For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with the novel Mrs. Brice’s Mice consists of lessons for guided reading. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel at its own reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students’ love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits, formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques, will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

Novel-Ties® are printed on recycled paper.

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Vocabulary: Use the words in the Word Box and the clues below to complete the riddles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD BOX</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cheese</td>
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<tr>
<td>clean</td>
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<tr>
<td>piano</td>
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<td>twenty-five</td>
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1. This has many black and white keys.
   But it has no locks.
   It is a ____________________.

2. One and twenty-four more
   is the same as this.
   It is ____________________.

3. Mice like this food
   best of all.
   It is ____________________.

4. Mice are this when you wash
   behind their ears.
   They are ____________________.

Read to find out about the mice in Mrs. Brice's life.
Pages 5 – 9 (cont.)

Story Questions:
1. How many mice does Mrs. Brice have?
2. What does Mrs. Brice feed her mice?
3. Why does Mrs. Brice wash her mice behind their ears?
4. What happens when Mrs. Brice plays the piano?
5. Why does one very small mouse dance on top of Mrs. Brice’s hand?

Picture Questions:
1. In what ways is one mouse different from the others?
2. How does Mrs. Brice make sure that each mouse gets its share of food?
3. What does Mrs. Brice use to wash the mice?

Discussion Questions:
1. How does Mrs. Brice feel about her pets?
2. What parts of the story so far are real? What parts are make-believe?

Science Connection:
Choose three different pets. Use books or talk to friends to find out what each pet eats. Use this information to fill in this chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Pet</th>
<th>What It Eats</th>
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Writing Activity:

Mrs. Brice is going away. Pretend that she has asked you to take care of her mice. Finish her instructions.

Please feed my mice ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________.

Make sure to ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________so they are always clean.

Please play ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

so that my mice ____________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

Thank you.

Mrs. Brice