

## Shells Cynthia Rylant Study Guide Questions

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### An American Childhood

Here are twelve deeply moving short stories from the perceptive pen of Cynthia Rylant. Each captures the moment when someone's life changes -- when an animal causes a human being to see things in a different way, and, perhaps, changes his life.

### The Tiger Rising

Despite a greedy father and lazy brothers who try to conceal her identity as the real cook in their restaurant, Maylin manages to receive the recognition she deserves when a governor from China comes to a New World Chinatown.

### An Instructional Guide for Literature: Bridge to Terabithia

Kate Bloomfield is back! And she's got a lot to say -- about school and friends and parents, about cartwheels (she can't do them), about parsnips (she won't eat them), about being alone and being herself, about life and love even about Dave Nelson, who doesn't know she's alive. Outspoken, funny, sometimes confused but always observant, Kate is writing it all down -- "Hey World, Here I Am!" Notable Children's Books of 1989 (ALA) Best Books of 1989 (SLJ) Notable 1989 Children's Trade Books in Social Studies (NCSS/CBC) Children's Books of 1989 (Library of Congress) 1989 Children's Books (NY Public Library)

### A Field Guide to the Classroom Library

A book that instantly captured the hearts of readers across the country, An American Childhood is Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Dillard's poignant, vivid memoir of growing up in Pittsburgh in the 1950s.

## **Feathers for Phoebe Big Book**

Looking for ways to add rigor to your students' explorations of rich, complex literature? Students will be engaged as they analyze this beloved children's story about a boy and his dog. *Henry and Mudge: The First Book: An Instructional Guide for Literature* provides engaging activities that incorporate the following research-based literacy skills: close reading tasks; text-based vocabulary practice; cross-curricular activities; text-dependent questions; reader response writing prompts; leveled comprehension questions; story elements comprehension tasks; diverse and relevant assessments. Strengthen your students' literacy skills by implementing this high-interest resource in your classroom!

## **Teaching Language Arts**

In November, the air grows cold and the earth and all of its creatures prepare for winter. Animals seek food and shelter. And people gather together to celebrate their blessings with family and friends. Cynthia Rylant's lyrical language and Jill Kastner's rich, cozy paintings capture the cherished moments of this autumn month--the moments we spend together and the ones we witness in the world around us.

## **The Old Woman Who Named Things**

A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal trying not to be noticed, is given hope when a trapped bird finally finds its freedom. "A first-rate picture book that deserves a place in all collections. Sure to spark discussion." -- School Library Journal, starred review

## **Poppleton Has Fun**

How does an old woman who has outlived all her friends keep from being lonely? By naming the things in her life she knows she will never outlive—like her house, Franklin, and her bed, Roxanne. When a shy brown puppy appears at her front gate, the old woman won't name it, because it might not outlive her. Tender watercolors capture the charm of this heartwarming story of an old woman who doesn't know she's lonely until she meets a plucky puppy who needs a name—and someone to love. "Rylant and Brown together create with affection and lovingly humorous touches a glimpse of old age lived with relish." —Booklist

## **Rosetown**

This lovely book illuminates all the possibilities a day offers—the opportunities and chances that won't ever come again—and also delivers a gentle message of good stewardship of our planet. Newbery Medal winner Cynthia Rylant's poetic text, alongside Nikki McClure's stunning, meticulously crafted cut-paper art, makes this book not only timeless but appealing to all ages, from one to one hundred.

## **Creating Strategic Readers: Techniques for Supporting Rigorous Literacy Instruction**

When the Los Angeles riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood, a young boy and his mother learn the values of getting along with others no matter what their background or nationality.

### **Going Down Home with Daddy**

Looking for ways to add rigor to your students' explorations of rich, complex literature? Students will be engaged as they analyze this beloved children's story about a boy and his dog. *Henry and Mudge: The First Book: An Instructional Guide for Literature* provides engaging activities that incorporate the following research-based literacy skills: close reading tasks; text-based vocabulary practice; cross-curricular activities; text-dependent questions; reader response writing prompts; leveled comprehension questions; story elements comprehension tasks; diverse and relevant assessments. Strengthen your students' literacy skills by implementing this high-interest resource in your classroom!

### **I Had Seen Castles**

#### **Life**

Introduce students to literary texts to help them become active and enthusiastic readers! This practical resource provides experienced and novice teachers with a variety of literature that can be implemented into the elementary classroom. Background information and fiction book recommendations are provided for key topics. From alphabet books to poetry, chapter books to read-alouds, this teacher-friendly resource is a must-have!

### **Roses Sing on New Snow**

Henry, his dog Mudge, and his parents go on a quiet camping trip to Big Bear Lake, enjoying the clean smell of trees and wonderful green dreams.

### **Henry and Mudge and the Starry Night**

Cynthia Rylant and Brendan Wenzel explore the beauty and tenacity of life. Life begins small, then grows... There are so many wonderful things about life, both in good times and in times of struggle. Through the eyes of the world's animals—including elephants, monkeys, whales, and more—Cynthia Rylant offers a moving meditation on finding beauty around us every day and finding strength in adversity. Brendan Wenzel's stunning landscapes and engaging creatures make this an inspiring and intriguing gift for readers of all ages.

### **Hey World, Here I Am!**

### **Fly Away Home**

Poppleton the pig plants a dogwood tree, gets a cold, and tries to hang wallpaper with the not very helpful aid of his friends.

### **Close Reading Literature Activities for Grades 2-3 (Set B)**

"The Prentice Hall Choices in Literature is a balanced, integrated approach to language arts. Using literature as a base, the program develops students' capacities to read, write, speak, and listen, and helps them to connect literature to other content areas. At the same time, it fosters habits of critical thinking, aesthetic appreciation, and cooperative interaction."--Page T13.

### **Smoky Night**

Scarecrows. They perch high above gardens and fields, with borrowed coats and button eyes and pie-pan hands that glint in the sun. What else is there to know about them? Perhaps more than we realize. Newbery Medalist Cynthia Rylant's rich and poignant story, powerfully illustrated by Lauren Stringer, will resonate deeply in the hearts of readers, who just might find themselves seeing the world in a whole new way.

### **Greyling**

A National Book Award finalist by Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo. Walking through the misty Florida woods one morning, twelve-year-old Rob Horton is stunned to encounter a tiger—a real-life, very large tiger—pacing back and forth in a cage. What's more, on the same extraordinary day, he meets Sistine Bailey, a girl who shows her feelings as readily as Rob hides his. As they learn to trust each other, and ultimately, to be friends, Rob and Sistine prove that some things—like memories, and heartache, and tigers—can't be locked up forever. Featuring a new cover illustration by Stephen Walton and an excerpt of Kate DiCamillo's newest novel, *Raymie Nightingale*.

### **Poppleton in Winter**

Two-time Newbery medalist Lois Lowry has crafted a beautiful picture book about the power of longing and the importance of reconnection between a girl and her father in post-WWII America. This is the story of young Liz, her father, and their strained relationship. Dad has been away at WWII for longer than she can remember, and they begin their journey of reconnection through a hunting shirt, cherry pie, tender conversation, and the crow call. This allegorical story shows how, like the birds gathering above, the relationship between the girl and her father is graced with the chance to fly.

### **Henry and Mudge: The First Book: An Instructional Guide for Literature**

Noted teacher/author Lucy Calkins and a team from The Teachers College Reading and Writing Project Community have created the most comprehensive and accessible leveled lists and guides for nearly 1,200 children's trade books.

## **Henry and Mudge: The First Book: An Instructional Guide for Literature**

Meet the challenges of educating students with this balanced, whole-child approach to reading for 21st-century learners. This updated, best-selling book co-published with the International Literacy Association (ILA) offers numerous rigorous and engaging techniques, and is sure to be a classroom favorite! Features include: more than 125 enhanced classroom-tested techniques in the areas of word study, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension; 18 new techniques to motivate and engage all learners; embedded scaffolding and teacher talk within each technique; a focus on core literacy strands required by College and Career Readiness Standards; and digital resources including an assortment of reproducible student and teacher resource sheets.

### **All in a Day**

Join Poppleton the Pig and his friends Cherry Sue, Hudson, and Patrick as they embark on a winter adventure! Poppleton in Winter: An Instructional Guide for Literature features engaging, rigorous lessons and activities that work in conjunction with the text to teach students how to analyze and comprehend rich, complex literature. Students will learn how to analyze story elements in multiple ways, practice close reading and text-based vocabulary, and determine meaning through text-dependent questions as they are engaged in reading this beloved story.

### **Every Living Thing**

From the best selling author of OLGA THE BROLGA comes a funny and heart-warming story about accepting who you are. Ages: 3+ Phoebe doesn't want to be ordinary. She wants to turn heads and be noticed - she wants to be fabulous! But when she seeks the help of the outrageous and beautiful Zelda, her transformation leads to some unexpected results. Ages: 3+

### **In November**

Five guppies love their life in a little girl's fish tank until some new additions shake things up.

### **Baseball in April and Other Stories**

Living with his grandfather on an island off British Columbia, orphaned ten-year-old Daniel feels deep loneliness until the night he meets a mermaid whose identity he tries to learn.

### **El-Hi Textbooks & Serials in Print, 2000**

This satisfying story explores the powerful impact of our actions on the world around us. When his father takes a new job in Massachusetts, Ben Moroney must leave behind his best friend Tony, a western banded gecko named Lenny, and

worst of all, the Arizona desert home he has loved and explored. Ben's adjustment to his new environment is not going well until he unexpectedly finds a kindred spirit in his eccentric fifth-grade science teacher, Mrs Tibbets. She introduces him to the rare and elusive Eastern spadefoot toads that make their home on her rural property. When Ben discovers that Mrs. Tibbets's land may be sold to developers, he knows he has to do something. As Ben's obsession with saving the spadefoot toads' habitat grows, his schoolwork and his relationships with his family and new friends suffer. But just when it seems things can't get any worse, Ben finds a way to meet his responsibilities to the people around him and demonstrates the importance of even the smallest efforts to save the earth's rapidly disappearing habitats. With great environmental themes, this appealing middle grade novel comes from renowned storyteller and two-time Grammy Award winner Bill Harley.

### **Poppleton Forever**

A selchie, a seal transformed into human form, lives on land with a lonely fisherman and his wife, until the day a great storm threatens the fisherman's life.

### **Gramma's Walk**

Students analyze three children's books using key skills from the Common Core. Close reading of the text is required to answer text-dependent questions. Included are student pages with the text-dependent questions as well as suggested answers.

### **Poppleton in Winter: An Instructional Guide for Literature**

Poppleton goes to a movie alone, makes a quilt with his friends, and ends up eating a banana split instead of taking a bath.

### **Writing Lesson Level 5--Pumping Up Sentences**

In this easy-to-read chapter book, Poppleton the pig charms young readers with his quirky adventures and whimsical ideas! Poppleton grows an icicle garden and ends up with an icicle fence instead.

### **Night of the Spadefoot Toads**

"Eloquent and resonant...poignantly underscores the significance of family, friendship, and home." —Publishers Weekly (starred review) "Gentle and old-fashioned in the best sense...a little gem about small-town life." —Booklist (starred review) "A sweet story for children dealing with change." —Kirkus Reviews From Newbery Medalist Cynthia Rylant comes the charming story of nine-year-old Flora Smallwood and the eventful year she spends in the quiet community of Rosetown, Indiana. For nine-year-old Flora Smallwood, Rosetown, Indiana, is full of surprises, many of the best of which happen at the Wing and a Chair Used Book Shop, where she loves to read vintage children's books after school in the faded purple chair by the window. But lately, those surprises haven't been so good. Her dear old dog, Laurence, recently passed away. Not long after, her parents decided to take a

breather from their marriage, and now Flora has to move back and forth between their two houses. Plus, she's just begun fourth grade, and it is so much different than third. Luckily Flora has two wonderful friends—one old and one new. And with them around to share thoughts and laughs and adventures big and small, life in Rosetown still has many sweet moments—and even some very happy surprises!

### **Crow Call**

Practical lesson plans for Grades K-6 of alternatives to traditional language arts teaching methods.

### **Prentice Hall Choices in Literature**

Donnie and his grandmother, who is in a wheelchair, take an imagined walk to the seashore and smell the salty breeze, walk barefoot on the warm sand, observe animals, and build a sand castle.

### **Scarecrow**

Now an old man, John is haunted by memories of enlisting to fight in World War II, a decision which forced him to face the horrors of war and changed his life forever.

### **Henny, Penny, Lenny, Denny, and Mike**

Use this guide to explore the story of two lonely children who form a strong friendship and create an imaginary magical forest kingdom to escape their troubles together. This instructional guide for literature supports Common Core Learning Standards and is filled with challenging cross-curricular activities and lessons that work in conjunction with the text to teach students how to better analyze and comprehend literature. This guide is the perfect tool to teach students how to analyze story elements in multiple ways, practice close reading, improve text-based vocabulary, and determine meaning through text-dependent questions. This is the perfect way to support this well-known story while adding rigor to your students' explorations of rich, complex literature.

### **The Islander**

A collection of eleven short stories focuses on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California. Teacher's Guide available. Simultaneous.

### **Getting to the Core of Writing: Essential Lessons for Every Fifth Grade Student**

A 2020 Caldecott Honor Book "On reunion morning, we rise before the sun. Daddy hums as he packs our car with suitcases and a cooler full of snacks. He says there's nothing like going down home." Down home is Granny's house. Down home is where Lil Alan and his parents and sister will join great-grandparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Down home is where Lil Alan will hear

stories of the ancestors and visit the land that has meant so much to all of them. And down home is where all of the children will find their special way to pay tribute to family history. All the kids have to decide on what tribute to share, but what will Lil Alan do? In this rich and moving celebration of history, culture, and ritual, Kelly Starling Lyons' eloquent text explores the power of family traditions. Stunning illustrations by Coretta Scott King Honor-winner Daniel Minter reveal the motion and connections in a large, multigenerational family.

### **Reading and Responding**

Incorporate writing instruction in your classroom as an essential element of literacy development while implementing best practices. Simplify the planning of writing instruction and become familiar with the Common Core State Standards of Writing.

[ROMANCE](#) [ACTION & ADVENTURE](#) [MYSTERY & THRILLER](#) [BIOGRAPHIES & HISTORY](#) [CHILDREN'S](#) [YOUNG ADULT](#) [FANTASY](#) [HISTORICAL FICTION](#) [HORROR](#) [LITERARY FICTION](#) [NON-FICTION](#) [SCIENCE FICTION](#)