**Grade 5 Literacy Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Preview to Mockingbird Book Study*

*Last week* began a book study with the National Book Award Winner Mockingbird, by Kathryn Erskine. To get you thinking about some of the themes within this book consider the following and answer the questions below.

**Part 1: Caitlin**

In the book Caitlin is described to have autism and more specifically Asperger’s syndrome\*. Visit the American Psychiatric Association website and summarize below what they define to be autism spectrum disorders. (<http://www.psychiatry.org/autism>)

**Part 2: Missed Meanings**

According to the book, Caitlin is only able to understand things very literally. She uses dictionaries and textbooks to help her understand her world but is still confused about many things.

Look at the expressions below and think about how hard it might be to understand these statements if you always thought words only had their literal meanings. Why your thoughts below.

1. Watch out for the ball- Duck!

2. Let’s hit the road.

3. Did you change your mind?

4. Wow, that’s neat!

\*This book was published in 2010, as of 2015 the American Psychiatric Association does not recognize Asperger’s syndrome as a specific category of autism, rather now only considers autism to be a spectrum with no categories.