Aphasia Book Club

Flowers for Algernon

Week 4: Pages 72-96

Worksheet A

**1.** On page 72 and 84, Charlie has flashbacks to when he was younger, and plays with a spinner. Playing with his spinner gives him a sense of comfort in times where he feels uncomfortable or stressed.

Is there anything you rely you rely on when you feel uncomfortable or stressed, such as an object, a habit, or an activity?

What makes it so comforting for you?

**2.** Charlie relies on Miss. Kinnian (Alice) for support when he needs a friend or advice (page 78 and 90).

Who do you go to when you need advice? Are they good at helping you solve your problem?

On page 80, Miss Kinnian did not give Charlie the answer he was looking for. “When she put me off, I felt awkward and ridiculous at the same time…I hated her as I had never hated anyone before.” Have you ever been frustrated with the person that you go to for support and advice? Why?

**3.** On page 82 Charlie says “The books don’t help much” when talking about how to behave towards a woman. Charlie had assumed that he would be able to learn everything from books.

Not everything in life can be taught. What is something you had to learn through experience?

Some things in life cannot be fully understood until you have experienced it. Do you feel this way about having aphasia? What are some things about you feel can only been understood if you have aphasia?

**4.** On page 86, Charlie notices that Gimpy is stealing from the bakery. If you were Charlie, how would you handle that situation?

Do you agree with how Charlie handled the situation? If so, why? If not, what would you have done differently?