



Reading Guide Overview

Introducing the book: This section can be used to acquaint students with the story, the author, or the illustrator, to open a discussion that capitalizes on students' prior knowledge, and/or to motivate student interest. While it is important to accomplish any one or more of the components above, it is more important to get students into the book as soon as their interest is peaked. The amount of time to spend on the introduction is best determined by your students' needs and interests.

Ongoing activity: This activity is optional. It is designed to highlight an important feature of the book. Often this is based on the characters, the plot, the setting, the author's craft, the illustrator, and any other literary element that students will be asked to observe throughout their reading of the book. The last question in each reading focuses their attention on this feature. Space is provided on the Student's Edition page for them to take notes. The Culminating Activity provides a follow-up to this activity.

Vocabulary: The vocabulary words for this list are sequenced according to their occurrence in the story. You can add words to the list or delete words according to your students' needs. Page references are provided for your convenience.

Discussion Guide: The chapter-by-chapter questions in the Teacher's Guide can be used in a variety of instructional settings. You may choose to use them to guide discussion when you meet with your students after they have read the selection. With some groups you may choose to give them to students prior to their reading the selection. In this case, students use the questions to guide their reading and preparation for a group discussion. You may also choose to assign some of the questions, or you could add or edit questions. The instructional options are numerous.

Note: Possible responses and/or answer keys are not included as the questions, many of which are open-ended, are designed to encourage a variety of responses. The intent of the questions is to guide the students toward a more interactive and engaging discussion of the story and its many views. Such a discussion is taken to a higher level when the teacher is also an active participant. Questions that generate a more literal response are included when necessary to help lead students toward a subsequent question that require a more inferential response and/or a higher level of literary appreciation.

Related Bookfolio Activities: Correlations to activities in the Bookfolio are provided as a convenience for those who are using the Bookfolio.

Culminating Activity: This activity is a follow-up to the On-going Activity. It may take the form of a group discussion or group collaboration; or it may require an independent or group written response., often times with a focus on a literary element or feature unique to the title.

Student's Guide

The Student's Guide is a standard chapter worksheet or response page that your students can use based on your direction. For example, students could use the questions to guide their reading and prepare for a group discussion. They could use the write-on lines to answer questions, take notes, respond to the last question and/or the On-going Activity, or write their own questions. Likewise students can personalize the vocabulary list by adding more words of their choice from the selection. Page references for the vocabulary words are not included on the Student's Guide page, however you can add them if you feel they are necessary. Students should keep their worksheets in a binder or folder for future use. They may need to refer to their notes to complete the Culminating Activity or for some other end-of-book activity. You can also modify the Student Guide page by adding vocabulary words or questions, providing word meanings, or any other use you feel necessary to facilitate your instructional program. Students will need to continue their work on additional paper if there is not enough space on the worksheet.