Video Discussion Questions

Directions: Watch the Behind the Scenes video “Swarms of Terror.” Then answer the questions below.

1. What does author Lauren Tarshis explain in the second section of the video (0:58 to 2:05) that helps you understand how terrible the locust attacks on the prairie were? What do you see on-screen that supports this?

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2. What research did Tarshis do to prepare for writing “Swarms of Terror”? 

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3. According to the video, what are primary sources? What are some examples mentioned in the video? What did these sources help Tarshis understand?

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4. Tarshis explains that she “wanted to pack [her] article with vivid descriptive details.” Why did she want to include these kinds of details?

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