

Name _____

Beyond Labels

Short Answer Key

1. Johnny saves Ponyboy from the Socs and rescues children from a fire, showing that actions define a hero, not appearance.
2. Dally has had a tough life and believes that showing emotions makes someone weak, even though he cares deeply for his friends.
3. Cherry explains that Socs feel pressure to hide their emotions, which helps Ponyboy understand that they also have struggles.
4. Randy realizes that fighting only creates more pain and does not change anything, so he decides not to participate.
5. The novel shows that even "tough" characters like Dally and Johnny can be heroes, and even Socs can be kind, proving that people are complex.

