## Novel-Ties



## LEARNING LINKS

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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with the novel Snow Treasure 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 at its own 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.

## PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

1. Preview the book by reading the title and author's name and by looking at the illustration on the cover. What do you think this book will be about? When and where do you think it takes place?
2. World War II was one of the costliest and most destructive wars in history. What do you know about this terrible conflict? Choose one of the following topics, do some research online or in the library and share what you learn with your classmates.

- causes of World War II
- war in Europe
- war in the Pacific
- plight of the Jews and other minorities during the war

3. Read the Background Information on page two of this study guide and do some additional research to learn about Norway during World War II. Answer the following questions:

- When did Nazi Germany occupy Norway?
- What kind of struggle preceded the German occupation?
- How were Norway's citizens treated during the war?
- What acts of resistance occurred during the occupation?
- Was there any known collaboration with the Germans?

4. Look at the map of the Scandinavian countries on page two of this study guide. Find the country of Norway on a map or globe. Answer these questions:

- What is the capital of Norway? Where is it located?
- Why is fishing an important part of Norway's economy?
- What percentage of the country falls within the Arctic Circle?

5. A fiord is a deep narrow inlet of the sea between high, steep banks or cliffs. Find photographs of fiords in the library. They will give you some idea of the appearance of Norway's northern coast and a better sense of the setting for Snow Treasure.
6. Imagine that you lived during a time when your country was occupied by an enemy force. If you were called upon to perform a patriotic task, would you risk your life for your country? Would you risk your own life or the lives of your family members to help another citizen in danger? How do you think you would react if you were caught or captured?

## Chapters 1, 2 (cont.)

## Literary Element: Exposition

The opening chapters of Snow Treasure provide background information for the rest of the book. Fill in the chart below with the information you have gathered so far. Add information as you read the book.

| Setting <br> (time and place) |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Characters |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Central Problem |  |

## Writing Activity:

Imagine Uncle Victor sent a secret letter to Peter's father to tell him about his plans and Peter's role in these plans. Write that letter, explaining the rationale and the strategy.

