

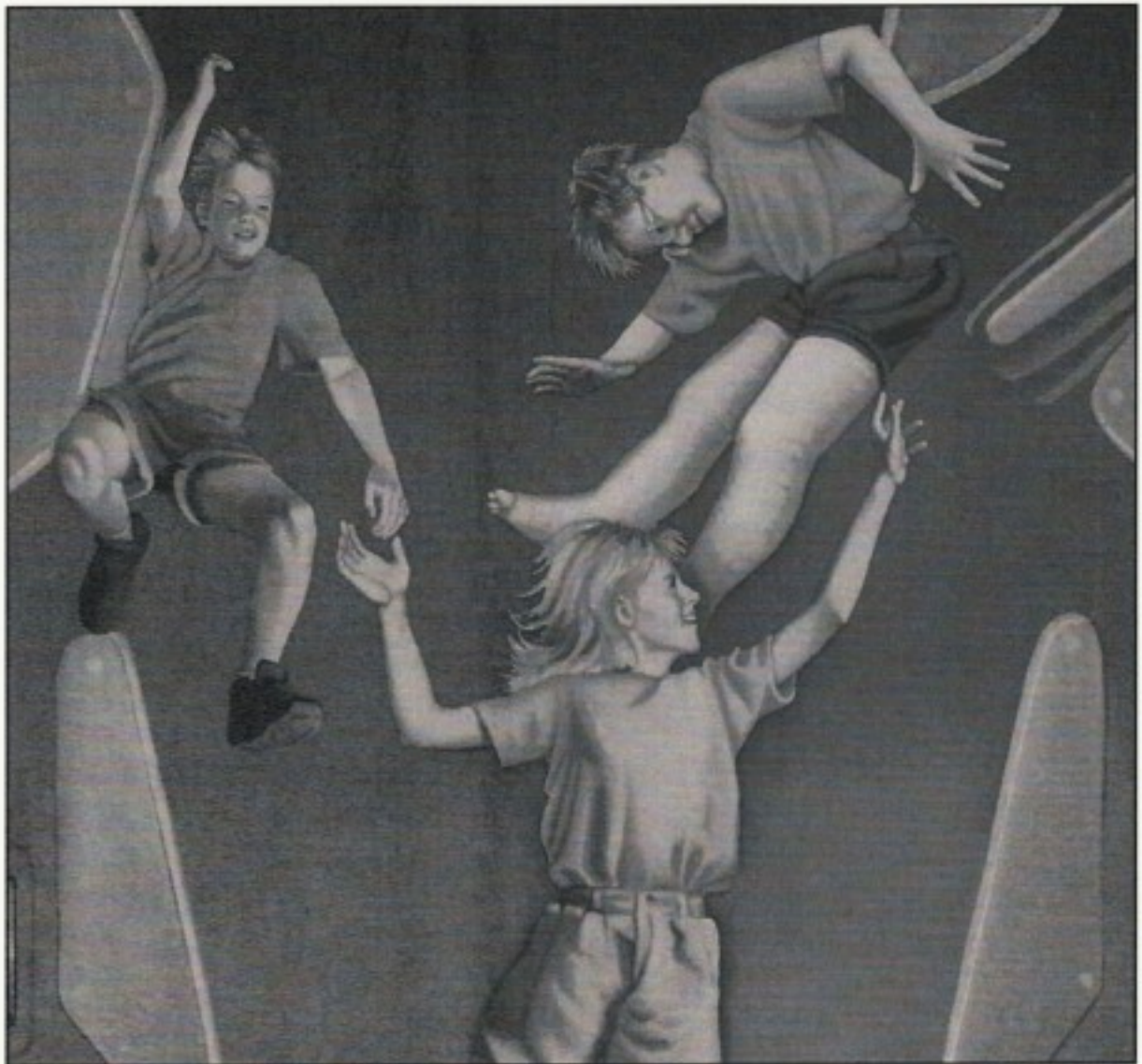


REPRODUCIBLES

PORTALS TO READING™ SERIES

THE PINBALLS

BETSY BYERS



READING SKILLS THROUGH LITERATURE

Table of Contents

Author! Author!	5
The Story in Brief	6

Word Attack Skills

Using Short Vowels	7
Using Long Vowels	8
Making Compounds	9
Finding Base Words	11
Listening for Syllables	12

Comprehension Skills

Classifying Words	13
Matching Antonyms	15
Remembering Details	16
Matching Synonyms	17
Using Cloze Reading	18
Classifying Word Groups	19
Evaluating What You Read	21
Determining Fact and Opinion	22
Matching Antonyms	23
Sequencing Events	24
Discovering Meaning Through Context	25
Remembering Details	27

Determining Cause and Effect	28
Matching Synonyms	29

Study Skills

Determining Alphabetical Order	30
Choosing Correct Meanings	31
Using Guide Words	33

Creative Skills

Writing a Journal Sample	34
Creating a Picture	35
Recalling a Character	36
Writing a Book Recommendation	37
Explaining Feelings.	38
Optional Spelling and Vocabulary Lists	40
Supplementary Activities	42
Response Key	44



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Chapters 4-6

Finding Base Words

Each word below has been made by adding an ending such as *-ly*, *-ed*, or *-ing* to a base word. On the blank beside each word, write the base word.

Example: broken *broke*

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. developed | _____ | 11. running | _____ |
| 2. accused | _____ | 12. trying | _____ |
| 3. patted | _____ | 13. imagined | _____ |
| 4. admired | _____ | 14. daisies | _____ |
| 5. suspiciously | _____ | 15. weaving | _____ |
| 6. pierced | _____ | 16. thrown | _____ |
| 7. hardest | _____ | 17. hopeless | _____ |
| 8. praying | _____ | 18. succeeded | _____ |
| 9. abruptly | _____ | 19. settled | _____ |
| 10. moving | _____ | 20. moving | _____ |



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Chapters 7-9

Remembering Details

The following questions are about some of the characters and events in the book. Write the answers on the lines below the questions. Be sure to use complete sentences.

1. Why was Harvey having a hard time writing a letter? _____

2. What was the first item on Harvey's list entitled "Bad Things that Have Happened to Me"?

3. Why didn't Carlie get to be a majorette in Junior High? _____

4. Why were there swing sets in the backyard of the Mason house? _____

5. Why didn't Harvey want Carlie to read his list of people he was afraid of? _____

6. Why did Harvey want to go into Maidsville with Thomas J and Mr. Mason? _____

7. Why hadn't Mr. and Mrs. Mason adopted a child? _____



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Chapters 10-12

Matching Synonyms

A synonym is a word having the same or nearly the same meaning as another word. Read each sentence. Choose a synonym from the word box to replace the italicized word.

angry	left	destroyed
closed	talk	crooked
actions	sad	moving unsteadily
dried up	load	

Example: _____ *actions* "That's a gift for good *behavior*," said Carlie.

- _____ 1. Thomas J had come *tottering* up the road to the Bensons' farmhouse.
- _____ 2. Thomas J didn't need to step outside to see that the garden was *ruined*.
- _____ 3. The vines in the garden were *shriveled* and dead.
- _____ 4. Thomas J had been *abandoned* as a baby.
- _____ 5. Harvey spoke through *clenched* teeth.
- _____ 6. Carlie was also *disappointed* that Mr. Mason had not remembered to bring chicken.
- _____ 7. Being responsible for the gold coins and the watch was a heavy *burden* for Thomas J.
- _____ 8. Carlie sounded *disgusted* when she answered Harvey's question.
- _____ 9. Thomas J surprised everyone when he joined in the *conversation*.
- _____ 10. Thomas J could see the twin's *gnarled* finger holding the page as she read to him.



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Chapters 10-12

Classifying Word Groups

Read the following sentences. Decide if the italicized part of the sentence tells you *where*, *when*, or *how*. Underline the correct choice.

Example: Thomas J glanced *over his shoulder* at Mr. Mason.

where when how

1. Thomas J slid *on the plastic seat covers* as Mr. Mason turned the corner.

where when how

2. Thomas J had never visited anyone in the hospital *before*.

where when how

3. Carlie stared at him *like he didn't have any good sense*.

where when how

4. They walked *slowly* down the green halls of the hospital.

where when how

5. Mr. Mason put his hand *on Thomas J's shoulder* to reassure him.

where when how

6. The Benson twins lay *in side-by-side beds*.

where when how

7. Sometimes Thomas J would find that the twins had only set two places *at the kitchen table*.

where when how

8. Holding hands with the twins made Thomas J feel *strange*.

where when how

(continued)



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Chapters 13-15

Determining Fact and Opinion

Some of the following sentences are statements of fact. Some are statements of opinion. In the blank before each sentence, write the letter *F* if that sentence is a statement of fact. Write *O* if that sentence is a statement of opinion.

Example: *F* Harvey and Carlie went to the library together.

 1. Harvey's mother had been featured in the *New York Times Magazine*.

 2. The *New York Times Magazine* is interesting to read.

 3. Carlie didn't get along with either of her two stepfathers.

 4. Stepfathers don't get along with stepdaughters.

 5. Harvey's mother lived on a farm in Virginia.

 6. Harvey didn't know his mother's address.

 7. Farm life is better than city life.

 8. Addresses are hard to remember.

 9. Carlie liked the book *Appalachian Nurse*.

 10. Harvey found the article about his mother's farm.



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Chapters 19-21

Determining Cause and Effect

To determine a cause, ask "What is the reason?" To determine an effect, ask "What is the result?" Match the causes and effects below. Write the number of the cause in front of its effect.

Cause**Effect**

- | | | |
|--|-------|---|
| 1. Harvey's birthday was coming in a few days. | _____ | Harvey said Carlie could open his present. |
| 2. Carlie told Harvey that she loved opening presents. | _____ | Mrs. Mason took Harvey to the hospital. |
| 3. Harvey had seen his father carrying his present into the house. | _____ | There was a large present for Harvey in the hall closet. |
| 4. Carlie pulled back the sheets to put decals on Harvey's toenails. | _____ | Carlie saw that the toes on Harvey's right foot were red and swollen. |
| 5. Carlie told Mrs. Mason about Harvey's red and swollen toes. | _____ | Harvey knew what the present was before Carlie opened it. |
-
- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| 1. Harvey had to stay in the hospital because his right leg was infected. | _____ | Carlie said Thomas J could be nine years old. |
| 2. Thomas J didn't know how old he was. | _____ | Harvey stared at the ceiling. |
| 3. Carlie was afraid Harvey might have to stay in the hospital over his birthday. | _____ | Carlie and Thomas J decided to visit Harvey in the hospital. |
| 4. Both Carlie and Thomas J talked to Harvey and tried to cheer him up. | _____ | Carlie begged the nurse to let them stay five more minutes. |
| 5. The nurse said visiting hours were over. | _____ | Mrs. Mason told Carlie she could take Harvey's birthday cake to the hospital. |



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Chapters 22-24

Choosing Correct Meanings

The italicized word in each of the sentences below has several meanings. Some of the meanings are listed in the Glossary. Decide which meaning the word has in the sentence. Then write the number of your choice on the blank line.

Glossary

- foot** 1. pay 2. the end part of the leg 3. a unit of length 4. the opposite of the head
- list** 1. make a list 2. a series of items 3. lean to one side
- litter** 1. cover with litter 2. garbage or trash lying about 3. the young born to an animal
- room** 1. a part of the inside of a building 2. fitting occasion; chance
3. occupy a room 4. sufficient space
- straight** 1. directly 2. free from curves 3. honest or frank 4. in order

Example: 4 The puppy needed *room* to run around and play.

- _____ 1. Even Carlie knew better than to *litter* as she walked along the street with Thomas J.
- _____ 2. A puppy was the first thing on Harvey's *list*.
- _____ 3. Thomas J liked to *room* with Harvey.
- _____ 4. Harvey's dad said that he would *foot* the bill.
- _____ 5. Carlie couldn't keep the two Benson twins *straight*.
- _____ 6. Harvey *listed* what would make him happy.