

Name:

What to expect

# Middle School Confidential

You'll be reading nonfiction about standing up for yourself in middle school.

Select some topics you'd expect to read about in this kind of book:

- |          |           |            |
|----------|-----------|------------|
| homework | teachers  | body image |
| relaxing | breakfast | clothes    |
| anger    | teasing   | friends    |
| sports   | lockers   | enemies    |
| cliques  | fight     | bullies    |

## Previewing

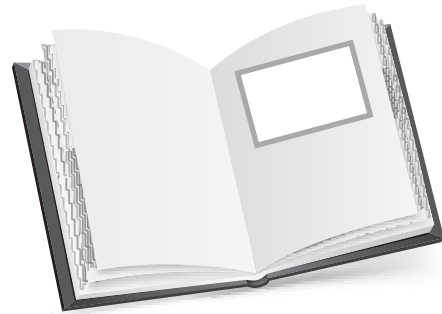
1. With your partner, find the **table of contents**. In the chart below, write down the titles of three chapters that sound interesting.
2. Next to the chapter name, write some of the topics that you circled above that might be in that chapter.

Chapter number and title	Topics

# Previewing through pictures

*Middle School Confidential* includes pages that look like a comic book or graphic novel.

Pick two pages from the book that look interesting. Describe what you see in the pictures and what the pictures show about life in middle school.



Page number	What you see happening in the picture	What this shows about life in middle school
20	a boy is holding a weird hat - other kids were laughing "Ha ha" when he wore the hat	teasing can be a problem



## Checking out the author and illustrator

When we read nonfiction, we want to know more about who wrote the book, the **author**.

- Have they studied or worked on the topic?
- Have they done other writing about the topic?
- Have they written for teens before?

In a book like *Middle School Confidential*, where pictures help tell the story, we also care about the **illustrator**. The illustrator is the person who drew the pictures.

Information about a book's author and illustrator is usually near the end of the book.



With your partner, find the end section about the author and illustrator and take some notes. Your notes should answer the questions above.

→ We found author and illustrator facts on page \_\_\_\_\_ .

Author's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Author facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator facts: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

→ Would you trust information from these people?

- yes
- maybe
- no

# Using an index

With your partner, look at this list of topics. Select **two** topics that sound interesting to you.

- |          |         |          |          |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| relaxing | sleep   | gossip   | laughter |
| anger    | teasing | bullying | goals    |

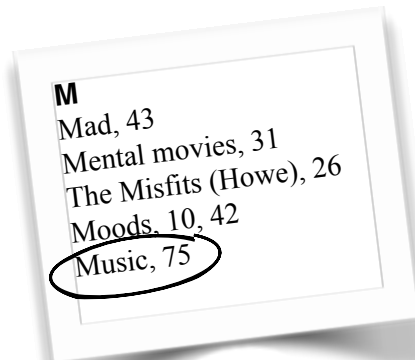


For each topic, find it in the **index** at the back of *Middle School Confidential*.

Write down the page numbers from the index that show where you can learn more about this topic.

*Example: The index shows you can read about music on page 75.*

Flip to those pages of the book. Take notes on one interesting fact to share with the class. An example has been done for you. Do this for **two more** topics.



Topic	Page number	Interesting fact
Music	75	sad or angry music can make you feel worse