

Name: _____ Date: _____

Theme: Endings and Beginnings

Directions: Read "Phoenix Farm" and "The Myth of the Phoenix." Then complete the activity below, which will prepare you to respond to the writing prompt on page 24.

Rebirth

According to the introduction to "The Myth of the Phoenix" on page 24, what all stories about phoenix-like birds have in common is the idea of rebirth.

1. Rebirth is the idea that _____.

Please
complete the
sentence.

Now you will look at how the theme of rebirth is developed in "Phoenix Farm" by Jane Yolen.

The Fire

2. "Phoenix Farm" begins with a fire. In what ways is the fire an ending? Use text evidence to support your ideas.

3. What does the narrator say that suggests the fire might be a new beginning?

The Bird

4. It is never directly stated that the egg the narrator finds is that of a phoenix. How can you conclude that the egg *is* a phoenix egg? Use details from "Phoenix Farm" and from "The Myth of the Phoenix" to support your answer.
5. How is the theme of rebirth developed through what happens with the egg?

The Dad

6. At the beginning of the story, what tells you that the narrator thinks of her relationship with her dad as having ended?
7. At the end of the story, the narrator's dad returns. What suggests that the narrator and her dad are off to a fresh start—that their relationship has had a rebirth?