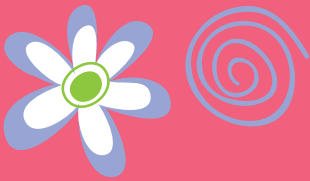




Lil Shawnee



Resource Guide

For Parents, Teachers, and Youth Leaders



Lil Shawnee Resources

Thank you for caring about preteen girls and for utilizing the Lil Shawnee series to help girls grow into women of faith. Each book in the series can be read and enjoyed as it is. If you'd like to help girls dig deeper into the books and have lots of fun, you may choose to use any of the Web-based resources provided here. This section gives an overview of the resources available, as well as some options for how to use them.



Review and application questions

This section contains questions that help girls ensure content comprehension, discuss the characters and their choices and actions, and explore personal application. After girls have read each book, turn to these questions for some thoughtful discussion times.



Puzzles

Preteen girls enjoy solving puzzles. There is one puzzle for each book in the Lil Shawnee series. The puzzles offer girls a cool way to review the books and just have fun! Answer keys are provided for your convenience.



Posters with a purpose

What preteen girl doesn't like to doodle, color, and embellish things? Here are four posters that will allow girls to showcase their creativity and at the same time reinforce important messages from the Lil Shawnee series. Be sure to offer lots of different supplies for girls to use to decorate the posters. Consider these: colored pencils, markers, glitter pens, glitter glue, feathers, sequins, scraps of cardstock, construction paper, fabric, buttons, eyelets, and lace. Give girls plenty of time to make their posters beautiful, then consider covering the posters with clear self-adhesive paper to protect them and help them last longer. Brainstorm places where girls may want to display their posters: in a hallway, bulletin board or room at the church building, in their lockers at school, in their room at home, in a notebook they use regularly.



Trivia

These questions are just for fun! They cover small details that appear in the books. You may want to organize a friendly competition or use these as a fun little quiz.



Notes from Nevaeh

Throughout the Lil Shawnee series, Nevaeh appears to Shawnee to offer advice, comfort, encouragement, and help. Many of the things that Nevaeh teaches are found in the Bible. This section links Nevaeh's teachings with their biblical basis. Use this section to encourage and teach biblical literacy.



Character bios with a twist

Here are some interactive bios for preteen girls to enjoy! Rather than a mere listing of facts about the series main characters, these bios encourage girls to find out about the characters as they read the books.



Review & Application Questions

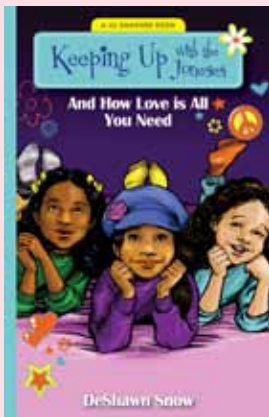
Book 1: The Rumor

1. Describe the "sleepover" that Rayna had. Why did she invite Shawnee?
2. Why do you think Rayna tried to force others to do her school work?
3. Has anyone ever tried to bully you into doing their work? If so, what did you do?
4. With which character in this book do you most identify? Why?
5. Do you think that bullying is a problem in your school or neighborhood? Explain.
6. Which important truth in this book has made a difference in your life?



Book 2: Keeping Up With the Joneses

1. What are some of the cool things that Nia has that Shawnee and Rebecca do not have?
2. Tell about a time when you bought something thinking it would make you happy. Did it? If so, for how long? If not, why?
3. Nia is sad and afraid when her parents argue. In your family, what makes you happy or sad? Confident or afraid?
4. In this book, which characters felt loved in their families? Which didn't?
5. With which character in this book do you most identify? Why?
6. If a preteen girl does not feel loved in her family, do you think there's anything she can do about it? If so, what? If not, why?



Book 3: Taking Center Stage

1. While planning what her group would do for the talent show, Rebecca's personality changed quite a bit. What caused that?
2. Rebecca said that she, Shawnee, and Nia would "cut the carbs" to prepare for the talent show. Do you think that body image, dieting, or food are issues with preteen girls? Why or why not?
3. How did Rebecca's dad react when he found out that she hadn't been eating and when he heard her yelling at Shawnee and Nia at the dress rehearsal?
4. Have you ever been in a talent show? If so, tell about it. If not, would you like to be if given a chance?
5. Which important truth in this book has made a difference in your life?














Lil Shawnee



Forever Friends

In the book *The Rumor*, Shawnee Graves learns many things. One important lesson she learns is what makes a true friend—and what doesn't.

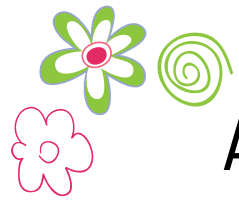
This puzzle contains the names of many characters, places, and things from *The Rumor*. Search forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally to find all the words. Then write the leftover letters in order onto the blanks below to discover a message about friendship.

Annie	M	S	J	O	N	E	S		A	E	G	N	I	T	A	K	S
Bella																	
class	F	R	I	E	E	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	N	R	D	L	S
Dad																	
home	O	V	E	S	V	A	T	N	A	L	L	I	T	O	I	M	K
Izzie																	
Linda	R	A	Y	N	A	E	W	M	B	S		Z		B	P	R	R
Mom																	
Ms. Jones	O	V	E	R	E	A	B	O	E	S	A	Z	Z	I	P		A
Ms. Parks																	
Nevaeh	S	L	E	A	H	C	I	M	L	A	P	I	C	N	I	R	P
Nia																	
pet	S	I		S	C	H	O	O	L		N		A	R	E	Y	S
pizza																	
Principal Michaels	A	N	O	U	A	O	T	R	A	U	T	N	E	F	R	I	M
Rayna																	
Robin	L	D	A	D	E	M	N	D	T	E	O	A	I	N	O	T	H
school																	
science	C	A	E	R	R	E	V	O	P	E	E	L	S	E	S		
Shawnee																	
skating																	
sleepover																	

“ _____.” _____ 17:17
_____?



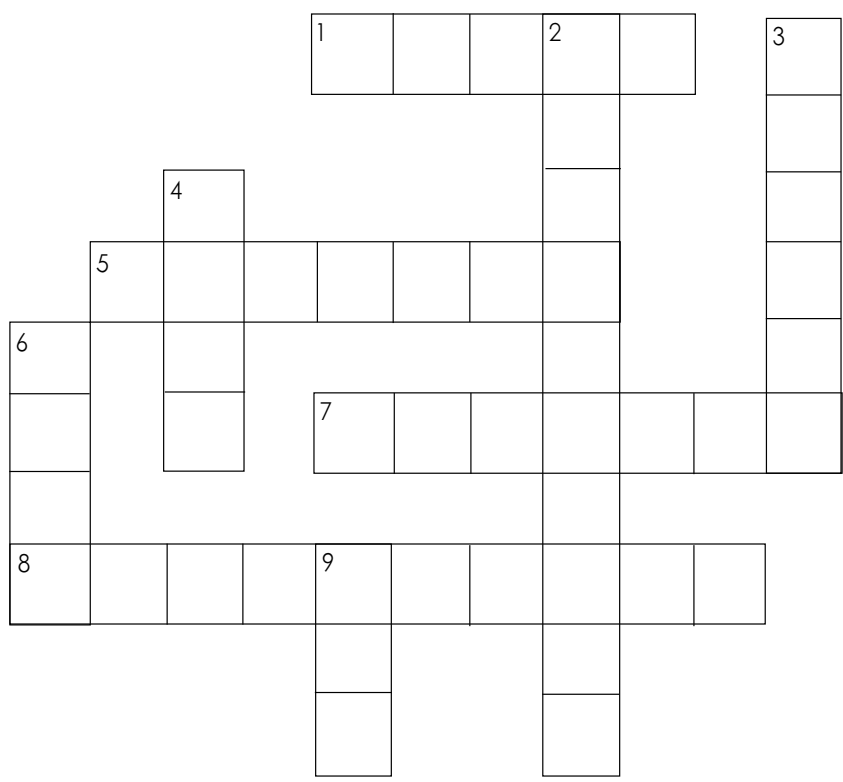
Lil Shawnee



All You Need

The book *Keeping Up With the Joneses* finds Shawnee Graves wishing for many things—including a different family. Will she get what she thinks she wants, or will she discover the blessings she already has?

This crossword puzzle contains the names of people, places, and things mentioned in *Keeping Up With the Joneses*. Crack the clues and fill in the crossword grid to solve the puzzle.



ACROSS

- 1. Nia's pet Fluffy is a _____.
- 5. Shawnee's middle name.
- 7. Nia's parents are _____.
- 8. Shawnee, Rebecca, and Nia made _____ bracelets to wear ice-skating.

DOWN

- 2. Rebecca signed up herself, Shawnee, and Nia to perform in this.
- 3. There are _____ in Nia's family's stables.
- 4. This is all you need.
- 6. Joshua is Nia's family's _____.
- 9. Has tickets to a concert.



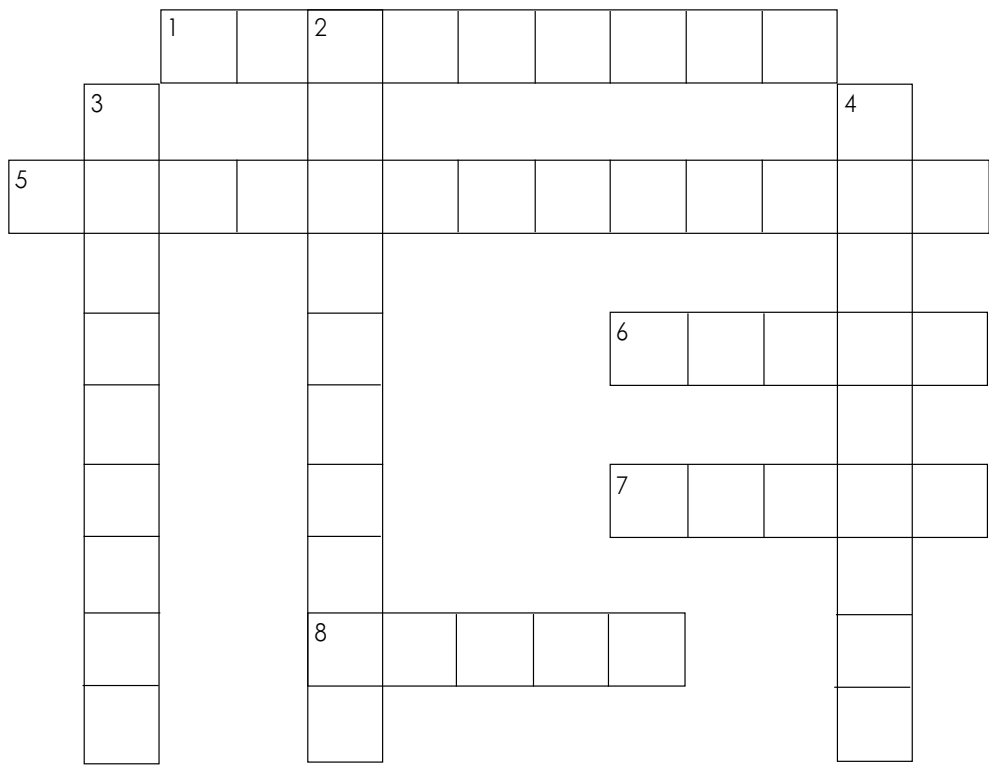
Lil Shawnee



Shine from Within

Shawnee, Rebecca, and Nia have their sights set to win their school's annual talent show. But how many divas can one stage hold?

This crossword puzzle contains the names of people, places, and things mentioned in *Taking Center Stage*. Solve the clues and fill in the crossword grid to complete the puzzle.



ACROSS

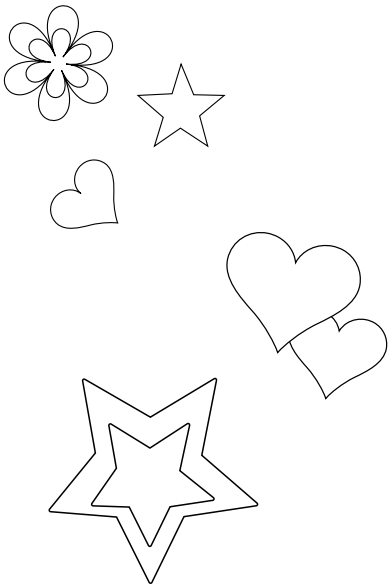
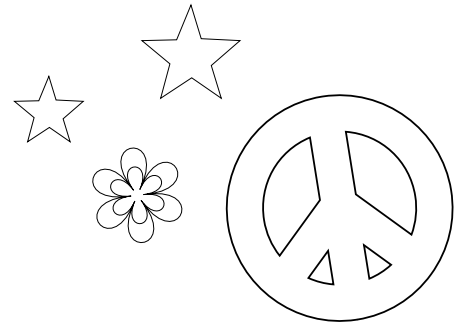
- Job for Rebecca's mom.
- Won first place in the talent show.
- A girl named Britney had this kind of animal in her magic skit in the talent show.
- She wrote the song for Shawnee, Rebecca, and Nia to sing at the talent show.
- Rebecca, Nia, and Shawnee's choreographer for the talent show.

DOWN

- Shawnee's favorite food is _____ Alfredo.
- Name of the school that Shawnee, Nia, and Rebecca attend.
- Part of the talent show score was based on the dress _____.

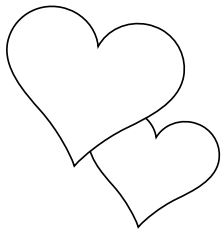
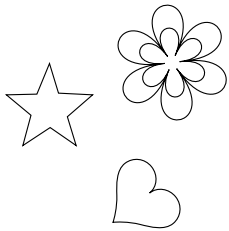
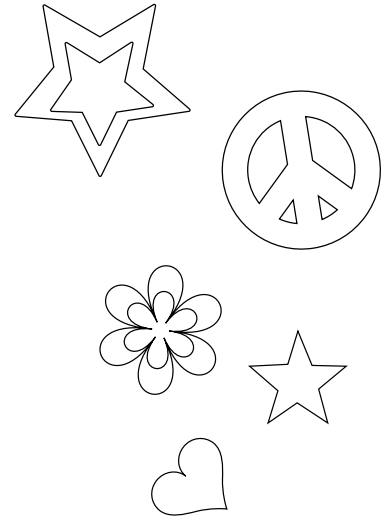


SHAWNEE



Stand Up for Yourself!
BE YOU!

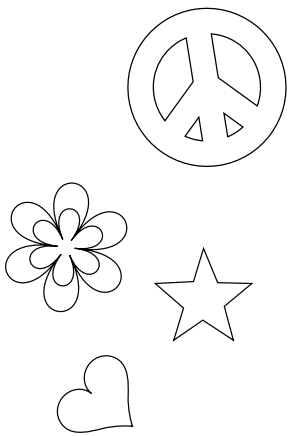
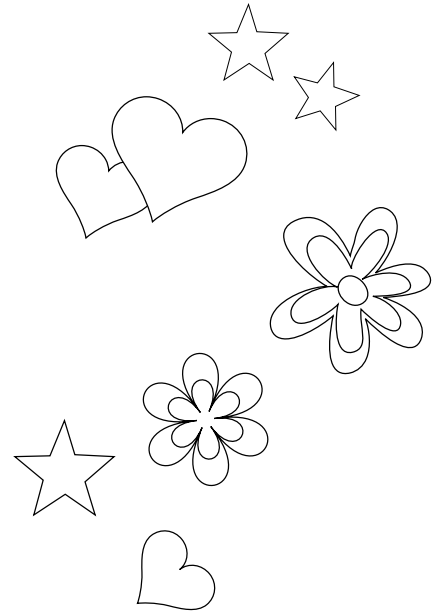
NEVAEH



Clothe Yourself in
KINDNESS!



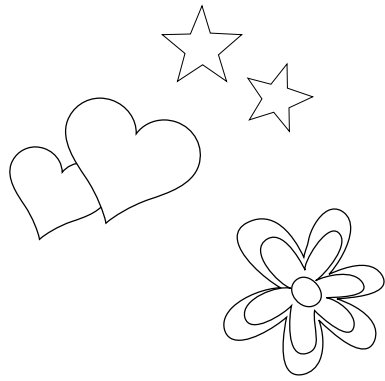
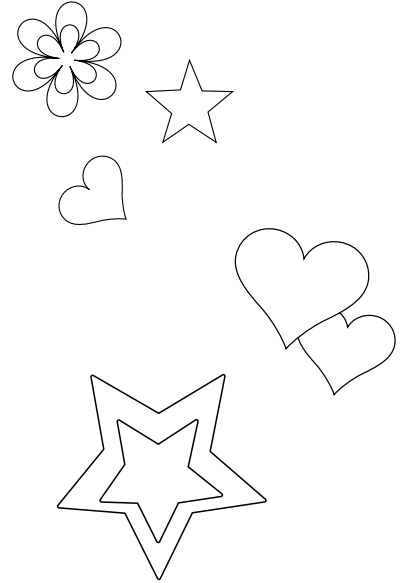
NIA



A Loving Family Is a True
BLESSING!



REBECCA



SHINE
from Within!



Trivia Questions





Book 1: The Rumor

1. What type of dog is Izzie?
2. Who gave Izzie her name?
3. What kind of school does Robin's baby-sitter, Annie, go to?
4. What color is the fuzzy toilet seat cover in the bathroom in Shawnee's home?
5. What is Shawnee's last name?
6. What grade did Shawnee receive on her solar system science project?

Book 2: Keeping Up With the Joneses

1. Who is going to the Justin Bieber concert with Nia?
2. Why did Nia's parents buy her a Louis Vuitton purse?
3. Name a magazine that's in Shawnee's room.
4. What kind of wallet does Nora have?
5. How many garages does Nia's home have?
6. What did Robin pretend to be for Shawnee? Why?
7. What type of dance recital did Robin have?



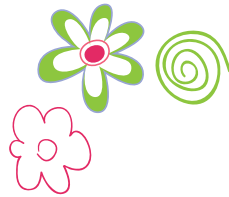
Book 3 : Taking Center Stage

1. What animal did Miranda include in her talent show act last year?
2. What was the name of the CD that Rebecca gave to Shawnee?
3. In what four ways did Shawnee's mom say that we should take care of our health?
4. What ethnicity are Rebecca's stepmom and stepsisters?
5. What name did Rebecca choose for her, Shawnee, and Nia's talent show group?
6. What are some of the decisions that Rebecca made by herself for the talent show group?





Lil Shawnee



Notes from Nevaeh

The Bible tells us about a true spiritual helper who is given to all believers. Jesus himself tells us about this helper. In John 14:16, 17 Jesus says, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth." Jesus continues in John 14:26, "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."






In Acts 2:38, Jesus' disciple Peter tells how to receive the Holy Spirit. Look up this verse in your Bible and read Peter's words.

In the Lil Shawnee book series, Nevaeh is a fictional character who helps Shawnee understand and want to do the right thing. The only person who can see Nevaeh is Shawnee.

Book 1: The Rumor

In the book *The Rumor*, Nevaeh provides truth, comfort, guidance, and wisdom to Shawnee. Take a look at the following truths that Nevaeh shared, and where they came from in the Bible.

Review What Nevaeh Taught Shawnee

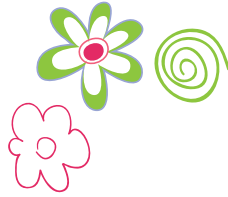
-  "Clothe yourself with kindness." (page 7)
-  "Apples of gold, settings of silver, and a honeycomb; a kind word is sweetness to the soul." (pages 7, 8)
-  Shawnee is like a strong eagle and she can fly above any situation. (page 30)
-  Tell the truth because the truth will set you free. (page 59)
-  Nevaeh tells a story about a girl named Kelly who wanted to honor herself. (pages 64-67)

Find and Read God's Wisdom in Your Bible

-  Colossians 3:12
-  Proverbs 25:11; Psalm 119:103;
Proverbs 16:24
-  Isaiah 40:30, 31
-  John 8:32
-  Esther 6:1-12



Lil Shawnee



Notes from Nevaeh

Book 2: Keeping Up With the Joneses

In the book *Keeping Up With the Joneses*, Nevaeh provides truth, comfort, guidance, and wisdom to Shawnee. Take a look at the following truths that Nevaeh shared, and where they came from in the Bible.

Review What Nevaeh Taught Shawnee



"Happiness is always within and not found by things."
(page 30)



"And really, it all comes down to love. Love is all you need."
(page 86)

Find and Read God's Wisdom in Your Bible



Isaiah 33:6; Matthew 6:19-21

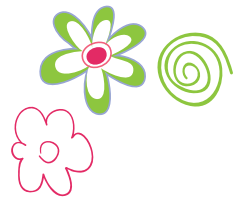


1 Corinthians 13:13





Lil Shawnee








Notes from Nevaeh

Book 3: Taking Center Stage

In the book *Taking Center Stage*, Nevaeh provides truth, comfort, guidance, and wisdom to Shawnee. Take a look at the following truths that Nevaeh shared, and where they came from in the Bible.

Review What Nevaeh Taught Shawnee

-  "God made you in his image, just perfect." (page 24)
-  Nevaeh tells a story about two sisters and their very different attitudes toward being in a contest. (pages 40-46)
-  "What lies within will always come out." (page 65)
-  "We are to let our light shine bright so that it brings God the glory and represents him." (page 67)
-  "The last shall be first and the first shall be last." (page 80)
-  "God looks down from Heaven and he sees your heart and sees how you shine for him." (page 81)
-  "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." (page 81)

Find and Read God's Wisdom in Your Bible

-  Genesis 1:27
-  Colossians 3:16, 17
-  Matthew 15:18
-  Matthew 5:16
-  Matthew 20:16
-  Philippians 2:3
-  Matthew 5:8



Bios With A Twist!

Most bios (short for biographies) give lots of facts and information about a person. These bios for Lil Shawnee and her two best friends are a little different! As you read *The Rumor*, *Keeping Up with the Joneses*, and *Taking Center Stage*, you will find out many cool things about the characters so you can complete the bios yourself!

Shawnee

- Family members _____
- Name and type of pet she has _____
- A favorite drink _____
- Favorite breakfast _____
- Favorite dinner _____
- Hobbies _____
- Two favorite singers/groups _____
- Sports she participates in _____
- School grade _____
- Something she shares in common with Nia and Rebecca _____
- Church activity _____
- One deep, inner desire _____



Rebecca

- Family members _____
- Color of her eyes _____
- Two female singers/groups she admires _____
- Sports she participates in _____
- School grade _____
- One deep, inner desire _____

Nia

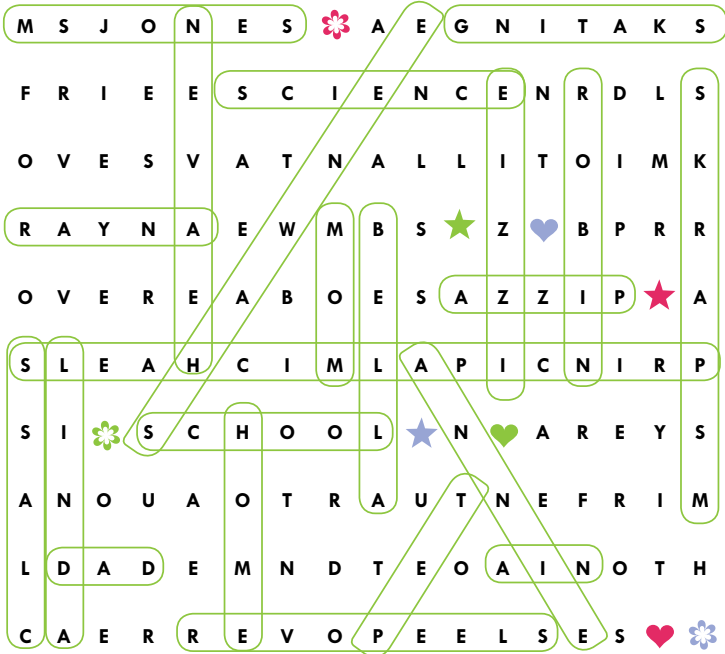
- Family members _____
- Who takes care of her when her parents are away?

- Animals/pets _____
- Sports she participates in _____
- Kind of bed she has _____
- Number of her recitals that her parents have attended (not counting the school talent show in *Taking Center Stage*)

- School grade _____
- Where she might go to school next year _____
- One deep, inner desire _____

Answer Key

Forever Friends



A FRIEND LOVES AT ALL TIMES - PROVERBS 17:17
ARE YOU A TRUE FRIEND TO OTHERS?

Trivia Questions

Book 1: The Rumor

1. Teacup Shih Tzu. 2. Shawnee's sister, Robin. 3. Law.
4. Pink. 5. Graves. 6. A+

Book 2: Keeping Up with the Joneses

1. Her nanny, Nora. 2. They missed her piano recital. 3. American Girl. 4. Purple alligator skin. 5. Six. 6. A butler. She wanted to earn money for a trip to the pottery store. 7. Tap.

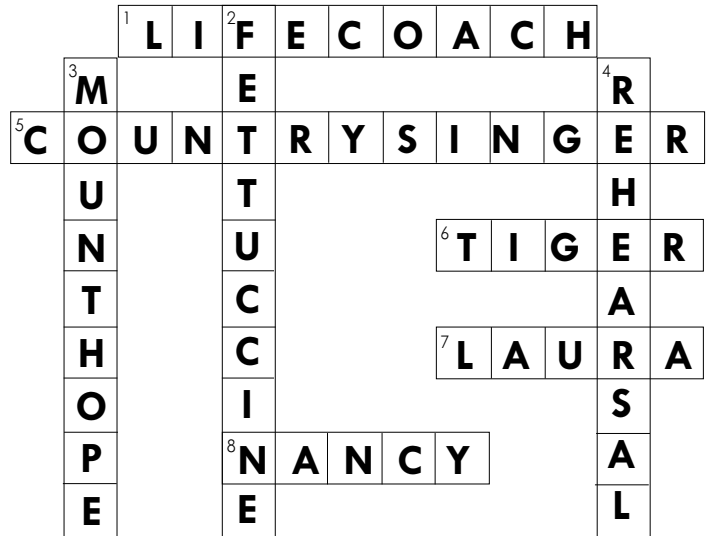
Book 3: Taking Center Stage

1. Pony. 2. Talent Show Victory. 3. Get enough rest, brain stimulation, spiritual growth, and be healthy physically. 4. Italian. 5. Divas. 6. What wigs each girl would wear, the lyrics to the song, the dance steps, the costumes

All You Need



Shine from Within





Answer Key

Bios with a Twist

Shawnee

- Family members (Mom, Dad, 5-year-old sister Robin)
- Name and type of pet she has (Izzie; dog)
- A favorite drink (chocolate milk)
- Favorite breakfast (pancakes and bacon)
- Favorite dinner (fettuccine Alfredo)
- Hobbies (arts and crafts; pottery; music)
- Two favorite singers/groups (Mindless Behavior; Justin Bieber)
- Sports she participates in (ice-skating)
- School grade (fifth)
- Something she shares in common with Nia and Rebecca (Rayna tried to bully them all into doing her school work)
- Church activity (sings in the choir)
- One deep, inner desire (to have good friends)

Rebecca

- Family members (Dad, Monty; step-mom, Jinetti; step-sisters Ava and Isabella; a baby step-sibling)
- Color of her eyes (blue)
- Two female singers/groups she admires (Beyonce; Cheetah Girls)
- Sports she participates in (ice-skating)
- School grade (fifth)
- One deep, inner desire (to have her dad's approval)

Nia

- Family members (Dad, Mom)
 - Who takes care of her when her parents are away? (Nora the nanny; Joshua the chef)
 - Animals/pets (horses; kitty named Fluffy)
 - Sports she participates in (ice-skating; horseback riding)
 - Kind of bed she has (Tempur-Pedic)
 - Number of her recitals that her parents have attended (not counting the school talent show in *Taking Center Stage*) (zero)
 - School grade (fifth)
 - Where she might go to school next year (boarding school in France)
 - One deep, inner desire (for her parents to be there for her)
-
- 