



Little
Novel-Ties

Miss Nelson is Missing!

Harry Allard

A Study Guide
Written by Garrett Christopher

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For the Teacher

This reproducible **Little Novel-Ties** study guide consists of activities to use in conjunction with the book *Miss Nelson Is Missing!*. The picture book and its corresponding guide can become an important element in your whole language reading program. The guide contains a synopsis; background information on the author and illustrator; suggested pre-reading activities; exercises that focus on vocabulary; visual literacy, story comprehension, and critical thinking skills; and extension activities that link the story to other curriculum areas.

Suggestions For Using Activities

Pre-Reading Activities – Before You Read

These activities are designed to activate children's prior knowledge and build concepts or background information. They will motivate children to read and help them to understand the story better. Children can discuss answers to the questions with a partner, in a small cooperative learning group or with the entire class.

Word Study – Exact Opposites

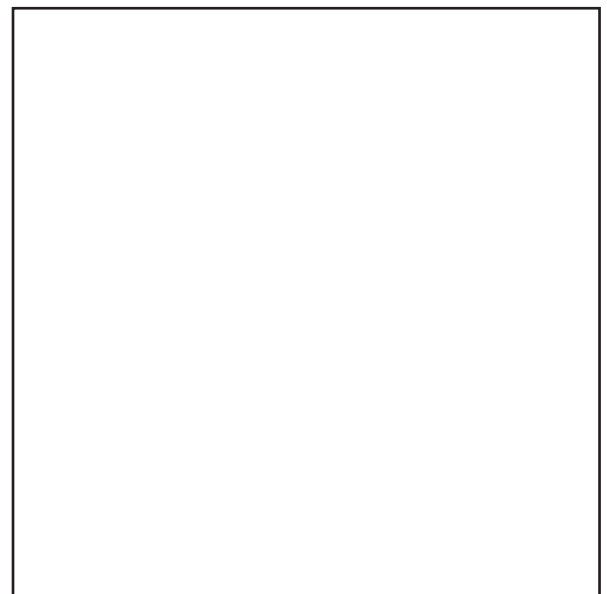
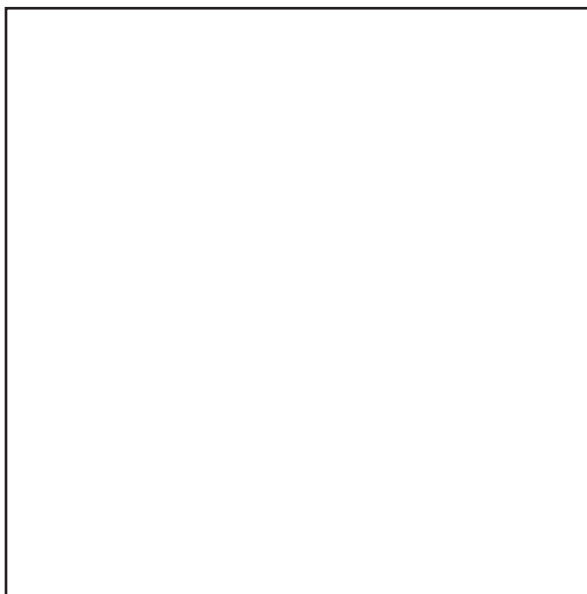
This page presents examples and brief instructional material to introduce the concept of antonyms. Using words from the story, children are asked to identify which of three words is an antonym for an underlined word in a sentence.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

The story questions include a number of literal, inferential and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. The picture questions help children draw inferences from the illustrations.

BEFORE YOU READ

1. Read the title of the book.
Then study the picture on the cover.
Where do you think this story takes place?
Can you guess who Miss Nelson is?
2. Do you think teachers should be strict?
Do you have a strict teacher?
What would a strict teacher do?
3. In this story, the kids in Miss Nelson's class are very rude.
What are some of the things a rude class might do?
Make a list. Then share it with a partner.
4. Draw two pictures.
Show yourself as you look today.
Then draw yourself wearing a disguise.



STORY QUESTIONS



1. How do the kids in Room 207 behave? Do you think they should be called the worst-behaved class in the school? Explain your answer.
2. How would you describe Miss Nelson? Why do you think she's having problems with her class?
3. What surprise do the kids have early one morning?
4. How does life in Room 207 suddenly change? What causes this change?
5. What do the children do to try to find Miss Nelson? What happens in each case?
6. In what three ways do the kids try to explain Miss Nelson's disappearance? Do any of these explanations make sense? Why or why not?
7. What surprise does Miss Nelson notice in the kids in Room 207?
8. What changes does Miss Nelson notice in the kids in Room 207?
9. Can you guess Miss Nelson's little secret? What clues helped you figure it out?
10. What lesson did the kids in Room 207 learn? What lesson did Miss Nelson learn?