**“Supertoys Last All Summer Long” Questions**

1. At the beginning of the story, how does the reader know right away that Mrs. Swinton’s garden isn’t real? How does the garden serve as an element of foreshadowing?

2. What is a Crosswell Tape? Would you want one? Explain your answer.

3. Monica Swinton is described as having a “graceful shape” and “lambent eye.” First, use the context of the sentence as a clue and write down your guess about the meaning of the adjective “lambent.” (It’s okay if you’re wrong; I just want you to take a guess.) Then, look up “lambent” in a dictionary and record the actual definition. How close were you to guessing the actual definition?

4. Teddy, who was designed to give comfort, tells David that he is a real boy, though he is not. Aldiss shows us here that lies are often more comforting than the truth. Is it cruel or kind for Teddy to give David this lie? Is it ever okay to lie to someone? Give two examples to defend your position.

5. Teddy says, “Nobody knows what ‘real’ really means.” Does it matter if something is real or only that it feels real? Give a concrete example as you explain your thoughts.

6. Near the end of the story, David is in the garden outside of the house, looking at Mrs. Swinton through the window. Symbolically, what might the window represent?

7. At first, this futuristic place appears to be a utopia, yet a closer look reveals that this is not true. Give two examples from the story (paraphrasing is fine) that show this is a place where none of us should want to live.

8. This story is told in third-person omniscient narration, meaning the narrator is removed from the direct action of the story and has access to all of the characters’ internal thoughts. If you were to rewrite the story from a specific character’s first-person viewpoint, which character would you choose and how would the story be different?