

## Stories That Connect Answer Key

### Reflection Questions: Sample Responses

1. **Similarities:** Both Charlotte and Summer show kindness when someone feels scared or rejected.
2. **Giving courage:** Charlotte encourages Wilbur by promising to protect him; Summer encourages Auggie by sitting with him, showing he isn't alone.
3. **Importance of connection:** When readers connect stories to their own lives, they understand the lessons more deeply and can apply them to real-life situations.

### Teacher Notes

- This activity highlights **text-to-self connections** while reinforcing comparison between two texts.
- Encourage students to write personal responses that show **similarities and differences**, not just one or the other.
- Differentiation:
  - For younger/struggling learners: Provide sentence starters ("This reminds me of when... because...").
  - For advanced learners: Ask them to extend the bridge by connecting to a broader theme (e.g., loyalty, kindness in society).