

Teacher's Guide for Spider

September 2012

Teacher's Guide prepared by Teresa Nordheim

Teresa Nordheim works with elementary level children in the education field. She is also a freelance writer with well over thirty published magazine articles. She loves the challenge of making education for children enjoyable and fun.

Getting Started:

(RL/RI9) Discovering Themes:

Flip through the pages of this issue. Look at each illustration and read the story titles. Do you notice a theme? Why might this theme be appropriate for the month of September?

Spider's Mailbox:

(L3) Recognizing Parts of Speech:

Use a highlighter pen to mark all of the verbs on this page.

Doodlebug & Dandelion:

(RL/RI1) Facts and Details:

Where did the class go for the tour?

What did Dandelion want to see first?

What happened when she looked very closely at the miniature castle?

Why was the girl in the castle in trouble?

Where was the missing key?

Zouk: The Little Witch with Attitude:

(W1) Writing an Opinion Piece:

Would you like to be a prince or princess? Write a story about your adventures as a prince or princess. What would your castle look like? Would you act differently? Which rules and laws would you make?

(SL4) Give a Speech:

Present your story front of the class. Try not to look at your notes. Make good eye contact and speak loud enough for everyone to hear you.

Mirror Painting:

(RL/RI1) Facts and Details:

What do you do after you place the hand mirror on the newspaper?

If you don't like the first attempt, what can you do?

(RL/RI3) Pros and Cons:

What features might you add to your mirror? (teeth, glasses, mouth, eyes, nose, facial hair, etc.) Discuss this as a class and make a list on the board. Discuss the pros and cons of each item. For example, would a girl enjoy a mustache?

Nu Wa and the Yellow Clay:

(L4) Vocabulary:

inhabited, swishing, specks, Goddess

(SL1&6) (W4&5) Put on a play for a younger classroom:

- Schedule and host a planning meeting.
- Write and revise scripts.
- Present your show.

My Origami:

Use of Technology:

Use the internet to locate information on the art of origami.

Geography Connection:

Where did it originate from? Look this location up on a World map.

(W2, W6, W7) Writing an Informative Piece:

Using the information which you gathered from the internet, write an informative report on the history of origami.

Art Connection:

Use the instructions at: <http://www.origami-fun.com/origami-fortune-teller.html> to create an origami fortune teller.

Before They Were Famous:

(RL1) Facts and Details:

Where was Paul Klee born?

What was usually about how Paul drew and wrote?

At what age did Paul begin drawing?

How old was Pablo Picasso when he died?

Who was Pablo's first teacher?

What is the name of the new art style Pablo developed?

I Used to Know the Names of All the Stars:

(W10) Write a Poem, Use of Technology:

- Learn more about a Cinquain poem by reading the information at: <http://www.ahapoetry.com/cinqhmpg.htm>
- Use the following website to help you write a Cinquain poem. http://www.eduplace.com/tales/content/wwt_045.html

Happiness on a Piece of Paper:

(L4) Vocabulary:

kindling, voyage, flickering, raggedy, speechless

(L5) Making analogies:

What does the author mean when they say, "They've got soil in their blood, like my family has the sea in theirs."?

(RL1) Facts and Details:

What is the name of the main character?

What is his brother's name?

What gift did Pa bring back for the main character?

What item did Pa bring out to show the main character at the end of the story?

Do you think the main character is more like his ma or pa? Why?

Spider's Corner:

(RL/RI4) Following Instructions, Art Connection:

Help celebrate Spider's 20th birthday by drawing a picture. Follow the rules on in the top left corner of the page.

(W2) Writing a Letter:

Write a letter and mail it to Spider

Spider's Mailbox

P.O. Box 300

Peru, IL 61354

Ophelia's Last Word:

(RL/RI 10) Following Directions, Cooking Connection:

Create the recipe on the page.

(W2, W4) Writing an Informative Piece:

Using the recipe on the page as an example, write your own recipe. You may use whatever ingredients you wish (as long as they are edible). Make certain you use the headings:

- What You'll Need
- What to do