

Novel·Ties



A Study Guide

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LEARNING LINKS

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For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with a specific novel consists of lessons for guided reading. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel on its reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits, formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques, will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

CHAPTER 1

Vocabulary: Use the context to figure out the meaning of the underlined word in each of the following sentences. Then use a dictionary to check your answers.

1. After being the object of my classmate's jokes all year, I loathe him.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. Since I have one blue-eyed and one brown-eyed parent, I must be a hybrid brown.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

3. My mother has straight teeth which I did not inherit so I have to wear braces.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

4. After looking at our childhood photograph, I was absolutely sure that you were my long-lost friend.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

5. It's a nuisance to brush your teeth while wearing braces.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

Read to find out about the startling change that Annabel experiences.

Questions:

1. Why does Annabel think the strange turn-around has happened? What do you think caused this peculiar situation?
2. How does Annabel feel when she is first aware of the turn-around?
3. What bothers Annabel most about her brother?
4. What is Ellen strict about?
5. Why does Ellen think her mother is responsible for their switched identities?

CHAPTERS 2, 3

Vocabulary: Synonyms are words with similar meanings; antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Use words from the Word Box to fill in the following chart with a synonym and an antonym for each of the numbered words below. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the paragraph that follows.

<i>WORD BOX</i>				
artificial	caring	dull	genuine	indifference
carefully	dangerously	excitement	inconsiderate	shining

	Synonym	Antonym
1. considerate		
2. phony		
3. radiant		
4. enthusiasm		
5. cautiously		

Annabel seemed to like being in her mother’s body. In fact, she had a great deal of _____¹ for the idea. Not to be discovered as a _____,² she had to approach her day _____,³ making sure to behave just like her mother. For one thing she had to be _____⁴ to Ape Face, otherwise known as her brother Ben. That was hard. But, on the other hand, she enjoyed looking at her own _____⁵ smile in the mirror rather than at the braces she usually saw.

Read to find out how Annabel starts her day in her new identity.

Questions:

1. Why is Annabel pleased at first to be her mother?
2. Why does Annabel think her mother always says “Annabel looks like her very own self”? Can you think of another reason why Mother might have said that?