

# Ramona and Her Father

by Beverly Cleary

Classroom Favorites

Teacher's Guide by Kathleen M. Kozar



A Perma-Bound Production

**Note to Teacher:** This guide is not to be followed exactly. Feel free to pick and choose among suggested discussion questions and activities based on the needs and interests of your particular group. You are encouraged to make adaptations or to supplement the guide with activities of your own creation or those of your students.

Students may be encouraged to keep a journal as they read this book. The journal is a way to assist children in remembering events or significant details. Children should also keep a list of "new" words they have encountered. Next to each "new" vocabulary word children are then asked to make an educated guess about the word's meaning after seeing it in context.

An introductory list of suggested discussion questions is included to be used prior to reading the book. At the start of the book, and each chapter therein, students should be encouraged to predict what will happen in the book and the following chapters based on title clues, experience, etc. Depending on the particular group of students and your instruction you may choose to introduce vocabulary words listed under Word Study prior to or preceding the reading of the chapter. A list of vocabulary activities that you may provide students with is included. Discussion Questions and Student Activities for each chapter are included. Caution: Children should select only activities they are interested in. Teachers may negotiate; however, children are encouraged to select their own involvement. Group involvement is encouraged.

*Ramona and Her Father* may be read in small groups, individually, or as a read-aloud book.

## Objectives

1. Students will have opportunities to recall details, make interpretations, read critically and respond creatively to the novel.
2. Students will expand their vocabulary through use of context clues, class discussion and activities.
3. Students will have opportunities for a variety of writing experiences.
4. Students will explain and describe the role of responsibility in relationships.
5. Students will describe the way in which families depend and rely upon each other.

## Introductory Synopsis

Recently Ramona has been concerned about the members of her family, the Quimbys. Since her father lost his job, he seemed too nervous and worried to love her anymore. Ramona's mother and her sister Beezus had become busy and grouchy. Even Picky-picky, the family cat, was grumpy. Since he didn't like his new cheaper cat food, he ate the Quimbys' Halloween jack-o-lantern that Ramona was so proud of.

Ramona tried everything she could to cheer the family up. She tried to act adorable, like kids in TV commercials. Ramona also tried to encourage her father to stop smoking despite his resistance. Ramona has become increasingly sensitive to the feelings of her family. This book covers a wide scope of issues which affect a second grader in today's world.

## Introductory Discussion Questions

Prior to reading the story, children should be given the opportunity to discuss 2-3 of the questions listed below. Teachers may want to assign one per group and then have children share their results.

1. Define patience. Brainstorm appropriate definitions. Give examples of situations that called for patience.
2. Discuss the role that patience plays in the lives of children. Make a list of situations where patience has played a key role.
3. Commercials are a big part of TV. Make a list of your favorite commercials.
4. What do you think about cigarette smoking? Do you know anyone who smokes?
5. Have you ever known anyone who has lost their job? Do you think this was a difficult time for them? Why or why not?

## Chapter 1 - Payday

### Reading Passage 1 - Pages 11-31

**Synopsis:** Ramona is making a Christmas list and it's only September! Beezus, Ramona's sister, is disappointed with her creative writing class. Ramona and Beezus are alarmed when their father arrives home in a sullen mood. Even though he brought the girls gummy bears, the new fad at school, he was unhappy about something. Finally, after much speculation, they found out that their father lost his job. Worried, distraught and sad, Ramona tried to create

ways to supplement her mother's part-time salary so that the family could pay their bills. Ramona crossed out her Christmas list. All she wanted now was one happy family.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. LITERAL/CRITICAL: What were Ramona's favorite days of the year? Why do you think she feels this way? What are your favorite days of the year?
2. LITERAL: What presents did Ramona wish for when her father came home? What presents do you hope for?
3. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL: Why do you think Beezus came home from school grouchy? Why had she been so grouchy all the time lately? Are you ever grouchy?
4. INTERPRETIVE: Why do you think Mr. and Mrs. Quimby became so sad in the first chapter? What types of changes would this bring in the family?
5. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL: Even though Mr. Quimby is so upset about losing his job, he brings gummy bears home to the girls. Why do you think he was so kind and generous, despite his concern over his own problem? How do you think this makes Ramona feel?
6. LITERAL/CRITICAL: Ramona wishes for one happy family for Christmas. Why do you think she changes her Christmas list?
7. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL: Why would Ramona want her entire family to be happy? What do you wish for your family?

#### Activities:

1. Ramona is keeping a diary, although it is a secret. Please write an entry that Ramona may write after finding out her dad lost his job.
2. Ramona is your pen pal. You have just found out that her dad lost his job. Write a letter to her.
3. Write a Christmas gift list for Ramona. What would she want?

### Chapter 2 - Ramona and the Million Dollars

#### Reading Passage 2 - Pages 32-61

**Synopsis:** Ramona wished she had a million dollars so her father would be fun again. There had been so many changes in the Quimby family since Mr. Quimby lost his job, but the biggest change was in Mr. Quimby himself. Even though Mrs. Quimby took a full-time job, the Quimbys continued to watch their budget. Worried, Mr. Quimby was looking for a new job. Ramona was afraid he was too worried to love her anymore. While watching TV Ramona made a remarkable discovery. Perhaps she could earn a million dollars like the children on TV commercials do. Ramona then decided to begin to practice. Maybe someone would see her and offer her a million dollars to make a TV commercial. After days of practicing she was confident enough to feel as if a TV camera was watching her wherever she went. Unfortunately her confidence caused her some problems. Mrs. Rogers, her teacher, was accused of having pantyhose, "wrinkled like an elephant's legs."

On the day of parent-teacher conferences, Ramona's father was meeting with Mrs. Rogers while Ramona was practicing her commercials. Unfortunately, after finding nothing else to do, Ramona created a crown of burrs to be used on a commercial. Mr. Quimby had a good report for Ramona after the teacher conference. Despite her

impatience and inclination to show off, the report was good. At home the removal of the burrs was difficult and painful.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. LITERAL/INTERPRETIVE: Why did Ramona and her father see so much of each other since he lost his job?
2. INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL: Why did Ramona wish she had a million dollars? What did she think would be a successful way of earning this amount of money?
3. CRITICAL: Do you think Mr. Quimby was too busy to love her anymore? Why or why not?
4. CREATIVE: How do you think Ramona could cheer her dad up?
5. CRITICAL: Why do you think Ramona was happier than she had been in a long time?
6. CREATIVE: Can you think of other ways to remove burrs? Has anything like this ever happened to you?
7. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL: Was Ramona pleased with the report she received at the parent-teacher conference? How do you think she felt?

#### Activities:

1. Write a short letter that you feel Ramona might have written to her father at this point in the book.
2. Continue Ramona's diary. What will she say about this day in her life? Discuss her thoughts and feelings in the entry.
3. Make a list of your favorite TV commercials. Take a poll of your class. Graph the results. Which current TV commercial is well liked by your peers?

### Chapter 3 - The Night of the Jack-O-Lantern

#### Reading Passage 3 - Page 62-85

**Synopsis:** Ramona is concerned about her family. Beezus was grouchy, because she dreaded Creative Writing. Her dad was still unemployed. Mrs. Quimby always seemed to look anxious these days, either over the cost of groceries or money the family owed. Even Picky-picky was angry due to the cat food he was given that he didn't like. Mrs. Quimby bought the cheapest brand for Picky-picky and Ramona and Beezus strongly objected to this.

Relief flooded through Ramona when her mother announced that there was a pumpkin to carve. Mr. Quimby and the children carved the pumpkin. Ramona was pleased; at least her family was happy once more. Unfortunately, Picky-picky had a feast of the pumpkin during the night. Beezus attributed this to his dislike of the new cheap cat food. Beezus argued that if they had money to purchase her dad's cigarettes they could afford better cat food.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. INTERPRETIVE: Why do you think Ramona was so down about her family? At the end of the chapter she talked about being worried about grown-ups. Discuss some of the reasons for her feeling this way.
2. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL/LITERAL: Why was Ramona so excited about carving a pumpkin? What activities does your family participate in that you enjoy?

3. **INTERPRETIVE:** How did Ramona feel after she found Picky-picky with the jack-o-lantern?
4. **LITERAL/INTERPRETIVE:** What did Beezus use as the reason for Picky-picky to eat the jack-o-lantern? How did her dad's cigarette smoking enter the picture?
5. **INTERPRETIVE:** Why did Ramona cry after the fight between Beezus and their dad?

**Activities:**

1. Design a mural which outlines the events in this chapter.
2. Design a campaign that would convince Mr. and Mrs. Quimby to feed Picky-picky better cat food.
3. Write a diary entry for Ramona or Beezus.
4. If this book is read around Halloween--explore the history of jack-o-lanterns and prepare a report. Carve a pumpkin which Ramona and Beezus would enjoy. Perhaps make pumpkin pie, cheesecake, pumpkin cookies or cake, etc. Have fun with pumpkins.

### Chapter 4 - Ramona to the Rescue

#### Reading Passage 4 - Pages 86-115

**Synopsis:** The morning after the quarrel the Quimbys were quiet and subdued. Picky-picky resentfully ate a few bites of Puss-puddy. Ramona and her dad discussed smoking cigarettes. She was very concerned that her father's lungs were turning black from smoke. During school, after much thought, Ramona decided she would save her father's life. She started a "no smoking" campaign complete with signs and other propaganda. Ramona was filled with courage. Beezus even eagerly stepped in to assist in the campaign. The strong campaign did not affect Mr. Quimby; he continued to smoke. Ramona continued to worry.

One afternoon, when Ramona came home from school, she found the door locked. Ramona was frightened and felt that her dad had left because she annoyed him with the "no smoking" campaign. After a short amount of time and lots of worrying her dad arrived home. Mr. Quimby apologized and explained to Ramona that he was collecting his unemployment insurance and the lines were long. After some deliberation and to Ramona's surprise, she and her dad created a large mural of Mr. Good and the Columbia River. Ramona was filled with joy, enthusiasm and relief. Especially since her dad agreed to try to stop smoking.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. **INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL:** What was the mood of the family the morning after the quarrel? What was Ramona wishing for?
2. **INTERPRETIVE:** Why was Ramona's father always there when she got home from school? What happened the one day when no one was there?
3. **INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL/CREATIVE:** Why did Ramona begin a "no smoking" campaign? What activities did she try? Did this affect her father? What would you try to encourage someone to quit smoking?
4. **INTERPRETIVE:** How did Ramona feel when she found no one at home? Why did she feel that perhaps her dad was upset with her?

5. Summarize the main events in this chapter. What is the most important event?

**Activities:**

1. Interview a person who smokes. Be sure to prepare a list of questions before your meeting. Find out why they smoke, when they began, etc.
2. Contact the Cancer Society or The American Lung Association. Invite a speaker to discuss what they do to encourage people to quit smoking.
3. Research the effect that cigarettes have on the body. Prepare a report.
4. Make a list of additional suggestions for Ramona to try.

### Chapter 5 - Beezus's Creative Writing

#### Reading Passage 5 - Pages 116-139

**Synopsis:** The Quimbys were enthusiastic about Mr. Quimby's decision to quit smoking. Although it was difficult for Mr. Quimby, he had his family's support. Everyone with the exception of Ramona in the family was unhappy. Mrs. Quimby was tired, her sister was upset about creative writing, Picky-picky didn't like his cat food and her dad was finding it difficult to quit smoking. For a creative writing assignment Beezus decided to interview Mrs. Swink, the widow who lived in the house on the corner. Ramona joined her sister on the interview. Mrs. Swink discussed many exciting things. One item which intrigued the girls was tin-can stilts that Mrs. Swink enjoyed walking on while yelling "pie face!" at all the younger children. With the help of Howie, Ramona eagerly made the tin-can stilts that Mrs. Swink reminisced about and while trying to master the stilt walking, she and Howie sang a loud, long song to its completion. This thrilled Ramona.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. **INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL:** How did the family feel about Mr. Quimby trying to quit smoking? How did he feel?
2. **INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL:** Why was Beezus so unhappy about creative writing? What did she decide to do for her assignment?
3. **CRITICAL:** Why do you think Ramona decided to build the stilts that Mrs. Swink described? Describe what they did to make them and what they did on them.
4. **INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL:** Why did Ramona call Mrs. Swink "Pie face"? Why did Howie disapprove? Did Mrs. Swink? Can grown-ups take jokes? Why or why not?

**Activities:**

1. Build and experiment with the stilts Mrs. Swink described.
2. Make the fudge Mrs. Swink discussed.
3. Make an entry in Ramona's diary. Compare your entry with prior ones. What is the happiest entry?

### Chapter 5 - The Sheep Suit

#### Reading Passage 6 - Pages 140-160

**Synopsis:** Ramona did not expect trouble to start in Sunday school of all places, but that was where it was touched off one Sunday early in December. The class, with the direction of Mrs. Russo, the teacher,

were planning the Christmas carol program and Nativity scene. Henry Huggins, Beezus' friend, was chosen for Joseph and Beezus was asked to play the part of Mary. Ramona volunteered to be a sheep. Unfortunately, Ramona needing the sheep costume posed a tremendous problem for the Quimbys. Ramona's mom did not have time to do a lot of sewing. While listening to a private conversation she overheard her parents discussing the issue of a sheep costume. Her father called her "a spoiled brat" for not asking her mom if she could make the costume for her. Ramona was so angry. She was very distressed and concerned about what she would wear for the sheep. After a brief argument over Ramona's messy room, she and her dad made up. Ramona also found out that Mr. Quimby was smoking, even though he tried to hide it. After a rational explanation, Ramona's anger melted away. Ramona and her dad had a long discussion about being a happy family.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. INTERPRETIVE: How did Ramona feel when Beezus and Henry were chosen? Why did Ramona volunteer to be a sheep?
2. INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL: Why was Ramona upset to see Howie and Willa Jean's costumes? Describe how she felt.
3. CRITICAL: Did Ramona volunteer to be a sheep? Would you have volunteered for this part?
4. INTERPRETIVE: Describe how Ramona felt when her dad called her "a spoiled brat". What is spoiled? How and when did they make-up?
5. CRITICAL/CREATIVE: Is there such a thing as a "perfect family". If so, describe one. If not, why isn't there a "perfect family"?

#### Activities:

1. Act out a scene from this chapter.
2. Design costumes for the nativity scene.

### Chapter 7 - Ramona and the Three Wise Persons

#### Reading Passage 7 - Pages 161-186

**Synopsis:** A few days before Christmas Ramona's dad got a job as a checker in a chain of supermarkets. Since Mrs. Quimby spent time shopping for shoes for Ramona, the sheep costume was not what Ramona dreamed. Ramona was the only unhappy family member on the way to the church the night of the Christmas program, due to her costume. Ramona was extremely displeased with her costume and made sure everyone in the family was aware of it. Ramona threatened not to be in the program at all. At the church Ramona was in misery and despite coaxing from Beezus, she stayed hidden. She was embarrassed of her little rabbit pajamas that were supposed to be her costume. After a significant amount of time three older girls who would be "The Three Wise Persons" discovered Ramona. After a little coaxing and a little make-up from the older girls, Ramona began to feel like a real sheep. She felt she could now be in the show and no one would know her. The Christmas program was a success. Her dad was proud of her and gave her the OK sign. Ramona was filled with joy. She knew her parents loved her. Christmas was the most beautiful, magic time of the whole year.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. INTERPRETIVE/CRITICAL: Why is the chapter titled as it is? Do other chapter titles fit the chapter to which they are assigned?

2. INTERPRETIVE/CREATIVE: Predict how this book may end.
3. INTERPRETIVE/LITERAL: When did Ramona's dad get a job? How did the family feel? Describe how the new job affected each.
4. LITERAL: Describe Ramona's sheep costume. Would you have worn it? How could you have changed it?
5. INTERPRETIVE: Why was Ramona filled with joy during the Christmas program?

### Culminating Activities

1. Develop a character sketch for each character, more specifically, illustrate each character, then list phrases or adjectives that would describe each character. This activity may be done as a mural or an art gallery with a list below each illustration describing each character, or an individual sheet of paper made into a photo album; each sheet for one character.
2. Write a new chapter addition to this book.
3. Write a book about you and your father.
4. Interview an actor or actress. Develop a list of questions which would generate ideas about the career of acting.
5. Play a charades game about the characters in the story. You may work in pairs or groups.
6. If possible, guest speakers on the making of commercials, advertising, public relations, etc. would be a dynamic experience for students. Commercials could be made afterwards by students about student-made objects, projects, etc.
7. Act out various scenes from the book.
8. Research the life of Beverly Cleary. Write a report about her.
9. Write Beverly Cleary a letter. Compare this book with other Cleary books. Which are your favorites?

### Word Study Activities

Select from the following list, activities which encourage children to study new words. Remember words should always be presented in context.

1. Have children share educated guesses about words logged in journals. Have them look the words up to check their hypothesis. Have them discuss how they came to their guess.
2. Have children make a word search using new words from a chapter. Have them exchange the puzzles. Children should discuss new words.
3. After discussing their meanings, play charades using new words from a chapter.
4. Use graph paper to create your own crossword puzzle using new words from a chapter.

## Word Study

Below is a list of words which may surface as "new" words for the students when they are reading the book. CAUTION!! Children should not be required to study all the words listed. They are listed to assist you, the teacher.

### CHAPTER 1

1. knelt - pg. 11
2. receive - pg. 11
3. refrigerator - pg. 12
4. christened - pg. 14
5. behavior - pg. 19
6. unnatural - pg. 22
7. whispering - pg. 25
8. annoying - pg. 29

### CHAPTER 2

1. vacuum cleaner - pg. 33
2. cinnamon buns - pg. 34
3. thermostat - pg. 36
4. television commercials - 37
5. bread & margarine - pg. 37
6. particularly - pg. 38
7. absent minded - pg. 39
8. lingered - pg. 45
9. possibilities - pg. 46
10. impatience - pg. 48
11. indignant - pg. 49
12. succeeded - pg. 50
13. longingly - pg. 59

### CHAPTER 3

1. groceries - pg. 63
2. unfamiliar - pg. 71
3. faucet - pg. 72
4. scuffling - pg. 74
5. silhouetted - pg. 75
6. linoleum - pg. 78
7. reasonable - pg. 78, 80
8. astonished - pg. 80

9. horrified - pg. 81
10. tomorrow - pg. 85

### CHAPTER 4

1. white *uniform* - pg. 86
2. rigid with disapproval - pg. 87
3. satisfactory - pg. 88
4. pleasure - pg. 88
5. determination - pg. 90
6. unfortunately - pg. 90
7. resolving - pg. 92
8. conspicuous - pg. 95
9. campaign - pg. 96
10. discouraged - pg. 97
11. daring - pg. 97
12. scowled - pg. 101
13. reprimand - pg. 101
14. unanimous - pg. 101
15. silence - pg. 104
16. glanced - pg. 113
17. summoned - pg. 114

### CHAPTER 5

1. decision - pg. 116
2. frequently - pg. 117
3. nibble - pg. 117
4. continued - pg. 118
5. relieved - pg. 118
6. supposed - pg. 119
7. inspire - pg. 119
8. twirl - pg. 119
9. volunteered - pg. 126
10. awkward - pg. 125
11. sprawling - pg. 127

12. description - pg. 128
13. predicted - pg. 132
14. virtuously - pg. 33
15. embarrassed - pg. 130

### CHAPTER 6

1. difficult position - pg. 143
2. faucet - pg. 145
3. considered - pg. 145
4. serenely - pg. 145
5. arguments - pg. 147
6. gulped - pg. 157
7. mentioned - pg. 148
8. persuade - pg. 148
9. serious - pg. 149
10. hollow - pg. 149
11. examination - pg. 153
12. hazardous - pg. 155

### CHAPTER 7

1. pretending - pg. 165
2. appreciating - pg. 166
3. beautiful - pg. 167
4. affectionate - pg. 168
5. confusion - pg. 169
6. miserable - pg. 172
7. puzzled - pg. 177
8. mascara - pg. 179
9. weird - pg. 181
10. pranced - pg. 182
11. mysterious - pg. 183
12. procession - pg. 183
13. congregation - pg. 184
14. clenched - pg. 186

## RAMONA AND HER FATHER TEST

### Vocabulary (2 points each)

Complete each of the following sentences from the book with a word from the list below. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Ramona had never seen the church look so beautiful or so \_\_\_\_\_ .
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The window looked \_\_\_\_\_ , as if it were made of jewels.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. "We'll carve another jack-o-lantern \_\_\_\_\_ . Don't worry."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ramona thought such an all-purpose excuse for bad \_\_\_\_\_ would be a handy thing to have.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. People were always telling Ramona not to be so \_\_\_\_\_ .
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Beezus continued to \_\_\_\_\_ as if spinning might inspire her.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Instead they were shining them into their mouths to show one another how \_\_\_\_\_ they looked with light showing through their cheeks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Ramona was \_\_\_\_\_ . "I thought they were supposed to be wise men," she said.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Obviously the girls would have to step up their \_\_\_\_\_ .
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. That evening, after Ramona had gone to bed, she heard her mother and father in their bedroom talking in those low, \_\_\_\_\_ voices that so often meant they were talking about her.

a. weird - 181  
b. puzzled - 177  
c. campaign - 96  
d. serious - 149

e. tomorrow - 85  
f. behavior - 19  
g. impatient - 49

h. twirl - 119  
i. beautiful - 167  
j. mysterious - 183

## TEST A

### Part I - Quotation Identification (2 points each)

Match the following quotations from the story with the appropriate speaker from the list below. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left. Some answers will be used more than once. All the characters should be used.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. And Mrs. Mester says we are going to do lots of creative writing and I hate creative writing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Mrs. Rogers, your pantyhose are wrinkled like an elephant's legs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. My grandmother used to say, "first time is funny, second time is silly."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Ramona, can you come over and play?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Bring me an ashtray, please.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Then how come daddy can afford to smoke?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. I can even freeze some of the pumpkin for Thanksgiving.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. No family is perfect. Get that idea out of your head. And nobody is perfect either. All we can do is work at it. And we do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Yes, but she wears polyester pant suits.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Ramona, I don't want to disappoint you, but I'm tired when I come home from work. I don't have time to do a lot of sewing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Ramona, that's a splendid idea, but I'm afraid the church does not have any sheep costumes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. I became expert at walking on tin-can stilts and used to go clanking around the block yelling, "Pie face!" at all the younger children.

a. Howie  
b. Ramona  
c. Beezus

d. Mr. Quimby  
e. Mrs. Quimby

f. Mrs. Russo  
g. Mrs. Swink

## II - True/False (2 points each)

Write **T** in front of the sentence if it is a true statement. Write **F** in front of the sentence if any part of it is not true.

- \_\_\_ 1. Picky-picky liked the new cat food that was cheaper.
- \_\_\_ 2. Beezus was very excited about creative writing.
- \_\_\_ 3. Mrs. Quimby worked at a doctor's office.
- \_\_\_ 4. Mr. Quimby got a new job as a checker in a grocery store.
- \_\_\_ 5. Beezus played the role of Mary in the Nativity program at Sunday School.
- \_\_\_ 6. Mrs. Swink was mean to Beezus and Ramona at the interview.
- \_\_\_ 7. Ramona wore make-up as a sheep.
- \_\_\_ 8. Mrs. Quimby made Ramona a sheep's costume.
- \_\_\_ 9. Mr. Quimby did not try to stop smoking, nor did he want to.
- \_\_\_ 10. Ramona is in the second grade in this book.

## Part III - Essay Questions (3 points each)

Answer any *two* questions.

- 1. Describe Ramona's family. What made each member so unique? What made them happy? sad? laugh? cry?
- 2. Ramona and her dad spent a lot of time together during this book. What did they learn from this experience?
- 3. Discuss how responsibility in a family is important. How are patience and understanding important?



## TEST B

### Part I - Multiple Choice (2 points each)

Write the letter of the best answer in the blank at left.

- \_\_\_ 1. Mrs. Quimby worked  
a. at a doctor's office.  
b. as a teacher.  
c. at a pet store.  
d. as a lifeguard.
- \_\_\_ 2. Picky-picky is  
a. a kind of candy.  
b. the name of a song.  
c. the Quimbys' pet cat.  
d. a T.V. show.
- \_\_\_ 3. Ramona wanted to earn a million dollars  
a. so her father could be fun again.  
b. so she could quit school.
- \_\_\_ 4. Mrs. Swink told Ramona and Beezus about  
a. making a cake.  
b. going to Alaska.  
c. making stilts out of tin cans and string.  
d. a play she once saw.
- \_\_\_ 5. Ramona once made a crown out of  
a. tooth picks.  
b. jewels.  
c. burrs.  
d. candy.
- \_\_\_ 6. The jack-o-lantern that the Quimbys made was the wickedest in the whole world. What happened to it?  
a. It ran away.  
b. Picky-picky ate it.  
c. It won a prize.
- \_\_\_ 7. Mr. Quimby was trying to give up \_\_\_\_\_ with the support of Beezus and Ramona.  
a. smoking  
b. biting his nails  
c. singing  
d. looking for a job
- \_\_\_ 8. In the Christmas program, Beezus starred as  
a. Mary.  
b. a lamb.  
c. Joseph.  
d. one of "The Three Wise Persons".
- \_\_\_ 9. Mr. Quimby finally got a job as a  
a. checker in a supermarket.  
b. veterinarian.  
c. teacher in school.  
d. traveling salesman.
- \_\_\_ 10. Who wrote the sign "A Messy Room Is Hazardous to Your Health" and hung it on Ramona's door?  
a. her mother  
b. her father  
c. Howie  
d. Beezus

**Part II - Matching (2 points each)**

Read each description in Column I. Find the item which matches the description in Column II. Write the letter of the item in front of the correct description.

**COLUMN I**

**COLUMN II**

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| ___ 1. The person Beezus and Ramona interview      | a. smoking          |
| ___ 2. Sunday school teacher                       | b. Howie            |
| ___ 3. Sings songs with Ramona                     | c. Mrs. Russo       |
| ___ 4. The Quimby cat                              | d. Mrs. Swink       |
| ___ 5. Ramona's character in the Christmas program | e. Ramona's teacher |
| ___ 6. Mr. Quimby tries to stop                    | f. Picky-picky      |
| ___ 7. Ramona's sister                             | g. sheep            |
| ___ 8. Three Wise Persons                          | h. Beezus           |
| ___ 9. Had elephant stockings                      | i. second           |
| ___ 10. Ramona's grade at school                   | j. Three Wise Men   |

**Part III - Essay Questions (5 points each)**

Choose any *two* of the questions to answer.

1. In what ways do you feel Mr. Quimby was a good father? In what ways do you feel Mrs. Quimby was a good mother?
2. Describe Ramona. Could you be friends with her?
3. Ramona was happy at the beginning of the book while her family was unhappy. What did Ramona do or want to do to cheer them up?
4. The Quimby's all experienced a number of problems in this book. List at least five problems. Decide which of these you feel is the biggest problem, and put a star in front of it. Explain why you think this is the most important problem.

## RAMONA AND HER FATHER ANSWER KEY

### Vocabulary

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. j | 6. h  |
| 2. i | 7. a  |
| 3. e | 8. b  |
| 4. f | 9. c  |
| 5. g | 10. d |

### TEST A

#### Part I

- c
- b
- d
- a
- d
- c

#### Part II

- F
- F
- T
- T
- T
- T

### TEST B

#### Part I

- a
- c
- a
- c
- c
- b

#### Part II

- d
- c
- b
- f
- g
- a
- h
- j
- c
- i

#### Part III

Should be scored according to the teacher's judgment.

#### Part III

Should be scored according to the teacher's judgment.



**PERMA-BOUND  
VANDALIA ROAD  
JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS  
62650**

**PHONE  
800/637-6581**