

# chapter

# 1

Gray was at his locker. He was looking for his science book. But he couldn't find it.

His science class was next. And he knew what the class work would be. So he had to find his book. Or else he would get a bad grade on his class work.

Jared walked up to Gray. Jared was Gray's best friend. And he was in Gray's science class.

Jared said, "What are you looking for,

dude? Hurry up and find it. We gotta get to class.”

“I know. But I can’t find my science book. And I have to find it,” Gray said.

Jared said, “Don’t worry about it. We sit in the back row. Just get out another book. And pretend it’s your science book. And hope Mr. Neels doesn’t catch on.”

Mr. Neels was their science teacher.

Gray said, “I can’t. You know what Mr. Neels said we would do in class today.”

“I forgot. What did he say?” Jared asked.

Jared didn’t worry about his grades. So Jared didn’t always listen in class. But he still got good grades on his report card. Gray didn’t know how Jared was able to do that.

“Mr. Neels said he would give us ten questions to answer today. We have to look the answers up in our science books.

Then write them down. And then turn them in when class is over,” Gray said.

Jared said, “Oh, yeah. I guess you do need your book. Hurry and find it. We need to get to class.”

Gray looked in his locker again. But he didn’t find his science book.

Gray closed his locker. And he looked at Jared. Then he said, “No, luck. My book isn’t in there. I must have left it at home.”

“Too bad,” Jared said.

Gray said, “I’ll be in big trouble. I might be able to answer two or three questions without my book. But I can’t get a passing grade without it.”

“Don’t worry about your grade. You can use my book,” Jared said.

Jared started to give his book to Gray. But Gray didn’t take it.

Gray said, “I can’t take your book. You need your book to do the class work.”

“Yeah, I know. But that’s what best friends do. They help each other. So take my book,” Jared said.

“You’re a great friend to say I can use your book. But I can’t do it. You need your book. Or you’ll get a bad grade,” Gray said.

“Don’t worry about it, Gray. Trust me. I can get one bad grade. And it won’t hurt my semester grade,” Jared said.

“Are you sure it won’t?” Gray asked.

“Yeah, I’m sure. So here, take my book,” Jared said.

Jared handed his science book to Gray. And Gray took it. Gray felt lucky to have a best friend like Jared.