

# Novel·Ties



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Synopsis . . . . .	1
Pre-Reading Activities . . . . .	2
Chapters 1, 2 . . . . .	3 - 4
Chapters 3, 4 . . . . .	5 - 6
Chapters 5, 6 . . . . .	7
Chapters 7 - 9 . . . . .	8 - 9
Chapters 10, 11 . . . . .	10 - 11
Chapters 12 - 15 . . . . .	12
Chapters 16, 17 . . . . .	13
Cloze Activity . . . . .	14
Post-Reading Activities . . . . .	15
Suggestions For Further Reading . . . . .	16
Answer Key . . . . .	17 - 18

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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of lessons to use in conjunction with the book *Follow My Leader*. 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 guided reading 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 or group of chapters; 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 will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

## CHAPTERS 1, 2

Synonyms are words with similar meanings. In the Word Box below are synonyms for the underlined words in the following sentences. Replace each underlined word or phrase with its synonym.

WORD BOX			
authority	demolition	orderly	singed
critical	noncommittal	rehabilitation	unblemished

1. The umpire had complete power over the players.
2. Jimmy needed help from the hospital attendant in order to get dressed.
3. One could see the slightly scorched hair around his forehead.
4. They were pleased to find out his condition was not desperate.
5. The doctor found that Jimmy's face would be free of scars after he removed the bandages.
6. Being restored to useful and helpful activity is the hope for all suffering with a handicap.
7. Jimmy was giving no clear indication of his feeling about a dog.
8. Destruction by explosives can be extremely dangerous.

### Questions:

1. How does Jimmy show that he is a responsible person, a good athlete and a leader?
2. Why does Mike throw the firecracker in Jimmy's direction?
3. How does the first-aid training the boys received in Scouts become useful after the accident?
4. How does Jimmy display his sense of humor with the nurse, Miss Moore?
5. How does Mike react to the accident? Why do you think he behaves that way?
6. How does Jimmy feel about Mike? Do you think his feelings are justified?

## CHAPTERS 3, 4

**Vocabulary:** Draw a line from the words on the left to their meanings on the right. Then use each of the numbered words to complete the sentences below.

- |               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. chore      | a. worldwide                   |
| 2. spruced up | b. neat or smart in appearance |
| 3. universal  | c. small introductory book     |
| 4. primer     | d. job, task                   |

.....

- Jimmy was all \_\_\_\_\_ with a new suit and tie.
- Carolyn's \_\_\_\_\_ was to mop the kitchen floor.
- The first grade child was working in a reading \_\_\_\_\_.
- Because Braille is used all over the world it is called a \_\_\_\_\_ language.

### Questions:

- What is facial vision? Why do you think blind people acquire this extra sense?
- What does Jimmy's family do to protect him from accidents?
- How does Miss Thompson encourage Jimmy?
- What is the significance of a white cane? Why isn't Jimmy allowed to use the cane in the house?
- What does Miss Thompson mean when she tells Jimmy, "... you can see. You've only lost two eyes"?

### Questions for Discussion:

- Why does Miss Thompson correct Jimmy's mother when she calls him, "My poor boy"? Do you think his mother should express her sympathy for Jimmy's condition? How should she deal with her son?
- Give examples of Jimmy's sense of humor. Many medical experts believe that humor is one of the best treatments for illness. Why do you think this is so?