Upside Down Magic Discussion Questions

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Teacher\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Why doesn’t Nory feel like she fits in with her

family? Discuss ways that you are similar to and

different from the members of your family.

2. Describe Nory’s first meeting with Pepper. Think

of a time you had an awkward first meeting.

How did the relationship work out?

3. The students in the Upside-Down Magic class all

have wonky magic. Which magic do you think

is the wonkiest? Which wonky magic would you

want to have?

4. Part of developing Upside-Down Magic is

learning to understand, not control, feelings.

How could this advice be helpful to people

without magic?

5. Ms. Starr says that unusual magic was valued

in the past. Why do you think people’s opinions

changed? Might their opinions change again?

Explain.

6. Aunt Margo does not think Nory and Elliott

should try to move out of the UDM class. She

says, “Just be who you are, not who you think

you should be.” Do you think that is good

advice?

7. After Elliott does well on his test, he runs back

to the Sparkies. Were you surprised he went

back to kids who were mean to him? Why or

why not?

8. How does the wonky magic of the UDM

students save a fellow classmate?

9. Do you think Principal Gonzalez made the right

decision about the class placement of Nory and

Elliott? Why or why not?

10. How does Nory feel about her Upside-Down

Magic in the beginning and the end of the

book?

Alternative Project

Create a drawing of your upside down magic.