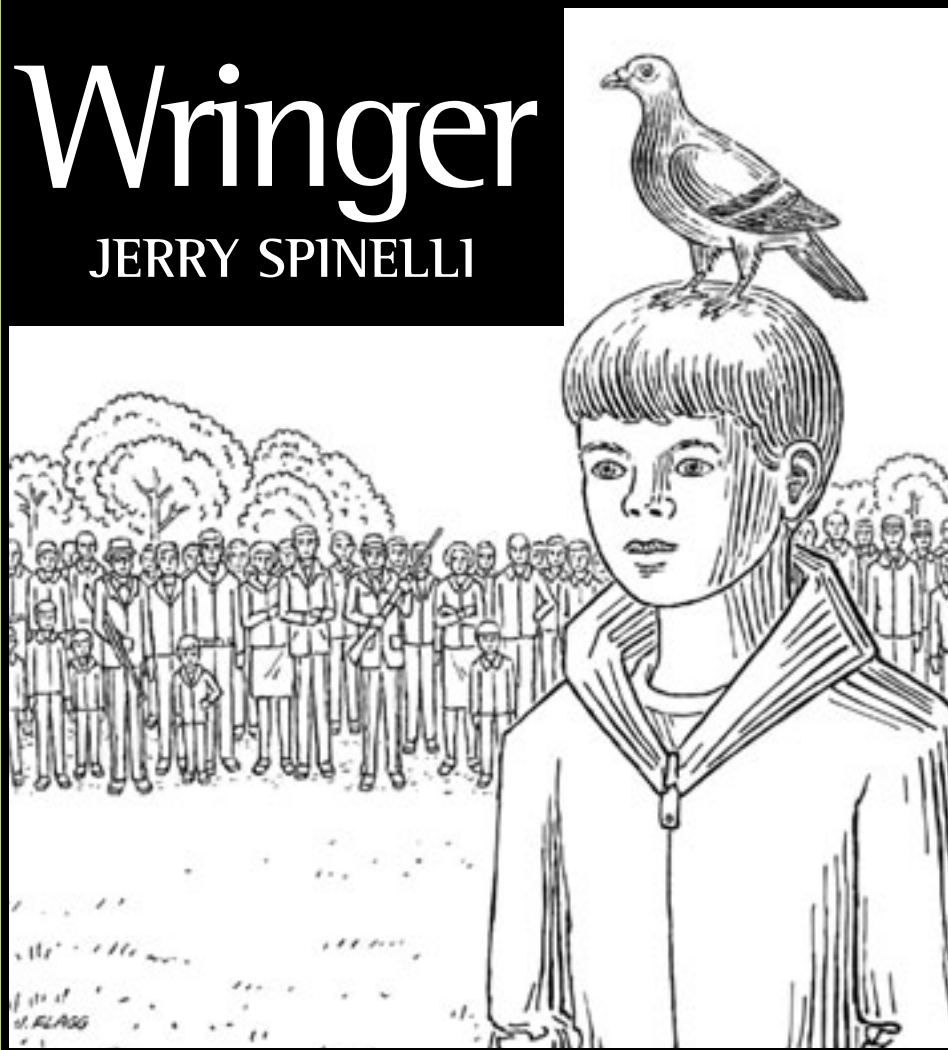


## Novel•Ties

# Wringer

JERRY SPINELLI



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Synopsis . . . . .	1
Pre-Reading Activities . . . . .	2 - 3
Chapters 1 - 4 . . . . .	4 - 5
Chapters 5 - 8 . . . . .	6 - 8
Chapters 9 - 12 . . . . .	9 - 10
Chapters 13 - 16 . . . . .	11 - 12
Chapters 17 - 22 . . . . .	13 - 14
Chapters 23 - 27 . . . . .	15 - 16
Chapters 28 - 31 . . . . .	17 - 18
Chapters 32 - 35 . . . . .	19 - 20
Chapters 36 - End . . . . .	21 - 24
Cloze Activity . . . . .	25
Post-Reading Activities . . . . .	26
Suggestions For Further Reading . . . . .	27
Answer Key . . . . .	28 - 30

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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.

## Pre-Reading Activities (cont.)

### ANTICIPATION GUIDE

Statement	You	Author
1. It is necessary to wipe out all creatures that are a nuisance to human life.		
2. Parents should accept the friends their children choose.		
3. A violent society breeds violence in its children.		
4. Children should rebel against injustice in society.		
5. Peer pressure can make a person act in a way that he or she would not normally act.		
6. Parents have more influence over their children than do their peers.		
7. To be popular, it is sometimes necessary to act against your nature.		
8. It is important to stand up for your own principles.		
9. Acts of violence can be justified if they result in the greater good of society.		
10. Pigeons are stupid, dirty, annoying birds.		

## Chapters 1 – 4 (cont.)

4. Why did the boys want Palmer to reveal the location of Dorothy's house?
5. Why didn't Palmer join the boys on the soccer field?
6. In what ways did Palmer act in an uncharacteristic way on his birthday?

### Questions for Discussion:

1. Why do you think the author began the novel with a "newspaper clipping"?
2. Why was Palmer able to deny the boys' lack of good manners, while his mother was not?
3. Why do you think Beans had become the undisputed leader of all the nine-and-under kids?
4. Do you think Palmer should have criticized or questioned the behavior of the three boys who came to his party?

### Literary Devices:

- I. *Simile*—A simile is a figure of speech in which a comparison between two unlike objects is stated directly using the words "like" or "as."

What is being compared at the beginning of Chapter One with Palmer's feelings about the pigeon shoot?

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Why is this an apt comparison?

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- II. *Flashback*—A flashback occurs when a past event is interjected into the chronological sequence of events in a novel. This device is used to provide information that would not otherwise be available to the reader. What is the flashback in this section of the novel?

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### Writing Activities:

1. Write about a time when you, or someone you know, wanted to be a part of a group but you did not like everything about the activities of that group.
2. Imagine that you are Henry. Write a journal entry describing Palmer's birthday party and the soccer game in the park.