



# THE BOOK THIEF

## PRE-READING ACTIVITY

*“The point is, it didn’t really matter what the book was about.  
It was what it meant that was important.”*

Markus Zusak’s novel *The Book Thief* is set in Nazi-controlled Germany during World War II. In order to control information and shape public opinion, the Nazi government banned any books they decided were contrary to their beliefs. In the novel, the main character, Liesel, defies the government and takes great risks to acquire and protect her favorite items—books.

**What object would you take great risks to rescue if it were suddenly forbidden, lost, or stolen? Write a paragraph describing which object you would rescue and why it’s so meaningful to you. Does this object connect you to a certain person, place, time, or memory? Explain.**

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**Draw a picture of your treasured object. Include creative details that illustrate the personal value of this object. Use colors to add emotion to the illustration.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin brown border, intended for the student to draw a picture of their treasured object.