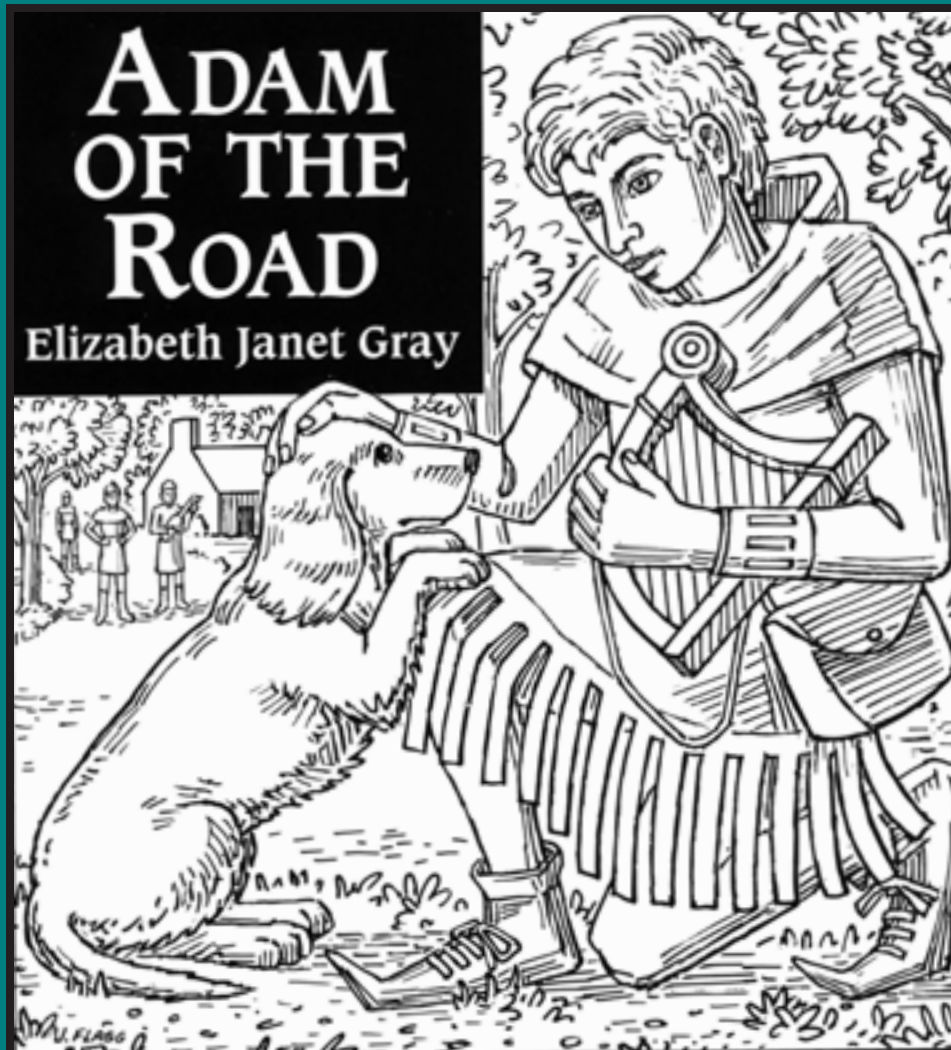


# Novel·Ties



## 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 the novel *Adam of the Road* 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.

## GLOSSARY

abbey	monastery headed by an abbot
abbot	head or superior of a monastery
almoner	person who distributes donations on behalf of a monastery or royalty
apprentice	person bound to a craftsman to learn a trade
bailey	courtyard within the walls of a castle
chapman	merchant
chivalry	rules and customs of medieval knighthood
coif	hood-shaped cap
demesne	possession of land as one's own
dole	portion or allotment of money, food, etc.
evensong	evening prayer
franklin	landholder not of noble birth
friar	member of a religious order, such as the Dominicans
garth	open courtyard enclosed by a covered walk
hauberk	long defensive shirt, usually of linked chain
knight	man of noble birth, who after an apprenticeship as page and squire, was raised to honorable military rank and bound to chivalrous conduct
mantle	loose, sleeveless cloak or cape
Martinmas	church festival, November 11, in honor of St. Martin
matins	morning prayer
minstrel	medieval poet and musician who sang or recited while accompanying himself on a stringed instrument
monastery	house or place of residence occupied by a community of monks
plowman	farm laborer
portmanteau	case or bag to carry clothes when traveling
poultice	soft, moist mass of cloth, bread, or herbs applied as salve to the body
pottage	thick soup made of vegetables, with or without meat
prior	officer in a monastic order or religious house
quatre-foil	architectural ornament composed of four small leaves
quintain	target mounted on a post for medieval sport of tilting
reeve	overseer of workers, tenants, or an estate
scrip	bag or wallet carried by travelers
serf	peasant bound to the land or service of the landlord
solar	private or upper chamber in a medieval castle
squire	young man of noble birth who serves a knight
surcoat	outer coat or garment
tithe	tenth part of agricultural produce or income as tax for the support of the church
trencher	rectangular or circular flat piece of wood on which meat or other food is carved, or a plate from which food is eaten
villeins	partially free persons under the feudal system who were serfs in respect to their lord, but had the rights and privileges of freemen in respect to others
viol	bowed musical instrument
wimple	woman's headcloth drawn in folds under the chin and still in use by some nuns
yeoman	farmer who cultivates his own land

## Pre-Reading Activities and Discussion Questions

10. **Music Connection:** Locate the music or recordings of medieval ballads, those that might have been sung by traveling minstrels. You might listen to ballads such as “Barbara Allen”; “Lord Randal, My Son”; or “Widdecombe Fair.” Then find examples of medieval church music. Listen to recordings of Gregorian chants.
11. Historical fiction is a genre of literature in which fictional characters play out their roles against a background true to a historical period. As you read *Adam of the Road*, try to decide which details are historical and which ones were made up by the author.
12. Look at the Glossary on page three of this study guide. Learn the meanings of words from the book that relate to the medieval era.
13. Begin the K-W-L Chart on the Middle Ages below. Fill in the first two columns before you read the book. Fill in the last column after you complete the book.

### THE MIDDLE AGES

What I Know -K-	What I Want to Learn -W-	What I Learned -L-