Book Club

Number the Stars

Chapters 1 & 2

Worksheet A

1. In chapter 1, when Annemarie is being questioned by the Nazis, she says to herself, “Don’t talk so much…Just answer them, that’s all” (3). What situations have you been in where you felt like it was better not to “talk so much” and to only answer the questions asked of you? Why did you feel that way?
2. When she told her mother about the Nazi guards that she ran into on the street, Annemarie tried to “make it sound humorous and unimportant” (7) to ease her mother’s worries. When have you ever made light of a situation? Did you do it to ease the worries of the person who you were talking to? Do you find it helpful to make light of more serious situations or do you think it is more important to understand how serious an incident really is?
3. At the beginning of chapter 2, Annemarie was telling her sister a fairy tale. Do you remember any of your favorite childhood stories or your children’s favorite stories? What were they about? Why did you like them?
4. In chapter 2, Annemarie talked about the difference in her sister’s fiancé, Peter, after her sister, Lise, had died (p. 17). Have you ever experienced the death of a loved one and found that your outlook or demeanor had changed afterward? Other than being saddened by the death of his fiancé, what are some other reasons as to why his meetings are suddenly rushed and not so warm?