

Be an Inference-igator

Name _____

Authors don't always come out and directly tell you everything in a story. Some things you have to figure out for yourself by making inferences, or smart guesses. Some people call this "reading between the lines." Making inferences is a little bit like being an investigator. First, you look closely for details that contain clues. Next, connect the clues to your own life. Then, make a smart inference.

In the chart below are details from the story. Be an "inference-igator" and look for clues to help you make inferences. Fill in the boxes with the missing information. The first one has been done for you

Details	+	What I Know	=	My Inference
Rob's mom died, but his dad won't let him cry about it.		<i>I know</i> it'd be hard not to cry. <i>I would</i> be miserable if it were me.		<i>I think</i> Rob has been miserable the last six months, maybe even depressed.
Sistine is wearing a pink lacy dress. No one wears pink lacy dresses to this school.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>
In a memory, dad didn't want Rob jiggling mom's bed. She was in pain.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>
Mr. Phelmer's office is small, dark, and smells like pipe tobacco.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>
On the way home, Rob is relieved when the bullies interrupt the conversation between him and Sistine.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>
Rob and his father live in a motel. Dad won't let him out in rain because the medicine costs too much to get washed off.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>
Dad says he isn't hungry and wants Rob to eat up. Rob hears Dad's stomach growl during his nap.		<i>I know</i>		<i>I think</i>