

Bookfolio for **M. C. Higgins, the Great**

Author: [Virginia Hamilton](#)

First Publication Date: 1974

Publisher: Simon & Schuster

ISBN: 0689830742

Recommended for: [Grades 4-6](#)

Classification: Fiction

Genre: [Realistic Fiction](#)

Story Summary: M. C.'s family has lived for three generations on Sarah's Mountain, now scarred by strip-mining bulldozers that leave a spoil heap of uprooted trees and earth plastered together by rain. M. C. worries that his family must leave their home in the mountain before the spoil crashes down on them. A 40-foot pole in the front yard provides M. C. with an escape from the care of the younger children and the problems he faces. From atop the pole, M. C. sees two strangers enter the hill country. One is a Chicago "dude," whom M. C. thinks will make his mother a country-western singing star. The other is Lurhetta Outlaw, who eventually inspires M. C. to take charge of his life, to see that he has choices and is responsible for determining his own future.

Read-aloud Recommendation: Chapter 3, pages 52-70.

The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:

R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing

| M. C. Higgins, the Great - Independent Activities | Skills |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Letter to Lurhetta (Writing a letter) | W |
| 2. Poem from the Top (Writing a poem) | S , W |
| 3. Your Family's Story (Writing a story) | S , W |
| 4. Yodel-lay-hi-hoo (Writing a report) | R , S , W |
| 5. Unions for Steelworkers (Writing a report) | R , S , W |
| 6. Monster Machine (Drawing a picture) | D |
| M. C. Higgins, the Great - Group Activities | Skills |
| 1. M. C.'s First Day (Writing a journal) | W |
| 2. M. C. and Friends (Illustrating story characters) | D |
| 3. Folk Song Festival (Conducting an interview) | S |
| 4. The Killburn Place (Researching a topic) | R , S |
| 5. Life in the Appalachian Mountains (Writing a report) | S , W |
| 6. "Let's Talk About..." (Discussing the story) | L , S |

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