

Intro--Hook to grab attention and tell something of the plot (one or two sentences only!) Include title/author.

Erik is a freak. He's fat. In fact, he's so fat, everyone calls him Moby---like Moby Dick? Sarah Byrnes is a freak, too. But she's also the smartest, funniest person Erik knows and also his best friend. Unfortunately, she's lying in the hospital in a mysterious coma, and no one knows what--or who--put her there. In Chris Crutcher's novel, *Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*, you'll find a funny, suspenseful read that will keep you turning the pages!

Body: Discuss your response, characters, themes--anything that helps explain why the book is (or isn't!) a good read.

The best part about *Sarah Byrnes* is the characters. They seem like real high school students, with real problems, and readers understand what makes Erik tick and why he sticks up for Sarah Byrnes, even when it could really hurt him. Though the situation is serious--Sarah is a victim of child abuse--the events and dialogue are often funny, as Erik and Sarah try to survive all the cliques in their high school environment.

Conclusion: End with a clincher to inspire the reader's curiosity and entice them into reading the book.

Will Erik discover Sarah's secret before it can destroy them both? Or will Sarah's past return to silence her one and for all? You'll have to read the book to find the answer.