



LIT LEAGUE
EARLY CHAPTER BOOK SUBSCRIPTION

Objectives: Lit League’s award-winning, book-themed activity boxes are designed to nurture a love of reading. Students are provided with a variety of multidisciplinary activities as a means of engaging with an important work of literature.

Materials: Lit League Early Chapter Book Activity Boxes are perfect for kids ages 5-9 who are starting to venture beyond picture books. These books can be enjoyed independently or as part of a read-aloud experience. Subscriptions are personalized using a Reader Interest Survey.

Each Lit League Picture Book Activity Box includes:

- a high-interest book
- a book-specific vocabulary bookmark
- 5+ fun-filled activities related to the book
- discussion questions and answers
- the tools to enjoy a shared family experience or participate in a book club with friends
- instructions for implementation and differentiation

Potential Books Included:

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things by Lenore Look
A to Z Mysteries: The Missing Mummy by Ron Roy
Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream by Jenny Han
Dory Fantasmagory by Abby Hanlon
EllRay Jakes is Magic by Sally Warner
Flat Stanley’s Worldwide Adventures: The African Safari Discovery by Jeff Brown
Freddie Ramos Gets a Sidekick by Jacqueline Jules
Great Mouse Detective: Basil of Baker Street by Eve Titus
Horse Diaries: Koda by Patricia Hermes
The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes
Indian Shoes by Cynthia Letich Smith
Keena Ford and the Second-Grade Mix-Up by Melissa Thomson
The Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone by Jordan Quinn
Magic Tree House: Midnight on the Moon by Mary Pope Osborne
My Father’s Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett
Nancy Clancy Super Sleuth by Jane O’Connor
Nate the Great and the Phony Clue by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
The Princess in Black: The Hungry Bunny Horde by Dean and Shannon Hale
Rickshaw Girl by Mitali Perkins
Stuart Little by EB White
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
The Zach and Zoe Mysteries: The Soccer Secret by Mike Lupica



ALVIN HO: ALLERGIC TO GIRLS, SCHOOL, AND OTHER SCARY THINGS UNIT

Book Included: *Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things* by Lenore Look

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and safety. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Shakespearean Insult Sheet, Emergency Card Activity, Superhero Cape & Mask + Decorating Activity, Super Friend Activity, Emergency Plan, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING

Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:

- **What qualities do you think are important in a good friend?**
- **Can you think about a time when you were super scared or nervous? What happened?**
- **What do you think the phrase “be a gentleman” means? Try to list five examples of “gentlemanly” behavior.**

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things!*

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Decorate Your Cape**

Turn yourself into an awesome superhero, like Firecracker Man while you answer the discussion questions! Cut the discussion questions into strips, put them in a container, and then take turns pulling out a question to answer while you work on your superhero identity. What will your name be? Alvin wears a colander on his head; do you have other items around your house that you can add to your costume?

Items Included: cape, mask, foam shapes, Discussion Questions sheet, Possible Answers for the Adult Helper sheet

Materials Not Included: scissors to cut the discussion questions into strips

Be a Gentleman or Lady

Alvin thinks a lot about how to be a gentleman, like his dad. Get on your new superhero costume! It's time to show off your best behavior. Listen as your adult helper reads out loud from the Role Play Instruction sheet. Think through each situation. What would you do? Try to act it out!

Items Included: cape, masks, Role Play Instruction sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Make your own Personal Disaster Kit

Alvin created a bunch of emergency plans. He made one called *How to Survive Show and Tell* and another called *How to Meet Your New Teacher*. Check out Alvin's plans on pages 10 & 11. Then, think about something that scares you or makes you nervous. Next, make a plan for how to handle the situation. Finally decorate your PDK box, cut out your plans, and save them in your box!

Items Included: blank emergency plans, PDK box

Materials Not Included: scissors, markers or colored pencils to decorate PDK box

Shakespearean Insults

Alvin and his father can curse like Shakespeare. Use our Shakespearean Insults sheet to try out some rude words in Elizabethan English.

Item Included: Shakespearean Insults sheet

Perfect Friend Match

Alvin learns a lot about friendship in this book. Think about the type of friend you would like to have. What makes you a good friend?

Item Included: Perfect Friend Match brainstorm sheet

Family Emergency Plan

Real emergencies are rare, but it is good to have a plan just in case. Take some family time to fill out the FEMA Emergency Plan.

Item Included: FEMA Emergency Plan

Dragon's Beard Candy

Alvin's mom gives Flea some yummy dragon's beard candy, a traditional Chinese sweet that is a little bit like cotton candy. Order a box online to try or you can try cooking it yourself. The ingredients are simple, but the technique is rather tricky, so be sure to check out some online videos before you begin. Remember that you need to make mistakes in order to learn.



LIT LEAGUE A TO Z MYSTERIES: THE MISSING MUMMY UNIT

Book Included: *A to Z Mysteries: The Missing Mummy* by Ron Roy

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in math, art, and writing. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Reading Detective Notebook Card, Excavation Kit, Crepe Paper for Mummy Race, Mystery Game, Mini Math Museum Mystery, Curate a Museum Exhibit Activity and Supplies, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What types of qualities do you think are important for detectives to possess?**
 - **Which exhibits do you like to see at the museum?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark. Be sure to keep track of your suspects in your detective notebook.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark, Detective Notebook

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Missing Mummy!*

Step 4: MEETING ACTIVITIES

• Discuss & Excavate

Cut the discussion questions into strips, put them in a container, and then take turns pulling out a question to answer while you excavate your Egyptian artifact.

Items Included: dig kit, Discussion Questions sheet, Possible Answers for the Adult Helper sheet
Materials Not Included: scissors to cut the discussion questions into strips

• Crepe Paper Mummy Race

It's time for a mummy transformation. Use the crepe paper and our instructions to race with a partner or as a team.

Items Included: crepe paper, Crepe Paper Mummy Race instructions

- **The Mystery of the Candy Case**

Time to solve a case! There's been a robbery at the local candy store and you need to figure out who committed the crime.

Items Included: The Candy Case sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Whodunit? Design

Design your own mystery game! Once you've completed The Candy Case, you can create your own mystery game! Use our My Mystery template to design your own mystery for friends and family to solve.

Item Included: My Mystery template

Writing Time

Mr. Roy, author of the A to Z Mysteries Series says, "It is always a good idea to write about something you know or love." Write a story about someone you love or a report informing your readers about something you know a lot about. Or, try your hand at writing a mystery.

Museum Visit

Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose love the museum in Hartford. Try to find a time to head to your local museum to learn something new. Do a little research to see if the museums near you have free admission days or special exhibits you want to see. Also, some people like to bring a small notebook to the museum to make sketches or take notes.

Present your Findings

Once you've completed the book, grab your Detective Notebook and present your thinking about the case to a friend or family member. Walk your partner through the suspects and clues you kept track of in your notebook. Then, summarize your findings with a focus on how the case was solved by Ruth Rose, Dink, and Josh!

Item Included: Detective Notebook

Materials Not Included: writing utensil

Mini Math Mystery

Someone mislabeled a painting exhibit at the museum. Most of the pieces of art have been identified, but there is still a painting in the center display that isn't labeled. The only thing for certain is that the painter's last name starts with an M. Help Ruth Rose, Dink, and Josh solve this new museum mystery by solving math problems to reveal clues! This activity can be completed before, during, or after reading *The Missing Mummy*.

Item Included: Mini Math Mystery packet

Materials Not Included: writing utensil

Curate a Museum Exhibit

Museum curators help put collections together into special displays. You are going to put together a museum exhibit in your home! Use the provided sheet to help you choose a collection, set up a visually pleasing display, and make descriptive signs. Then, gather friends and family members to view your collection. You might even expand this activity to create a museum at home by including exhibits that friends or family members put together. This activity can be completed before, during, or after reading *The Missing Mummy*.

Items Included: Curate a Museum Exhibit sheet, blank cardstock, notecards

Materials Not Included: writing utensil, art supplies, personal collection



LIT LEAGUE

CLARA LEE AND THE APPLE PIE DREAM UNIT

Book Included: *Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream* by Jenny Han

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in speech-writing, art, and civics. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, a Vocabulary Bookmark, Discussion Questions and Answers, a Korean Dress-Painting Canvas, Paints, a Sash, a Speech Activity, a Candy Necklace activity with Thread and a Plastic Needle, My Town Float-Making Instructions, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Have you ever had a fight or disagreement with a friend? If so, how did it make you feel? How was the matter resolved?**
 - **Have you ever won any awards or special recognition? How did this make you feel?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Paint**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while painting in the traditional Korean dress. In the book, when Clara Lee thinks about the possibility of becoming Little Miss Apple Pie, she knows that if chosen she will wear the dress her grandpa bought her in Korea, which makes her feel like a Korean princess from long ago. This traditional dress, known as a *hanbok* in South Korea and a *chosŏn-ot* in North Korea, is characterized by its wrapped front top, long bow, vibrant colors, and long, high-waisted skirt. These two-piece outfits are worn for formal or semi-formal occasions and events such as festivals, celebrations, and ceremonies.

Items Included: traditional Korean dress canvas, water colors with paintbrush

- **Crack the Code**

Clara spends a lot of time thinking about the lucky and unlucky parts of her days. She also spends time in the book reviewing her multiplication tables. Combine these two aspects of the book and test your own multiplication knowledge by cracking the secret code to uncover a luck-related proverb. If you need assistance with the multiplication problems, you can always get a grown-up to help.

Item included: Crack the Code sheet

- **Figurative Language Fun**

In *Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream*, Jenny Han helps readers experience Clara Lee's life through incorporating vivid descriptions. Many of Han's descriptions come in the form of figurative language, in particular metaphors and similes. Figurative language provides interesting and often unexpected comparisons that help readers see things in a different way. It can be fun to create your own!

Item Included: Figurative Language Fun sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Candy Necklace

On one of Clara Lee's lucky days, she finds a gifted candy necklace and decides the necklace will be a part of her long-term signature look. Candy necklaces are just as much fun to eat as they are to make! To make one, first gather the edible items you wish to use. Here are some ideas: mini marshmallows, any type of o-shaped cereal, fruit snacks, dried cherries or large raisins, lifesavers. When making the necklace, create any pattern of your choosing. Once done, you can have fun wearing the necklace or enjoy it as a snack. You may choose to gift the necklace to a friend or family member to give someone else a lucky day!

Items Included: plastic needle, string

Materials Not Included: candy, dried fruit, and cereal

Where You're From

In Bramley, they have a yearly Apple Blossom Festival to celebrate one of the main things the town is known for: apples! When Clara gives her speech about what makes Bramley so special, she talks about some of the places and people that she most loves, like the barber shop and Miss Colette, Sweetie Pie Bakery, and Cooper's Drugstore with Mr. Cooper and his glass eye. Think about the town you live in. What people and places make your town special? Spend some time thinking about this, or talking about it with a family member or friend. Then, write a speech you might give to share with others about your town. Read through Dionne and Clara Lee's speeches in Chapter 10 to see examples.

Items Included: "What's So Special About Your Town?" sheet, sash

Materials Not Included: pencil or pen, fabric marker

Shoobox Parade Float

One of Clara Lee's favorite parts of the Apple Blossom Festival is the parade. Now it's time to make your own float! Consider making one that represents your town. Use the "What's So Special About Your Town?" speech you wrote for inspiration.

Item Included: "What's So Special About Your Town?" sheet, Parade Float sheet

Materials Not Included: shoobox and other float materials

Apple Baking Contest

One of Clara Lee's favorite parts about the Apple Blossom Festival is the apple dessert contest. Use the included recipes to try some of Clara Lee's favorites: German apple cake, apple cider donuts, and, of course, apple pie. You may simply bake the one that sounds best to you, or you and some friends and/or family members can divide into three teams and have your own contest to see which dessert turns out best. If you opt to hold a contest, enlist the help of a few other people to be your dessert contest judges.

Item Included: apple dessert recipes

Materials Not Included: ingredients



LIT LEAGUE
DORY FANTASMAGORY UNIT

Book Included: *Dory Fantasmagory* by Abby Hanlon

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in imaginative play, art, drama, and safety. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Gnome Painting Activity, Imaginary Friend Activity, Monster Drawing, Charades Game Activity, Poison Control Stickers, Poison Control Coloring Pages, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING DISCUSSION

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What do you like to imagine? What are your favorite pretend games?**
 - **What types of things do you get in trouble for at home?**
 - **What do you do when you lose your temper? What are things you can do to help control your temper?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Dory Fantasmagory!*

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Paint**
Dory's fairy godmother, Mr. Nuggy, is a garden gnome! Paint your own gnome while you discuss the book!
Items Included: painting, paint, paintbrush, Discussion Questions sheet, Possible Answers for the Adult Helper sheet
Materials Not Included: scissors to cut the discussion questions into strips

- **Charades**

Dory is fantastic at using her imagination. Use yours and practice your acting skills in a lively game of charades.

Items Included: Charades card sheet

Materials Not Included: scissors to cut up card sheet

- **Friend or Foe Art**

Time to wind down. Have you ever had an imaginary friend? If not, design one today! Use the Imaginary Friend sheet to record information about your pretend buddy.

If imaginary pals aren't your priority, try to imagine a monster instead! Dory imagines a variety of monsters around her house. You can make your monster naughty, nice, or noxious.

Items Included: Imaginary Friend & Monster Design sheet

Materials Not Included: colored pencils or markers

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Poison Center: Safety

Dory and Mr. Nuggly make a pretend soup in an attempt to poison Mrs. Gobble Gracker. There are a lot of things in your house that would be really dangerous to eat, like medicine or cleaners. Have a chat with your family about safety. There are probably some dangerous substances in your garage, kitchen, and bathroom. Never put something in your mouth unless it has been given to you by a trusted adult. If you're ever worried about a real poisoning call the Poison Center and speak to a specialist for free at 1-800-222-1222.

Items Included: safety stickers, poison control coloring pages

Imaginative Play

By the end of the book, Dory is able to use her imagination to play with her brother and sister. They play with a bouncy ball and add in some classic imagination games. Some imaginative games to try with friends: the floor is lava, family, pirates, cave people family, Mrs. Gobble Gracker is coming to dinner, superheroes, monsters, pretending to be an animal, or fairytale retelling. What are your favorite imaginative games? Tell us @litleagueboxes on Facebook or Instagram!



LIT LEAGUE
ELLRAY JAKES IS MAGIC UNIT

Book Included: *EllRay Jakes is Magic* by Sally Warner

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in art and writing. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Bow Tie, Wand, Coin Trick Box, Worm Pet Trick, Pompoms, Advice Book Activity, Magic Hat Craft, Online Instructional Video, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **If you had to participate in a talent show, what would your talent be?**
 - **Have you ever been to a magic show or seen one on TV? What was it like?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *EllRay Jakes is Magic!*

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make a Magic Hat Paper Craft**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while making a magical craft. It used to be a common trick for magicians to pull rabbits out of their magician hats. Now you can make a paper rabbit magically appear from a hat by putting together our Magic Hat paper craft.

Items Included: Magic Hat sheet, popsicle stick, glue stick

Materials Not Included: scissors

- **Practice Makes Perfect**

Magicians must practice their illusions to make them look like real magic to their audience. Put on your magician's bow tie, grab your magic wand, and choose one of the four illusions in this box to start practicing. You can find a demonstration of all four online performed by young magician Liam the Magic Man on You Tube at: <https://youtu.be/HaWz5BIM3aY>.

Items Included: magic wand, bow tie, illusions

- **Talent Show**

You can organize a talent show with your family or friends, similar to the one that EllRay participates in at school. What's your special talent? Do you dance or know karate? Can you sing or act? Have you memorized a poem you can recite? Do you know a magic trick? Consider these questions yourself, then as all of the other participants to think about their talents. Allow everyone time to gather props, plan, and practice, then let the show begin! You might even make popcorn as you enjoy the special show together.

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Words to Live By: Advice Book

EllRay and his class members give their teacher, Ms. Sanchez, a book containing marriage advice. People can learn a lot from each other, and books are one way to make this happen. Use your blank book to collect some life advice from friends and family. Decorate your cover, then get in touch with neighbors, friends, and family members near and far. Ask them to give you a piece of advice about life. Write down what they tell you in your book.

Item Included: mini blank book

Materials Not Included: writing utensils, colored pencils

Coin Illusions

Magicians love coin tricks because coins are small and easy to manipulate. EllRay does a coin trick that he describes step by step on pages 46-48. Try it out! You only need one dime and two quarters. As EllRay says, this trick is difficult for someone with small hands and requires a lot of practice. You can also try out the provided coin trick. You'll find the instructions in the package. This trick requires a nickel. You can find a demonstration of both coin tricks by Liam the Magic Man on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/HaWz5BIM3aY>

Item Included: Coin Trick

Materials Not Included: 2 quarters, a dime, a nickel

Cups and Balls Illusion

There are records that show the cups and balls trick was performed by Roman conjurers two thousand years ago. It has been a favorite of magicians ever since. In fact, famous magician Harry Houdini one must master the cups and balls trick to be a good magician. You will need three cups from home to start practicing this trick. The cups need to be stackable and opaque. Disposable paper or plastic cups will work perfectly. You can find a demonstration of the cups and balls illusion by young magician Liam the Magic Man on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/HaWz5BIM3aY>.

Items Included: pompoms

Materials Not Included: 3 stackable cups

Walking Worm Illusion

Many magicians use invisible wires to make their illusions look real. Now, you can try your hand at a wire illusion with the included magic worm. Practice making your pet worm walk using the invisible wire. Give the worm a name and think about what you might say if you walked your worm around on a table as a part of a magic show.

Items Included: magic worm

Host your Own Magic Show

Once you've mastered your magic tricks, it's time to put your own show! Set up a stage for your performance. You can lay a tablecloth on a small table, make a poster advertising your show, and set up seats for your audience members. Practice your show by yourself several times before the performance starts. Which trick will you do first? What will you say during the performance as you introduce each trick? What magic word will you use? Will it be "Abracadabra," like Elmer Fudd? Ta Da? Voila? Once you've finalized your plan, get your wand, bow tie, and prepare your props. It's show time.

Items Included: wand, bow tie, illusions



LIT LEAGUE

FLAT STANLEY: THE AFRICAN SAFARI DISCOVERY UNIT

Book Included: *Flat Stanley: The African Safari Discovery* by Jeff Brown

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in imaginative play, art, writing, and science. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Safari Hat Coloring Activity, Binoculars, Savanna Sticker Activity, Wooden Safari Art Activity, Plush Safari Animal Bookmark, Online Book Tour, Safari Animal Research Sheet, Flat Stanley Mailer Activity & Envelope, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - What animals do you know of that are native to Africa?
 - The main character in this book, Flat Stanley, is literally flat. What do you think would be some of the advantages and disadvantages of being flat?
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures: The African Safari Discovery*

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Color**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you color in and assemble your safari hat.

Items Included: discussion questions and answers, paper safari hat

Materials Not Included: scissors, coloring utensils

- **Safari Adventure**

Now that your safari hat is ready, put it on, grab your binoculars and head out for a safari adventure, like Stanley. You can go on safari outside, seeking out local wildlife with friends or family members. Or you can prepare your own indoor safari to lead family and friends through. Grab the included plush bookmark and then gather other stuffed or toy animals. Set them up in different habitats around your home. Finally, act like a tour guide as you lead your family or friends around to admire each animal habitat. Good tour guides know lots of facts to teach their group. Consider learning or writing down an exciting fact about each animal on your safari tour before you begin.

Items included: safari animal plush bookmark, paper safari hat, binoculars

Materials Not Included: pencil

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Safari Art

Use markers or paints from home to decorate a wooden animal that you might find on an African safari. Display your art as a way of remembering Flat Stanley's adventure in Africa or use it for your own indoor safari.

Item Included: wood animal

Materials Not Included: markers or paints

Savanna Safari Stickers

Learn about animals that live in the African savanna. Read about each animal on our Guide to the African Savanna sheet. Then choose some of your favorites to stick onto the savanna sticker scene. Consider drawing additional savanna backgrounds for the left-over stickers. You might also make up a story about the animals that you can write down or share verbally with friends and family members.

Items Included: sticker sheet, savanna sticker scene sheet, Guide to the African Savanna sheet

Make and Send Flat Stanley

Flat Stanley has traveled to some amazing destinations through the mail! Color in your version of Flat Stanley and then send him to a friend or family member who lives far away from you. Ask your friend or family member to take Flat Stanley on an adventure of his own in a new town. Your recipient can send you photos of Flat Stanley's travels. Be sure to include the instructions when you send your letter!

Items Included: Flat Stanley Mailer sheet, envelope

Materials Not Included: stamps, coloring utensils

Animal Research

The Lambchops encounter a number of interesting animals while they're in Africa. They see zebras, giraffes, and elephants. Choose an animal that resides in Africa that you would like to learn more about. Use our research sheet to collect and share your findings with friends or family members.

Item Included: Safari Animal Research sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil, coloring utensils

Online Book Tour: Kenyan Safari

Learn more about the real-life places and animals in *Flat Stanley: The African Safari Discovery* with our Online Book Tour. Head over to the Free Resources page at LitLeagueBoxes.com and click on the Flat Stanley Book Tour to start exploring!

Adopt an Animal

Many of the animals that live on the African savanna are endangered. These animals that are having trouble surviving in our current world. Fortunately, there are ways that people can help protect endangered animals. One way is to donate money to a well-known charity that helps animals, such as the World Wildlife Federation. Think about ways you can raise money to help wildlife in Africa.



LIT LEAGUE
FREDDIE RAMOS GETS A SIDEKICK UNIT

Book Included: *Freddie Ramos Gets a Sidekick* by Jacqueline Jules

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, physical education, and math. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Comic Book Writing Activity, Shoe Design Coloring Sheet, Shoe-Lacing Activity, Shoe Wings, Superhero Dress-up Supplies, Super Me Poster Activity, Sneaker Sums and Subtraction sheet, Ready to Race Running Games, Winged Shoes: Reading for Information, Bee Fact Card, Understanding Bees Comprehension Sheet, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Do you know any superhero stories? If so, describe any important details you remember about the story.**
 - **How do superheroes act? What types of things do they say, do, and wear?**
 - **Do you like doing things on your own or with a partner or on a team? Describe a time you found it was helpful to work with others?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read-aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Freddie Ramos Gets a Sidekick*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Color**

Once you've finished the book, cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you design and color your dream sneakers.

Items Included: discussion questions and answers, Sneaker Design sheet

Materials Not Included: scissors, coloring utensils

- **Zoom Zoom Zapato!**

Put on your shoe wings, lace up your sneakers and get ready to run! We've included instructions for a few types of racing games to play with friends and family at your final book club meeting.

Items Included: Ready to Race sheet, shoe wings

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Wings and a Wristband

Freddie gets his superpowers from his winged shoes and his wristwatch. Design your own superhero wristband by decorating the included slap band. You can make yours like Freddie's, which is pictured on page 34. His has buttons for superspeed, super bounce, and super hearing. Or, you can make a unique wristband and pretend to be a superhero with whatever powers you might want.

Then, attach the included shoe wings to a pair of shoes with laces. Use string to tie them around your ankles if your shoes are slip-ons. Once you're ready, it is time for some serious pretend superhero play! What will your mission be? Play superhero before, during, and after reading this novel.

Items Included: shoe wings, slap band

Materials Not Included: permanent markers, other coloring utensils

The Original Winged Shoes

Freddie's super sneakers have wings. The ancient Greeks believed Hermes, the messenger of the gods, had winged sandals that helped him travel quickly. Learn about Hermes on our Winged Shoes sheet after you read the first two chapters of Freddie Ramos.

Items Included: Winged Shoes sheet

Materials Not Included: coloring utensils

Sneaker Sums & Subtraction

Practice sneaker addition and subtraction using the making ten strategy! This sheet can be completed at any time.

Item Included: Sneaker Math sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil

Zapato Lacing

Freddie's super shoes give him super-speed! Do you know how to tie your own shoes? What about putting laces in new shoes? This is a great skill for young people to practice before, during, and after reading the book.

Items Included: foam lacing shoe, shoelace

Cartwheels & Headstands

In Chapter 2, Freddie tells his mother and David that he is learning to do cartwheels in school. In Chapter 5, he practices cartwheels and headstands in gym class, then has a cartwheel race with his friends outside. Find a safe place to practice cartwheels and headstands. Both skills take time to learn and improve. Start practicing these moves after you read Chapter 2 and continue each day that you are reading the book!

Super You

Freddie is a secret superhero who works to help the people in his neighborhood. He has shoes and a wristband that give him super speed, vision, hearing, and jumping power. If you were a superhero, what would you do, say, and wear? Complete the Super Student poster and design your dream alter-ego at any point while you are reading the book. Once you're done, gather family or friends to present your work.

Item Included: Super Student poster

Materials Not Included: coloring utensils

Understanding Bees

In Chapter 8, Freddie and David do some research on carpenter bees. Once you finish reading Chapter 8, read the Carpenter Bee Fact Card and then complete the Understanding Bees comprehension page. You will find the answers to the questions in Chapters 7 & 8 in the book and on the fact card.

Item Included: Carpenter Bee Fact Card, *Freddie Ramos Gets a Sidekick*

Materials Not Included: writing utensil

Comic Design

Most superhero stories originated in comic books. Design, write, and illustrate your own superhero comics with our comic book. This is a marvelous activity to complete once you are done with the book.

Item Included: comic book

Materials Not Included: pencil, coloring utensils



LIT LEAGUE
THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE UNIT

Book Included: *The Great Mouse Detective: Basil of Baker Street* by Eve Titus

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in physical education, art, and writing. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Detective Notebook, Meet Sherlock sheet, Spying Sunglasses, Disguise Mustache, Hornpipe Dance Activity, Suspects Identification Game sheet, Secret Missives sheet and Supplies, Mouse Papercraft and Supplies, Detective Riddles, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Have you read any mystery books? Which ones?**
 - **What skills do you think a good detective needs to possess?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark. Be sure to also keep track of clues and suspects in your Detective Notebook.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark, Detective Notebook

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Great Mouse Detective*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make a Mouse Paper Craft**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while coloring and assembling your paper mouse.
Items Included: Mouse Paper Craft sheet, glue dots, self-adhesive googly eyes
Materials Not Included: scissors, coloring utensils

- **Learn the Hornpipe Dance**

Basil and Dr. Dawson disguise themselves as sailors when they are working their case. Dr. Dawson even does a dance called the hornpipe. The hornpipe refers to a variety of dances from England, Ireland, and elsewhere that date back to the 1500s. Certain versions became popular with English sailors. Find a demonstration online and try to copy the dance moves.

- **Detective Time**

Choose one of the many detective activities in this box to complete with your club members. You might get in disguise, write secret messages, solve some detective riddles, or identify criminals.

Items Included: Detective Activities

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Meet Sherlock

Sherlock Holmes is the most famous fictional detective of all time! Learn more about Mr. Holmes, Dr. Watson, and their creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, with our Meet Sherlock Holmes sheet.

Item Included: Meet Sherlock Holmes sheet

Watching the Detectives

Basil and Dr. Dawson disguise themselves on their search for the missing twins. Use the provided spy glasses and mustache to do some sneaking. See if your family, friends, and neighbors recognize you in various costumes. Next, it's time to play detective!

Items Included: spy glasses, mustache

Materials Not Included: additional disguise items

Secret Missives

Detectives and spies sometimes communicate using secret codes or messages. Use the red-lensed spyglass to crack our secret code. Then use the red marker and blue colored pencil to write your own secret messages.

Items Included: Secret Missives sheet, red marker, blue pencil, red-lensed spy glass

Identify the Suspects

A new group of jewel thieves have been calling themselves The Severe Six! Luckily, eyewitnesses have provided details about each of the six suspects. Use your powers of observation to find the criminals on the Identify the Suspects sheet.

Item Included: Identify the Suspects sheet

Detective Riddles

See if you can think like a detective to puzzle out the answers to the included detective riddles. If you're working in a group, you might split up the puzzles, work out the answers in pairs, and report back to the larger group once you think you've found all the solutions.

Item Included: Detective Riddle sheet

The Great Mouse Detective Movie

Disney released a feature film based on *The Great Mouse Detective* in 1986. Have a viewing party and join Basil and Dr. Dawson on a different case. What are some similarities and differences you noticed between the book you read and the movie? Did the characters look the way you expected? If not, what was different?



LIT LEAGUE
HORSE DIARIES: KODA UNIT

Book Included: *Horse Diaries: Koda* by Patricia Hermes

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and history. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, a Vocabulary Bookmark, Discussion Questions and Answers, Oregon Trail Information, Pioneer Recipes with Cheesecloth, a Make Your Own Pioneer Game Activity with a Ruler, Metal Tin, Cardboard Game Board, Blank Cards, a Die, Wooden Horse Game Pieces, Dakota Sioux Language Activity, a Paper Covered-Wagon Craft, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What do you think daily life would be like if you were a pioneer traveling across the country in a covered wagon?**
 - **Consider this experience from the perspective of a horse. What might a horse notice or face that the human pioneers would not?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.
3. Increase your background knowledge by reading at through the facts about the Oregon Trail. Read prior to starting your book, as this historic migration provides the backdrop for *Horse Diaries: Koda*.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark, Life on the Oregon Trail sheet

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Horse Diaries: Koda*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make Your Own Covered Wagon**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while making your model covered wagon.
Item Included: covered wagon craft kit

- **Becoming an Illustrator**

Koda is a bay quarter horse with a white blaze. The book’s illustrator, Ruth Sanderson, provides beautiful illustrations of Koda throughout the story. In order to draw realistic pictures, illustrators spend a lot of time studying their subjects in detail and practicing with sketches. Now it’s your chance to become an illustrator by studying our “Anatomy of a Horse” handout and trying your hand at drawing your own horse. You can even color and/or label your horse for extra fun! This activity will help build your understanding of horses, as well as some of the horse-related vocabulary in this book. You can learn more about quarter horses in specific by reading the appendix at the back of the book.

Item Included: Anatomy of a Horse sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil, colored pencils, or markers

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Language Exploration

In the book, Jasmine names her horse Koda because “koda” is the Sioux word for “friend.” The Sioux language exists in multiple dialects, and the word “koda” comes from Dakota Sioux in specific, as friend was “kola” in Lakota and “kona” in Nakota (two other prominent Sioux dialects). Enjoy an introduction to Dakota Sioux and try your hand at pronunciation by revisiting the animals found in our book. You can also use the pronunciation guide to figure out how your name might be pronounced in Dakota Sioux. This activity can be completed before, during, or after reading the novel.

Item Included: Introduction to Dakota Sioux sheets

Pioneer Staples

Hardtack and dried fruit were two foods most pioneers brought along as key components of their food supply. Both were cheap to make and could last a long time without going bad. Now, you can make your own hardtack and pioneer-style dried fruit while you are reading the book!

Items Included: pioneer recipe cards, cheese cloth

Materials Not Included: recipe ingredients

Make Your Own Board Game

The Oregon Trail migration has inspired many well-known games, including a popular video game version. Now, you get to create your very own game inspired by the Oregon Trail. First, color your horse game pieces with markers, making sure to make each one different from the others. Next, draw a meandering trail through your game board, thinking along the lines of games like *Candy Land* and *Life* and making sure to include a clear start and end. Break your trail into squares (so you can track the number of spaces moved when playing), and color in both the trail and the board. You may choose to model your game board after the map of the Oregon Trail, or to decorate it with horses and covered wagons, or with other Oregon Trail-inspired images. Lastly, write directions on each of your game cards. Some of these should help players move forward, while others should send players back or cause them to skip a turn. Your cards should include specific directions that relate to life on the trail. Here are a few examples of directions you might wish to include: Find a fresh water spring, move forward two additional spaces. See a circling vulture, move back one space. Enjoy an evening of fireside singing with your new trail friends, move forward one space. Get diphtheria, lose a turn. For the game, each player should roll the die and move the set number of spaces, then draw a card and follow what is listed there to finish the turn. Players should continue taking turns. The first player to reach the end of the trail wins.

Items Included: horse game pieces, blank board, blank game cards, ruler, game storage tin, one die

Materials Not Included: pencil, markers, or colored pencils



LIT LEAGUE
THE HUNDRED DRESSES UNIT

Book Included: *The Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and kindness. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Paper Dolls, Dress Design Activity, Fabric, Dress Form, Ribbons, Bully Role Play Activity, Kindness Kit Activity, Kindness Tin, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Have you ever seen someone get bullied? What happened?**
 - **What are some things a person can do if they see someone else getting bullied?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read-aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Hundred Dresses*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make Paper Dolls**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you cut out your Vintage Remix paper dolls and their clothes. Use colored pencils or markers to color in the coloring doll page as well. Make sure not to cut off the tabs that stick out around the edges of the clothes. The tabs are folded behind the doll to keep the clothes on the doll. These paper dolls are wearing clothes from the 1940s, which is when *The Hundred Dresses* was written.

Items Included: Vintage Remix paper dolls and clothes, discussion questions and answers

Materials Not Included: scissors, colored pencils or markers

- **Upstander Role Playing**

Maddie struggles throughout the book. She knows the way the girls treat Wanda is wrong, but she doesn't know how to stop them. Maddie ultimately decides to be an upstander in the future, someone who always speaks out when they see something they know isn't right. Work with a partner or two to write and act out a variety of upstander scenarios.

Items Included: Upstander Practice sheet

- **Kindness Kit**

Cut out your kindness challenge slips and put them in your tin. Place the circular Lit League Sticker on the top of the tin's lid. Come up with some personal challenges and handwrite them on the blank circles. Now you're all set to complete a kindness challenge!

Items Included: Kindness Challenge circle sheets, tin, Lit League sticker

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Dress Designing

Time to be a fashion designer! Snap your dress forms together. Then use the fabric, ribbons, glue dots and double-sided tape to design your own dresses. These won't be dresses that dolls can actually wear, but a way to brainstorm different dress designs. Your goal should be to make a dress that looks good from the front; the back can be messy. Snap a photo or make a sketch of the front of your completed dress. Then take it apart and try a new design.

Items Included: dress form, ribbon, fabric swatches, Glue Dots, double sided tape

Materials Not Included: scissors

Writing Time

One of the great things about reading and writing is that you can put yourself in someone else's shoes! Write a story using one of the following prompts and then read it to a friend or family member.

- Write a story about Wanda making a friend in her new school in Boston.
- Write a story about Maddie standing up for someone at recess.
- Write a story about a bully learning to be kind.
- Write a story about a time you felt bad about how someone was treating you.
- Write a story about a time someone was kind to you.

Take a Kindness Challenge

Draw a card from your Kindness Kit every morning. Enlist the help of your family and try to complete one challenge a day. Once you've completed every challenge, think about passing your tin on to a friend to spread kindness through your community. Ask your friend to complete the tasks and then to pass it on to someone new.

Item Included: Kindness Kit



Book Included: *Indian Shoes* by Cynthia Leitich Smith

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in math, art, and social studies. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Moccasin Suncatcher Craft, Math Baseball Game, Antique Store Activity with Buttons, Feathers & Sales Log, Baseball Scavenger Hunt, Baseball Paddle Ball, Cherokee Seven Point Star Coloring Activity, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What is an activity or pastime you regularly enjoy or have enjoyed with a grandparent or other special family member?**
 - **Can you recall a holiday celebration that didn't happen quite as planned?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Indian Shoes*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Color**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while coloring in the Cherokee Seven Point Star. A star similar to this one would have been sewn onto the Cherokee Seven Clans quilt Ray sleeps under when staying in Oklahoma.

Items Included: Cherokee Seven Point Star coloring sheets

Materials Not Included: coloring utensils

- Moccasin Suncatcher**
Moccasins serve as a central image in *Indian Shoes*, both at the start with the antique store trade and later when Ray is preparing for the art contest. While putting together your own moccasin suncatcher, you can imagine the moccasin collage Ray created for the art contest using geometric shapes cut from his other paintings. When you hold the finished suncatcher to the light or hang it on a window, you may also be reminded of Ray's stained-glass window, which would have a similar effect.
Item included: suncatcher kit
Materials Not Included:
- Math Baseball**
Ray and his grandpa share a love of baseball. You can enjoy a learning about or experiencing aspects of this American pastime by playing either the addition or multiplication versions of our Math Baseball with a friend or family member. Batters up!
Items Included: Math Baseball board and direction sheets, two dice, antique buttons
Materials Not Included:

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Baseball Paddle Ball

The game of baseball requires coordination and concentration. You can practice both of these skills with the included paddle ball game. You can also use the paddle ball for math review, using each successful hit to count by fives or tens or some other number range, or you can go through your multiplication tables one number at a time. Get a friend or family member involved and make it a competition by taking turns. Whoever remains the last one to get an equation or count right wins.

Item Included: baseball paddle ball game

Materials Not Included:

Antique Store Experience

One of Ray's favorite places to visit is Murphy Family Antiques. To him, the unusual assortment of items inside seems magical and fill him with wonder. Have a grown up take you to visit an antique store near your home. While there, consider asking questions about where some of the items came from. Also, decide which items in the store you find most interesting and why.

Make Your Own Store

An antique store is a place dedicated to storing, selling, restoring, and trading items from previous eras for their actual and historical value. You can set up an antique store of your own by gathering interesting and unique items from around your home. Use the ostrich feathers and antique buttons (both items found at Murphy Family Antiques) to get you started. Once your store is set up, invite friends and family members to venture through. If you wish, you can add price tags and use real or fake money to play store, flexing your adding and subtracting skills while helping out customers.

Items Included: antique buttons, ostrich feathers, sales sheet (??)

Materials Not Included: other antique store items

Trash-Can band

One of the city noises Ray describes throughout the book is the "rat-a-tat-a-clang of a trash-can band" (1). A trash-can band involves a group of people playing instruments they made themselves from found items, including trash cans. Gather some friends or family members to make your own trash-can band! Bang on a trash can lid to make some drums. Pull together loose shoestrings and make a guitar. Turn a paper towel roll into a trombone. Break out the stomping boots and the tap dancing shoes while you're at it. Pretty soon, you've got yourself a trash-can band!

Take Me Out To The Ball Game

Ray and his grandpa enjoy watching Cub's baseball games together. Now it's your turn to check out this fun sport! You can enjoy baseball by attending a game at any level, as even Little League or high school games can be fun. You could even take in a game from home, watching a live game on TV or viewing a recorded game online. If you stay home, consider making some classic baseball foods to enjoy while you watch. Hot dogs and Cracker Jacks are generally favorites, but ice cream and lemonade are also popular choices. Either while you watch or after, fill out our baseball sensory sheet to reflect on the experience. You can also see how many items you can check off in your Baseball Scavenger Hunt!

Items Included: Baseball Sense sheet and Baseball Scavenger Hunt

Materials Not Included: writing utensil



KEENA FORD AND THE SECOND-GRADE MIX-UP UNIT

Book Included: *Keena Ford and the Second-Grade Mix-Up* by Melissa Thomson

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and social emotional learning. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, a Diary, Diary Writing Activities, a Birthday Pencil, a Birthday Princess Crown and Badge, a Date-Writing Birthday List, Birthday Girl Discussion Questions, and Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What are your favorite things to do on your birthday?**
 - **What does it feel like to start something new? Can you remember how you have felt starting a new class, school, or activity?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Keena Ford and the Second-Grade Mix-Up*.

Step 3: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make a Banner**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you cut out and decorate a banner. Keena and Eric make a special spot for themselves to read and do work in their Homework Hut. You can use your banner to adorn a workspace or reading nook in your home.
Items Included: Banner sheets, ribbon
Materials Not Included: scissors, colored pencils or markers

- **Birthday Games**

Celebrate your reading by playing some traditional birthday games. Most of the games require at least one child and one adult to participate, though including more players adds to the fun! If you don't have an official book club formed, encourage additional family members to play or invite over a friend to join in.

Items Included: Birthday Games sheet, birthday crown

- **Birthday Calendar**

Keep track of everyone's birthday with our Birthday Calendar sheet. Be sure to include the birthdays of the special people in your life so you can help them celebrate!

Items Included: Birthday Calendar sheet, pencil

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Birthday Celebration

Plan and celebrate a real or pretend birthday party. Make a special meal or treat, decorate, and have a little party with family or friends!

Items Included: birthday badge, birthday crown, Birthday Games sheet

Materials Not Included: scissors

Diary Time

Keena writes in her diary every day. Keena's mom tells her that journaling is a great way to get her "feelings out without yelling or pinching." Keena adds that she can also write down things that she shouldn't say out loud. Keeping a diary is a wonderful way to think through your day and your feelings. When you write in your diary, be sure to start by writing the date down. Look at Keena's writing as an example.

Items Included: diary, pencil

Apology Cards

Keena learns about how important it is to apologize. It helps her think about her mistakes and to repair her relationships with the people in her life. Cut and color in the Apology Cards. If you have an apology due, fill it out and give it to the appropriate person. If not, put them aside so they are ready when you might need them.

Items Included: Apology Card sheets, pencil

Writing Time

Think about a time that you had a misunderstanding with a friend or family member. It could be a time you made a mistake, like Keena, or a time you got in trouble, or a time you were confused about something. Remember everything you can about that day. Then, write a journal entry as if you are writing right after this event happened.

Items Included: diary, pencil

Birthday Box of Questions

Have a fun chat using the Birthday Girl discussion questions. Put the spotlight on someone celebrating a birthday or discuss as a group during a snack time or meal. Consider writing your own discussion questions for a whole family discussion.

Item Included: Birthday Box of Questions



THE LOST STONE: KINGDOM OF WRENLY UNIT

Book Included: *The Lost Stone* by Jordan Quinn

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and STEM. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Robert McPhillips Coloring Pages, Robert McPhillips Dragon Drawing Activity, Wizard Cauldron Activity with Supplies, Hedge Maze sheets, Salt Writing Activity Color Tabs, Recipes, Fairy Straws, Role Playing Game, Coin Pouch, Toy Emerald, Toy Key, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Have you ever lost something you valued? If so, was it ever found?**
 - **What magical creature or person would you most want to meet and why? It could be a troll, a unicorn, a wizard, a fairy, or any other magical being you can think of.**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Kingdom of Wrenly: The Lost Stone*.

Step 3: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Color**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while enjoying the character badges and other beautiful coloring sheets provided by the talented illustrator of *The Kingdom of Wrenly* books.
Items Included: *The Kingdom of Wrenly* coloring sheets, colored pencils

- **Drawing Dragons**

Now that you've spent time adding color to the art of talented illustrator, Robert McPhillips, it's time to create art of your own. Use the step-by-step drawing directions to create your very own dragon, and you can color it too! This dragon is a character named Ruskin who appears in later *The Kingdom of Wrenly* books, but you can give your dragon any name you like and create a story about who your dragon is and what your dragon is like.

Items included: You Draw a Dragon! Sheet, coloring pencils

Materials Not Included: pencil

- **Wizard Cauldron**

When Clara and Lucas visit the island of Hobs Grove they see a bubbling cauldron that contains a wizard healing potion. Now, you get to try your hand at potion making and learn about the scientific method while creating it!

Items Included: healing potion recipe, glitter, red coloring tabs

Materials Not Included: vinegar, baking soda, and dish soap

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Salt Writing

In the book, Clara writes words in the sand to help recover the queen's lost stone. Later, Lucas and Clara both write again to thank the mermaids for their help. You can create your own sand-like substance using salt. Pour two cups of salt into a Ziplock bag. Next, add warm water to the small cup holding the yellow color tabs. Once the tabs dissolve, add the yellow water to the salt and mix to turn the salt a light yellow. For even brighter colors, add food coloring. Spread the salt out on a baking sheet. Use your finger or the tip your emerald to write a message to someone in your family. You could also use the colored salt and jewel to practice writing the bookmark's "Wonder Words" or other spelling words.

Items Included: coloring tabs, green jewel

Materials Not Included: Ziplock bag, baking sheet, salt

Hedge Maze Mania

Try your hand at the four included mazes, inspired by Lucas and Clara's visit to Primlox. Before you start, predict which one will be the most difficult. Why do you think that is?

Item Included: Hedge Maze Mania sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil

Wrenly Recipes

In Primlox, the fairies enjoy fairy lemonade and offer it to their visitors. Butternut bread is another tasty treat found in the Kingdom of Wrenly. Use the provided recipes to make your own royally delicious goodies!

Items Included: recipes, fairy straws

Materials Not Included: ingredients

Design Your Own Character

Imagine you were living in the Kingdom of Wrenly. What sort of person or magical creature would you want to be? You could be one of the characters already introduced, or a new, different character. Use the Character Creation sheet to map out what your character would be like.

Item Included: Character Creation sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil

Royalty and Rewards

Role-playing games are a fun way to immerse yourself in a world of your own creation. Use the included directions and game cards to go on a quest in the Kingdom of Wrenly. Once you've played our game, consider designing your own quest.

Items Included: Royalty and Rewards Game sheets, Kingdom of Wrenly Map, character coloring badges, Character Creation sheet, gold coins, key

Materials Not Included: character accessories



MAGIC TREE HOUSE: MIDNIGHT ON THE MOON UNIT

Book Included: *Midnight on the Moon* by Mary Pope Osborne

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides a variety of space-themed science activities. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Artemis Program Information, Constellation Poster Activity, Constellation Lacing Card, Galaxy Slime Recipe, Slime Container, Glitter, Balloon Rocket Activity, Balloon, Straw, String, Astronaut Ice Cream Recipe, Pretend Play Ideas, Arthurian Legend Information, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What are some things that you know about the moon?**
 - **If you could travel anywhere, in the blink of an eye, where would you go?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss **The Magic Tree House: *Midnight on the Moon***

Step 3: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Lace Constellations**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while lacing your constellation card. A constellation is a cluster of stars that create an imaginary shape. In the book, Jack and Annie connect a star pattern to create a mouse constellation. Now it's your turn to connect the dots of your star map with string while you chat about the book. When you're done, show the group your constellation card!

Items Included: constellation card, string, discussion questions and answers

Materials Not Included: scissors, bowl

- **Balloon Rocket**

Many space vehicles use propulsion to move in space. Learn about the science of propulsion while making a balloon rocket.

Items included: string, balloon, compostable straw, sticker adhesive, Balloon Rocket sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil or pen

- **Take a Trip**

Jack and Annie use books to travel using their magic tree house. When they point to a picture in a book, the tree house takes them to that time and place. They have traveled to the past to see dinosaurs and knights, as well as to places in present time like the Amazon Rainforest. They even travel to a moon base in the future! Where would you go if you had a magic tree house? Find a book or magazine that has a picture of a place you would like to visit. Share the image with your club members.

Talk through the following questions: Why would you like to go to this place? What would be fun about this destination? What might be scary or hard to deal with?

Materials Not Included: additional book or magazine

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Arthurian Legends

Jack and Annie's adventures involve Morgan le Fey, a famous character from the tales of King Arthur. King Arthur, his court in Camelot, his friend Merlin, and the knights of the round table star in some of the most famous British legends of all time. Learn about King Arthur with our Arthurian Legends sheet. Then watch *The Sword and the Stone*, Disney's 1963 adaptation of the first part in T.H. White's book, *The Once and Future King*.

Item Included: Arthurian Legends sheet

Materials Not Included: *The Sword and the Stone* movie

Constellation Presentation

In the book, Jack and Annie are given a constellation map on their adventure to the moon. A constellation is a group of stars that create an imaginary shape. Use the constellation poster to teach family and friends about a constellation. This could be a real constellation that you research, or you can make up your own fun constellation! Fill in each section of the poster, then present your work. Remember to speak slowly and to use a loud voice when you give a formal presentation.

Item Included: constellation poster

Materials Not Included: writing and coloring utensils

Astronaut Cooking Time

Most of the food astronauts eat in space has been dehydrated so it can last for a long time and store easily. Even the desserts, like ice cream and cake, come in dehydrated form! While you may not have a professional food dehydrator at home, you can make your own version of astronaut ice cream with the provided recipe.

Item Included: astronaut ice cream recipe card

Materials Not Included: ingredients

Pretend Play

Pretend you are going on a trip in the magic tree house! Make a tree house out of empty boxes, sheets, and furniture. Include a book or magazine that features an image of a place you would like to visit. When you get inside your tree house, touch the picture. Pretend you are transported to this place and then go adventuring. Don't forget to include an image of your town, so you can return home once your travels are done.



LIT LEAGUE
MY FATHER'S DRAGON UNIT

Book Included: *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and science. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Make a Paper Cup Dragon Craft Supplies, Role Play Game, Community Helper Activity, Banyan Tree Coloring Page, Dragon Poster Coloring Page, Visualizing Activity, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What are some things that you know about dragons?**
 - **What would you pack if you were going on a big adventure?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *My Father's Dragon*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss and Assemble**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Follow the assembly steps on the Dragon Puppet Instruction Sheet to make a dragon like the one in *My Father's Dragon*! Pick questions to answer from the bowl while you're working on your puppet.

Items Included: Dragon Puppet Instruction Sheet, cups, hole punch, wooden poker, stickers, metal fasteners, eye stickers, a pipe cleaner, paper body parts, tissue paper, glue, discussion questions

Materials Not Included: scissors for cutting out the dragon parts and the discussion questions

- **Wild Island Party Helper**

It's time to head over to Wild Island! There's a party in the jungle, but it isn't going very well. You'll need to help the animals have an amazing jungle party.

Items Included: Wild Island Party Helper Sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Banyan Tree Art

The Indian banyan is the national tree of the Republic of India and is often mentioned in stories about the jungle. There are different types of "strangler fig" trees all over the world. Color the Banyan Tree Coloring Page. Notice how the tree's roots and branches are all connected.

Item Included: Banyan Tree sheet

Materials Not Included: coloring utensils

Community Helper

Elmer knows it is wrong that the dragon has been enslaved. He feels bad, so he saves the dragon. What are some problems in your community, state, country, or our world that you would like to make better? Use the Community Helper sheet to make an action plan and help to make the world a better place. **Item Included:** Community Helper sheet

Elmer Elevator Feast

Put together an adventurer meal based on the food in *My Father's Dragon!* Items might include: tangerines, apples, lollipops, peanut butter & jelly sandwiches, and blackberries. (Always check with guests about allergies.)

Braiding

Elmer outwits the lion by turning the lion's attention to his hair. Learn how to braid with a buddy or with string. You won't ever need to braid a lion's hair, but it's a pretty helpful skill!

Group Coloring Poster

Get a group of friends or family members together to color the provided dragon coloring poster.

Item Included: poster

Materials Not Included: coloring utensils



LIT LEAGUE
NANCY CLANCY SUPER SLEUTH UNIT

Book Included: *Nancy Clancy Super Sleuth* by Jane O'Connor

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and STEM. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Reading Detective Notebook Card, Boa, Jeweled Magnifying Glass Activity, Marbles, & Mystery Game, Marble STEM Game Activities, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **Have you ever lost something that you really care about? How did you feel?**
 - **A “sleuth” is a detective. What types of things do detectives do?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark, Detective Notebook

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to meet with family or friends to discuss *Nancy Clancy Super Sleuth*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Decorate**
Before you do anything it's time to get fancy! Put on your boa or other favorite fancy accessories. Next, cut the discussion questions into strips, put them in a container, and take turns pulling out a question to answer while you bedazzle your magnifying glass.

Items Included: boa, discussion questions and answers, magnifying glass, sticky gems

Materials Not Included: scissors to cut the discussion questions into strips

- **Detective Game**

Something has gone missing, and it is your job to find it! Your adult helper will give you the first clue. Just like any good detective, you must follow the clues to find what you're looking for. Don't forget to bring your detective tools!

Items Included: fingerprint stamp pad, clues, Adult Helper Envelope (Adult set-up required.)

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Fingerprint Matching Game

Find three people to fingerprint. Then follow the directions on the Usual Suspects page to play a fingerprint matching game. Be sure your suspect uses the same finger! Use your sleuthing skills to match the fingerprints.

Items Included: fingerprint stamp pad, The Usual Suspects sheet, Matching Print sheet, magnifying glass

Secret Message Mania

Use Bree and Nancy's secret code to write secret messages to your friends and family. Make sure you give them a copy of the code so they know what your message says!

Items Included: *Nancy Clancy Super Sleuth Code*

Fingerprint Art

Some artists use fingerprint patterns to inspire their art. Place a few fingerprints on a blank page. Now use a pen or marker to add onto your fingerprint. Try turning

it into an octopus, a penguin, a frog, or a turkey! Not sure how to do it? Have an adult help you conduct an Internet image search for "fingerprint animals" and get inspired!

Items Included: fingerprint ink

Tea Party

Elegant tea parties are très magnifique. That's a fancy way of saying awesome. Get fancied up and have a tea party with friends or family. Use the recipes and suggestions on our Lit League Tea Party Tips sheet.

Items Included: Tea Party Tips page

Mystery Memento

Mr. Dudeney has Nancy's class choose a memento from home to bring to school. Now you get to choose a memento of your own to share about. Remember, it should be something personal that holds special meaning for you. Once you've chosen your special object, write a paragraph about your memento. If you'd like to make it a group activity with family or friends, you can present each participants memento and its accompanying paragraph on a table anonymously. Then, try to guess who brought each memento, just like Mr. Dudeney's class.

Item Included: Mystery Memento Paragraph sheet

Materials Not Included: writing utensil

Science with your Special Prize

Once you complete the Mystery Game, you'll earn a special prize. We've included a number of fun STEM activities that you can try out with your prize.

Items Included: special prize envelope and contents

Materials Not Included: additional activity materials

Present your Findings

Grab your Detective Notebook and present your case to a friend or family member. Walk your partner through the suspects and clues you kept track of in your notebook. Then, summarize your findings with a focus on how the case was solved!

Item Included: Detective Notebook

Materials Not Included: writing utensil



NATE THE GREAT AND THE PHONY CLUE UNIT

Book Included: *Nate the Great and the Phony Clue* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and math. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Mini Math Mystery, Detective Game, Travel Poster Art Design Activity, Pastel Blending Activity, Pastel Scratch Art Activity, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What do detectives do?**
 - **What are some important skills for detectives to possess?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark, Detective Notebook

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: MEETING ACTIVITIES

- **Discuss & Draw**
Try out your pastels while you discuss the book!
Items Included: Pastel Sheet, oil pastels & Discussion Questions
- **Solve the Case**
Something has gone missing, and it is your job to find it! Your adult helper will give you the first clue. Just like any good detective, you must follow the clues to find what you're looking for. Don't forget to bring your detective tools!

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Pancake Party

Nate obviously loves pancakes! If you're a pancake lover too, have a pancake meal in honor of Nate!

Pastel Art

- Investigate the work of pastel artists Edgar Degas and Mary Cassatt online.
- Try drawing some cats, like Rosamond's cats, the many Hexes.
- Use the Scratch Art sheet to make some unique scratch creations.

Mindful Magnification

Grab a pile of items from outside and inside and carefully examine each using the magnifying glass. What do you notice up close? Describe the differences between the item when viewed up close and far away.

Writing

Nate always leaves a note for his mother when he is on a case. Leave a note for your family describing an exciting case you can imagine undertaking!

Travel Poster Design

In the book, Nate notices a travel poster. Travel posters advertise places that people might like to visit on a vacation. Think of a special place you have been or a place that you would like to visit someday. First, make a list of all the things that make this place wonderful in the space below. Then, plan out your illustration. Finally, use the poster paper to make your poster using pastels or other art supplies.

Items Included: Travel Poster Brainstorm sheet, blank poster, pastels

Materials Not Included: additional art supplies

Mini Math Mystery: Nate the Great & the Pancake Thief

Calling all detectives! Someone or something ate Nate's pancakes while he was writing his mother a letter. Help Nate figure out who nabbed his meal by solving the math problems on the following pages. Each clue will help you whittle down your suspect list until you are left with one final perpetrator.

Items Included: Mini Math Mystery packet



LIT LEAGUE THE PRINCESS IN BLACK AND THE HUNGRY BUNNY HORDE UNIT

Book Included: *The Princess in Black and the Hungry Bunny Horde* by Dean & Shannon Hale

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in science, writing, art, and physical education. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Fan Coloring Page, Cape & Mask, Ring, Bean Bag, Questing Activity, Rabbit Fact Card, Rabbit Drawing Activity, Comic Activity, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What do princesses and princes do all day? What is the job of a king or a queen?**
 - **What do you think the phrase “too much of a good thing” means?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to meet with family or friends to discuss *The Princess in Black and the Hungry Bunny Horde*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Draw**
Have some fan-tastic fun coloring while you discuss the book!
Work on coloring both sides of the fan sheet while you answer discussion questions for *The Princess in Black and the Hungry Bunny Horde*. When you are done, you can fold the sheet to form a fan, just like the fan carried by the Princess in Black. Tape the bottom together or use the included rubber band!
Items Included: Fan coloring page, rubber band, discussion questions
- **Secret Cave Transformation**
Princess Magnolia and Frimplepants transform into The Princess in Black and Blacky the pony in a secret cave. Make your own cave with blankets or use a bathroom or closet to make your

transformation! Whether you're dressed in your pjs or your best royal outfit, it's time to transform into a caped crime-fighter!

Items Included: Cape, mask, fan, and ring

- **Questing**

Heroes go on quests and royal leaders need to protect their subjects! Your adult helper has instructions that will lead you on your quest! Listen carefully, because there are monsters on the loose and they're causing all sorts of trouble! It's time to protect your subjects and send those monsters back to monster land!

Items Included: Cape, mask, ring, beanbag, quest instruction sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Book Brunch

Princess Magnolia and Frimplepants are trying to get to a brunch date with Princess Sneezewort when they are first called off to deal with the bunny threat. Recreate their menu: soft rolls with butter, cheesy omelettes & sugar-dusted doughnuts!

Bean Bag Games

A rousing game of 'Hot Monster' can be played just like Hot Potato. Players pass the beanbag back and forth quickly. Each player tries to touch the bag for as briefly as possible.

Make a *Princess in Black* version of the "Grand Prize Game" using buckets, bowls, or paper plates. Line four buckets up vertically across from the player and cheer as players try to toss the beanbags into all of the buckets, one at a time.

Item Included: bean bag

Comic Time

Use the Lit League sheet to create your own illustrated story!

Item Included: Comic sheet

Monster Mania

Of course there are no monsters in real life, but sometimes it is fun to pretend in stories. Take a look at the cute, silly, and scary monsters that LeUyen Pham drew in *The Princess in Black and the Hungry Bunny Horde*. If you have the stomach for it, imagine and draw some of your own!

Rabbit Fact Card

Learn about real rabbits with our rabbit fact card. Share your new knowledge with friends or family members.

Item Included: Bunny Sketching sheet

Drawing Bunnies

LeUyen Pham, illustrator of *The Princess in Black* series, decided to draw the bunnies from Monster Land as cute, purple creatures with fuzz-ball ears. Learn how to draw a more realistic bunny by following the steps below. As with all new skills, the more you practice, the better your sketches will become.

Item Included: Bunny Sketching sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil



Book Included: *Rickshaw Girl* by Mitali Perkins

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in geography, art, and social studies. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Alpana Art Activity with Stencils and Chalk, Bangladesh Fact Activity & Coloring Pages, Spice Packet, Book-Themed Recipes, Cheese Cloth, Microfinance Suggestion, Paper Shapla (Water Lily) Craft, Glue, Stunning Similes Activity, Mother Language Day Celebration Suggestion, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What are some of your hobbies or talents?**
 - **Have you ever used one of your hobbies or talents to help someone? This could even include helping someone by bringing them joy.**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Item Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Rickshaw Girl*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Color Alpana Art**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while making alpana art. Alpana is a South Asian folk-art style consisting of colored motifs, patterns, and symbols that are painted on floors and walls with paints made from rice flour, generally on religious occasions. It is common to the Bengal region in India and in Bangladesh. Using the included stencils, make your own alpana art. You may not have rice flour paint,

but you can create similar images using the chalk. You can make your designs on a large sheet of white paper or outside on a sidewalk.

Items Included: Discussion Questions sheet & Discussion Answers sheet, alpana stencils, chalk

Materials Not Included: paper, scissors

- **The Whole Spice**

In much of the cooking in Bangladesh, whole spices are used. Find the three spices included in your box: cinnamon sticks, cloves, and cardamom. Consider each of the three spices using your senses. What do you notice about how each one looks, feels, smells? How are the three similar or different from each other? Do you recognize any of these from foods you have eaten before?

Items Included: pouch of spices

- **Stunning Similes**

In *Rickshaw Girl*, Mitali Perkins uses similes to help show readers what Naima feels and to help provide readers a clearer understanding of her world. Try your hand at writing similes of your own with our Stunning Simile sheet.

Item Included: Stunning Simile sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Bangladesh Facts & Coloring

Learn more about the country of Bangladesh as you complete the Bangladesh Facts sheets and coloring pages.

Items Included: Bangladesh Facts sheets and coloring pages

Materials Not Included: coloring and writing utensils

Rickshaw Recipes

Try your hand at making recipes of dishes popular in Bangladesh. Both of the included recipes (eggplant and lentil curry and roshgollah treats) represent foods enjoyed by Naima's family in the book.

Items Included: recipes, cardamom pods from pouch of spices, cheese cloth

Materials Not Included: ingredients

Paper Water Lily

Water lily, commonly known as shapla in Bangladesh, is the country's national flower. With the included materials, you can create your own vibrant-pink shapla.

Items Included: pink, yellow, and green shapla templates

Materials Not Included: scissors, hot glue gun or craft glue

Mother Language Day Celebration

International Mother Language Day is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity. International Mother Language Day dates back to a Language Movement in East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh) during a time when all languages other than Urdu were being forbidden. The movement came to a head in 1952 when widespread protests were held on February 21st by various student groups. In Bangladesh people still lay flowers at the Shaheed Minar (Martyr's Monument) to remember people lost during those protests. During the holiday, Bangladeshis organize social gatherings honoring their language and culture, hold literary competitions, draw alpana on the roads, eat festive meals, and listen to songs. Introduce your family and friends to this special holiday by creating a celebratory meal, with the shapla as a centerpiece, and making alpana together. You could also look up and play music sung in various languages different from your own. Consider including one or more from Bangladesh.

Item Included: alpina stencils, recipes, paper shapla flower

Materials Not Included: music, ingredients for food

Giving Back

At the end of *Rickshaw Girl*, author Mitali Perkins calls readers to give back to struggling populations through microfinance. Microfinance is the practice of providing financial tools, education, and loans to people living in poverty. It is an important form of developmental aid that helps artisans and entrepreneurs expand their businesses and better support themselves and their families. If you'd like to give back in this way, have a grown up help you find a reputable organization that works to support individuals through microfinance. Then, think of creative ways you can earn money (like Naima does for her family) to contribute to this worthy cause. For example, you could hold a bake sale, set up a lemonade or hot cocoa stand, or offer to wash the cars of neighbors and family friends.



Book Included: *Stuart Little* by EB White

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and STEM. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League's Activity Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Physical and Character Trait Character Cards, Model Boat, Alternate Ending Writing Activity, Margalo Sketch Activity, Foil Boat Experiment, Foil, Scientific Method Sheet, Venn Diagram Activity, Pet Research Activity, Mouse Fact Card, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - Have you ever felt like you were too small or too young to do something you wanted to do?
 - What would it be like to have a mouse for a little brother?
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *Stuart Little*.

Step 4: MEETING ACTIVITIES

- **Discuss & Assemble**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you make the model boat.

Items Included: model boat, glue, boat assembly instructions

Materials Not Included: scissors, markers

- **Boat Science: Tin Foil Boat Experiment**

There are many different types of boats in *Stuart Little*. What type of boat do you think would carry the most weight? A flat barge-shaped boat? Square, triangular, rectangular? A canoe-shaped boat? Test out different shapes in a tub or sink. See which can hold the most weight. Look at ways the shape of your boat allows you to distribute the weight of the pennies.

Items Included: Scientific Method sheet, tin foil squares

Materials Not Included: pennies, scissors

- **Bird Sketching**

George thinks Margalo is a “wall-eyed Vireo” and Mr. Little thinks she’s a “young wren.” Try to sketch both on our Sketching Margalo sheet. How did you imagine Margalo? Scientists and artists often sketch animals in nature. Consider heading outside with a sketchpad and observing some animals in action. Try to draw some of your favorite animals. Remember, the more you practice, the better you’ll get!

Items Included: Margalo Sketch sheet, sketching pencil, eraser

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Mouse Facts & Animal Research

Stuart is an extraordinary mouse. Learn more about average mice with our Fact Card. Then, consider which type of animal from the book you would like to learn more about: cat, mouse, or bird. Use our Animal Research sheet to guide your learning! These activities can be completed before, during, or after reading *Stuart Little*.

Items Included: Mouse Fact Card, Animal Research sheet

Character Cards

When we think about characters, and real-life people, we often think of two types of traits. Physical traits are details about how a person looks or sounds. Character traits refer to a character’s personality. Keep track of both while you read on our character cards.

Items Included: Character Cards

Materials not Included: coloring utensils

Scientific Method

Scientists test their ideas about the world in a very specific way. They use the scientific method. Once you’ve practiced scientific thinking building boats, try out a new hypothesis of your own. Use our blank Scientific Method sheet to guide an original experiment. Go online with an adult and search for “easy science experiments for kids.” You will find a ton of cool ideas that you can test at home! These activities can be completed at any time during your *Stuart Little* reading adventure.

Items Included: Scientific Method sheets

Movie Magic

There is a movie version of *Stuart Little* that was made in 1999. When you’ve finished reading, watch the film and pay attention to the many differences and similarities between the movie and the book. Fill out Lit League’s Venn diagram as you watch and then discuss differences with a friend or trusted adult.

Item Included: Venn diagram

Write an Alternate Ending

Some people are frustrated by the ending of *Stuart Little*. Once you have finished reading the story, read the author’s thoughts about his ending on the Alternate Ending sheet. Then, write an alternate ending to *Stuart Little*. How would you like to end Stuart’s story?

Item Included: Alternate Ending sheet

Remembering Reading? Podcast

Once done reading, adults and older readers might enjoy listening to the Harper Collins podcast, *Remember Reading?* together. Learn more about E.B. White and *Stuart Little* as you listen to authors Katherine Applegate and Kathryn Lasky discuss this classic novel.



LIT LEAGUE
THE VELVETEEN RABBIT UNIT

Book Included: *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud and actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and poetry. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Pin the Tail on the Rabbit Activity, Painting Activity, Paper Tangram Game, Ode Writing, and Adjective Sensory Writing Challenge, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - **What do you think it would be like to be a toy?**
 - **What's your favorite toy or stuffed animal? Do you have a special lovey that was important to you when you were young?**
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family read-aloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Velveteen Rabbit*.

Step 4: MEETING ACTIVITIES

- **Discuss & Draw**

Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while you make a stick the tail on the bunny game.

Items Included: felt square, marker, sticky dots, pompon bunny tails, bunny silhouette, discussion questions and answers

Materials Not Included: scissors

- **Stick the Tail on the Bunny**

Now you've made your own game, it's time to play. Gather friends or family to play stick the tail on the bunny with you!

Items Included: felt square, marker, sticky dots, pompon bunny tails, bunny silhouette

Materials Not Included: blindfold

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Lovey Portrait

Paint a portrait of your favorite stuffed animal, toy, or lovey. Draw an image on the canvas with a pencil. Once you're happy with your drawing, trace over your pencil lines with the marker. Then, use the paints to paint your favorite lovey. **Items Included:** canvas, marker, paints

Materials Not Included: pencil

Ode to My Lovey

Odes are a type of poetry written about something or someone the poet finds special. Use our instruction sheet to write an ode to your favorite lovey, toy, or stuffed animal!

Item Included: Ode to My Lovey sheet

Lovey Story

The Velveteen Rabbit tells the story of a beloved stuffed rabbit. It describes what his life is like in the nursery when he is with the boy and when he is with the other toys. Write a story that imagines what happens to your toys or loveys when you're away. What do they do? Do they have adventures? What do they think about you? What do they like and dislike?

Item Included: Lovey Story sheet

Lovey Tea

The boy has tea in *The Velveteen Rabbit*. It is a well-known fact that toys love to attend tea parties. Have a real or pretend tea party with your favorite toy or lovey as your special guest. Invite others to add to the fun!

Animal Tangrams

A tangram is a Chinese geometric puzzle consisting of a square cut into seven pieces that can be arranged to make various other shapes. Color, cut, and puzzle through some classic animal tangram puzzles.

Items Included: Tangram Puzzle sheets

Materials Not Included: scissors, coloring utensils

Adjective Sensory Challenge

It's time for some fun with fabrics! Find the swatch of velveteen fabric. What are some words you would use to describe how it feels? Race friends and family members to find different fabrics and to use unique adjectives to describe them!

Items Included: velveteen fabric swatch, Adjective Sensory Challenge sheets



ZACH AND ZOE MYSTERIES: THE SOCCER SECRET UNIT

Book Included: *The Soccer Secret* by Mike Lupica

Objectives: Lit League Units are designed to foster a love of reading. Students will listen to a read aloud or read independently, then actively engage in a discussion about the novel. This unit provides activities in writing, art, and physical education. Reading activities touch on vocabulary, social emotional learning, speaking and listening, and comprehension.

Lit League Box Includes: Book, Discussion Questions and Answers, Wonderful Words Vocabulary Bookmark, Reading Detective Notebook Card, World Cup Research, World Cup Recipes, Logo Design, World Cup Pin, Mini Soccer Ball, Soccer Skills & Drills Activity, Soccer Bookmark Craft, Instruction Pamphlet

BOOK CLUB MEETING LESSONS

Step 1: PREREADING ACTIVITIES

1. Have a chat with someone or think about the following questions before you read:
 - Have you played any team sports? If so, what did you most enjoy about this experience? What did you learn?
 - Has anyone ever given you a nickname?
2. Preview the vocabulary words on your Wonderful Words bookmark.

Items Included: Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 2: READ

Take a look at the book and decide if it will be a family readaloud, if you will take turns with a reading partner, or if you will read it all by yourself. As you read, keep track of your vocabulary words and ask yourself the questions on the back of your Wonderful Words Bookmark.

Items Included: Book, Wonderful Words Bookmark

Step 3: SCHEDULE A MEETING

Pick a time to finish your book. Then, meet with family or friends to discuss *The Zach & Zoe Mysteries: The Soccer Secret*.

Step 4: MEETING TIME

- **Discuss & Make**
Cut the discussion questions into strips and put them in a bowl. Take turns pulling a question from the bowl to answer. Discuss the book while putting together your own soccer ball bookmark.

Items Included: ribbon, glue, Soccer Bookmark sheet

Materials Not Included: scissors

- **Soccer Skills**

Whether you play soccer regularly or have never played before, you can enjoy fun practice drills. Use the Soccer Skills sheet to learn a few drills you can perform with mini soccer balls to improve your foot control and coordination.

Items Included: mini soccer ball, Soccer Skills sheet

ADDITIONAL LIT LEAGUE LESSONS

Ball About You

There are so many qualities that make you special and unique! Use this fun soccer ball activity to reflect on all that make you you—your hobbies, your favorite things, and more.

Item Included: Ball About Me sheet

Materials Not Included: pencil and coloring utensils

Around the World

The World Cup is an international soccer competition that takes place every four years. It is one of the most watched sporting events, and it brings people together from all over the world. In our book, Zach's temporary coach, Mrs. Okafor, played on the women's World Cup team for Ghana. Learning about some of the top teams in the World Cup is a great way to build your knowledge of places you may have never before been. You can visit your local library or gather research online to fill in the facts for each of these ten countries.

Items Included: Top World Cup Teams sheets

Materials Not Included: pencil or pen

World Cup Cooking

Once you have completed the fact sheets for ten of the top World Cup teams, you can experience these countries in a more hands-on way: through food! You may choose

to cook only the dishes that sound best to you or try them all. You could spread these recipes out for month of tasty fun, or plan a celebratory weekend meal plan and share the cooking and feasting with family and friends!

Items Included: World Cup Top Team Recipes

Materials Not Included: recipe ingredients

Nicknames

Do you have any nicknames? If so, what have others nicknamed you and why? In the book, Cousin Anthony nicknames Zach "Flashy" because of the fancy move Zach uses to score the winning goal. This nickname is a twist on Cousin Anthony's own childhood nickname, "Flash," given to him by his grandpa because he was fast as a flash of lightening when playing soccer. The nickname also makes Zach think of Flash, a DC Comics character known for his ability to run, move, and think extremely fast. Spend some time thinking up nicknames for your family and close friends based on what they do well or what positive qualities or traits stand out to you about each of them. You may choose to write down the created nicknames to help you remember. Consider sharing these nicknames with each person you created a name for and explain why you chose the nickname.

Design Time

A logo is a symbol or designed image created to identify an organization, product, brand, or major sporting event (such as the Olympics or Super Bowl). Each time the World Cup is held, someone is hired to create a logo for that year's games. Pretend you have been chosen to design the logo for the next World Cup (even if one has already been created) or for some future imagined World Cup in any country of your choosing. For inspiration, look at existing examples on the Logo Design sheet as well as your vintage soccer pin, from a past tournament.

Items Included: World Cup Logo Design sheet, soccer pin

Materials Not Included: pencil and coloring utensils (crayons, colored pencils, or markers)