

# Cyber-Team

by Rebecca Green

## Summary

The city council has decided to sell the soccer field to make way for a new housing development. Karina and her cyber friends decide to do something about it.

## Features of the Text

- Realistic fiction
- Narrative text that includes orientation, problem, climax, and resolution
- Use of dialogue
- Use of technology (computer chat room, email, website)
- Computer screen layout, emoticons, and dialogue style
- Use of aliases and abbreviation—*a.k.a.*

## Purpose

*Cyber-Team* can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- making connections;
- exploring dialogue;
- analyzing characters.

## Guided Reading Summary

### Introducing the text

Discuss the students' understanding of protest.

- *Why do people protest?*
- *What do you think protesters are trying to achieve?*
- *What kinds of emotions are being expressed?*

Explain that this story involves a group of students who work together to make a point. Tell the students that you want them to notice any connections they can make as they read the story.

### Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 5.

- *How do you think the characters are feeling?*
- *Why do you think Karina immediately contacted her friends?*
- *When have you had similar reactions or feelings?*

Ask the students to read to the end of page 10, relating the events to their own personal experiences.

- *What can you tell about the relationship between these students?*
- *Why is the ChatZone website a good way to communicate?*
- *Why do you think the author has included the ChatZone pages?*

Ask the students to read to the end of the text.

- *What kinds of skills did the characters need to accomplish their goal?*
- *What message or theme underpins this story?*

Discuss times when the students have worked together to complete a task. Discuss any connections they have made with the characters and events in the story.

## Following Up

The students can:

- use the blackline master on page 79 to write a conversation between the friends on ChatZone
- design a poster advertising the protest, adding all appropriate details
- recount a time when they had to work together as a team to accomplish a goal, explaining the steps that they had to take
- identify an issue that they are concerned about and design an action plan outlining the steps that they could take to protest about it.