## Novel-Ties



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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of lessons to use in conjunction with a specific novel. 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.
7. As you read Ramona's World fill in the timeline below showing the important things that happen at each time during Ramona's fourth grade school year.

RAMONA'S YEAR


## Chapter 1 (cont.)

## Questions for Discussion:

1. Would you like to have Ramona for a friend? Would you want to be friendly with Yard Ape, Susan, or Daisy?
2. What subject in school do you think will be hardest for Ramona?

What might she like best at school?

## Science Activity:

Ramona Quimby is a nine-year-old girl with brown hair, brown eyes, and no cavities. What are cavities? Why do some people get them and others do not? What can you do to avoid cavities? Write five facts about cavities and how to avoid them. Share them with your classmates.

## Writing Activity:

Suppose you were in Mrs. Meacham's class on the first day of school and had to write a paragraph telling about yourself. What would you write to help your teacher and classmates know more about you.

