

# Novel•Ties

## THE LANDRY NEWS

ANDREW CLEMENTS



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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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 will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

## CHAPTERS 1–3

**Vocabulary:** Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. chaos       | a. rolled from side to side  |
| 2. skittered   | b. flat piece of wood with writing on one side                         |
| 3. flinched    | c. three-legged stand used as a support for an object such as a camera |
| 4. lurched     | d. moved lightly or quickly over a surface                             |
| 5. plaque      | e. great confusion   |
| 6. accumulated | f. moved away from something dangerous                                 |
| 7. tripod      | g. gathered or collected, often in gradual degrees                     |

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1. As soon as the students spotted a mouse running across the floor, the classroom erupted into total \_\_\_\_\_.
2. To get a steadier view of the night sky, we placed the telescope on a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When the principal retired, the president of the PTA presented her with a book and an engraved \_\_\_\_\_ to honor her years of excellent service.
4. The sailor could not keep his balance as the ship \_\_\_\_\_ in the stormy sea.
5. If you save a little bit of your allowance each week, you will be surprised by the amount of money you have \_\_\_\_\_ by the end of the year.
6. Beads \_\_\_\_\_ across the room when Mom's necklace broke.
7. The batter instinctively \_\_\_\_\_ when the pitcher hurled a ball that came close to the plate.

Read to find out what happened after Cara published the first edition of *The Landry News*.

## Chapters 1–3 (cont.)

- II. *Irony*—Irony refers to a situation that is the exact opposite of what is expected. Considering the description of Mr. Larson as a teacher, what is ironic about the plaque?

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### Math Connection:

1. In Cara’s editorial, she suggested that each of the 23 students in Mr. Larson’s class should be paid \$9.50 a day for teaching the class. Assuming that Mr. Larson earned \$39,324 per year and that there were 180 days in a school year, was Cara’s math correct? If not, tell what you think the figure should be and explain how you arrived at it.
2. If Mr. Larson should get a raise next year and earn \$43,000, how much would each “student teacher” receive according to Cara’s calculations?

### Science Connection: Geodesic Dome

Buckminster Fuller invented the geodesic dome in 1948. To learn more about these domes and their brilliant yet eccentric inventor, visit [www.thirteen.org/bucky/dome.html](http://www.thirteen.org/bucky/dome.html). For plans on how to build your own classroom dome using only a broom handle, newspaper, a stapler, and masking tape, visit [www.yesmag.bc.ca/projects/geodesic.html](http://www.yesmag.bc.ca/projects/geodesic.html).

### Newspaper Activity:

Spend time looking through a daily paper read by people in your community. Make a list of the sections found in the paper and write a brief description of the features that are found in each section. Then work with a partner and ask him or her to find these and other features: editorials, weather, classifieds, national news, local news, sports, and obituaries.

### Writing Activity:

The author enables you to visualize every nook and cranny of Mr. Larson’s room. The walls, bulletin boards, bookracks, reading corner, and even the ceiling are included in his description. Choose a space where you spend some time each day. Write a description that enables others to visualize your space.