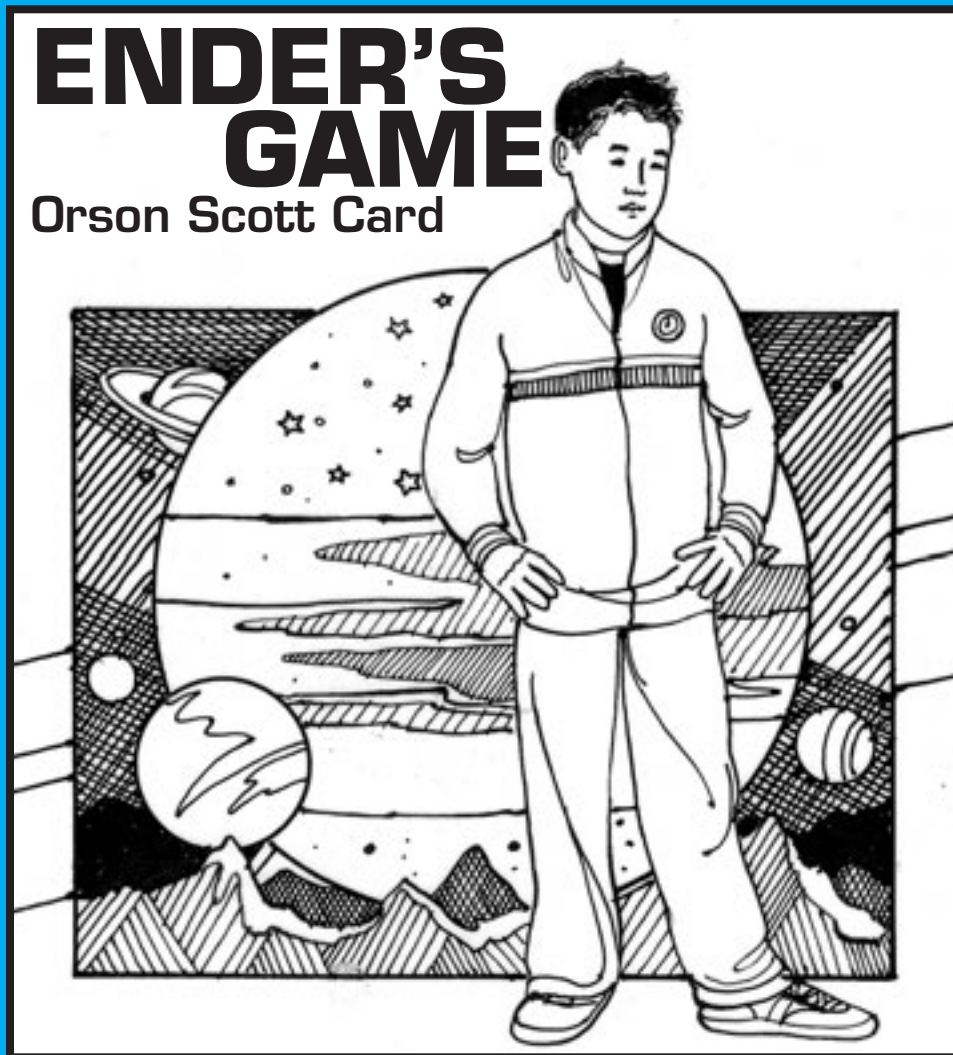


Novel·Ties



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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### For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of instructional material to use in conjunction with the novel *Ender's Game*. 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.

NOVEL-TIES are either for whole class instruction using a single title or for group instruction where each group uses a different novel appropriate to its reading level. Depending upon the amount of time allotted to it in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in two to four weeks.

The first step in using NOVEL-TIES is to distribute to each student a copy of the novel and a folder containing all of the duplicated worksheets. Begin instruction by selecting several pre-reading activities in order to set the stage for the reading ahead. Vocabulary exercises for each chapter always precede the reading so that new words will be reinforced in the context of the book. Use the questions on the chapter worksheets for class discussion or as written exercises.

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.

### **The Warsaw Pact**

The Warsaw Pact is the name commonly given to the treaty between Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the Soviet Union, which was signed in Poland in 1955 and was officially called “The Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance.” It was a military treaty, which bound its signatories to come to the aid of the others, should any one of them be a victim of foreign aggression. In practice, however, it refers to the Soviet bloc, the Eastern European countries dominated by the Soviet Union and its socialist economy. The novel refers to a fictional Second Warsaw Pact, a confederation of most of “Eurasia from the Netherlands to Pakistan” that was signed sometime after the contemporary period.

### **The Second Cold War**

The period between the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 to the rise of Mikhail Gorbachev as Soviet leader in 1985 is sometimes referred to as the Second Cold War. During this time there was an increase in tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union, which included Russia. Western policy shifted from détente to be more confrontational. Many military conflicts occurred in this time period, including the Soviet war in Afghanistan, the 1981 Gulf of Sidra incident, and the U.S. invasion of Grenada.

*Ender's Game* takes place in Earth's future, when all countries are cooperating to save the planet from an alien invasion. However, the book does incorporate the international conflicts of the 1980s, when it was written. An American hegemony (group of nations dominated by one) is pitted against a Second Warsaw Pact, led by the Russians. In Ender's world, Russia rules Eurasia from the Netherlands to Pakistan. After the alien war is over and the North American alliances disappear, Russia makes a move to assume power.

philotic energy	energy from philotes, fictional subatomic particles that take no space and are essential to the theory of philotic energy; philotic energy is used as a form of faster-than-light communication, in which messages are transmitted instantaneously by the ansible.
polemarch	civilian official, originally a supreme general; in the novel, the Polemarch is the commander of the International Fleet's warships
polyglot	someone who uses many languages aptly and with a high level of fluency
relativity	theory that all motion must be defined relative to a frame of reference and that space and time are relative, rather than absolute concepts
sadism	practice of getting pleasure from hurting others
sentient	having senses or feelings
strategos	military governors or generals; in the novel, the Strategos is in overall command of the solar system's defense
vestigial	referring to an organ that has atrophied during the course of evolution
vivisect	perform surgery on living animals for the purpose of studying organs and disease
xeno-	Greek prefix meaning "stranger." In biology, it is often used to designate species difference. In science fiction, it has been used to refer to alien life. A xenobiologist would be a scientist who studies alien life forms. Xenocide would be the total destruction of an alien life form.