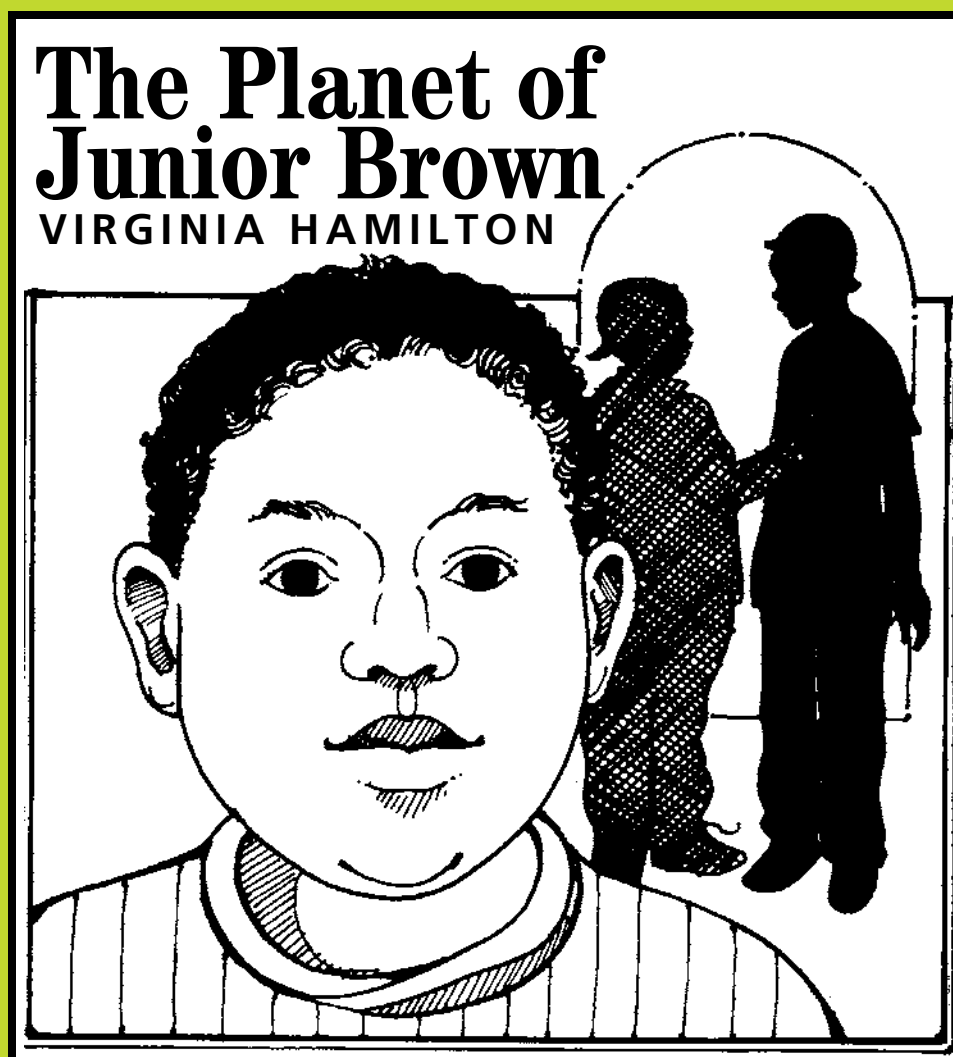


Novel•Ties



A Study Guide

Written By Carol Alexander

Edited by Joyce Friedland and Rikki Kessler

LEARNING LINKS

P.O. Box 326 • Cranbury • New Jersey 08512

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Synopsis	1
Background Information	2
About the Author	3
Pre-Reading Activities	4 - 5
Chapters 1, 2	6 - 9
Chapters 3, 4 [pages 42 – 74].	10 - 12
Chapter 4 [pages 75 – 108].	13 - 15
Chapter 5	16 - 18
Chapter 6	19 - 20
Chapter 7	21 - 24
Cloze Activity	25
Post-Reading Activities	26 - 27
Suggestions For Further Reading	28
Answer Key	29 - 30

Novel-Ties® are printed on recycled paper.

The purchase of this study guide entitles an individual teacher to reproduce pages for use in a classroom. Reproduction for use in an entire school or school system or for commercial use is prohibited. Beyond the classroom use by an individual teacher, reproduction, transmittal or retrieval of this work is prohibited without written permission from the publisher.

For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with the novel *The Planet of Junior Brown* 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.

About the Author

Virginia Hamilton (1936 – 2002) won many prestigious awards for her writing, including the Newbery Medal, the National Book Award, the Coretta Scott King Award, and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal. The beloved author of over thirty-five books for children and young adults drew on a rich cultural tradition to create her plots and characters. Hamilton credited her father and mother, who loved to tell their children exciting tales, with handing down the storyteller's art. The grandchild of an escaped slave who settled in Ohio, Virginia Hamilton often drew on her African-American background for inspiration, creating strong and moving characters such as the realistic Zeely, M.C. Higgins, and Willie Bea. Hamilton also wrote many folktales and other works of imaginative literature, delighting in a range of narrative voices and possibilities.

Hamilton always knew she wanted to be a writer. She attended Ohio State University and later the New School for Social Research in New York City. She took a number of odd jobs to support herself but returned to Ohio, her native state, after publishing her first book, *Zeely*, in 1967. She and her husband, author Arnold Adoff, raised their two children in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and pursued their lifelong careers in literature; Hamilton published a book a year until her death in 2002. She is widely regarded as one of the foremost children's book authors.

Pre-Reading Questions and Activities (cont.)

Buddy's Survival in the Inner City	
Food	
Shelter	
Money	
Anything else	