

Teacher's Guide for Spider

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Teacher's Guide prepared by Teresa Nordheim

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Getting Started

(RL/RI2) Determine a Theme

Flip through the entire magazine from front to back cover. Read the title to each story and look at the illustrations. Do you see a common theme?

Spider's Mailbox

(W4, W5) Writing and Editing

Write a letter to Spider. Exchange this letter with one classmate. Proofread each other's letter and then rewrite them making the needed corrections. When your letter is perfected, mail it to Spider:

Spider's Mailbox

P.O. Box 300

Peru, IL 61354

Doodlebug & Dandelion

(L4) Vocabulary

Define the following words: clamor, glistening, bleated, perched, squawked, whizzed

(W3) Write Narrative

In different areas of the world, people eat different foods. We might not always agree on what is edible or what tastes good. In the story, Doodlebug & Dandelion they ate chocolate covered bugs. Think for a moment and discuss in small groups what foods you have eaten that other people might consider odd. Write a narrative piece detailing this food. What did it look like? What did it smell like? Would you eat it again? Why or why not? Include as many details as possible.

(RL/RI 10) Recalling Information

What did Timiko's granny say happened if you ate a bug?

Who gave Doodlebug & Dandelion the chocolate covered bugs?

What bug did Rudyard eat and how did he feel right after eating it?

Candy-Coated Dragonflies

Follow the directions in the recipe to create your very own edible dragonflies. Be sure to have an adult help you with the heating of the bark.

The Case of the Stolen Moped

(RL/RI 10) Recalling Facts

Where did the Thompson's live?

What item had been stolen?

What color was the stolen item?

What clues were found?

Why couldn't Michael have stolen the item?

(SL5) Video Presentation

Watch the following video to learn about the life cycle of butterflies:

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/kids/animals-pets-kids/bugs-kids/butterflies-kids/>

(SL1) Work in a Group

Divide into equal small groups. Each group will be given the name of an insect to research. Use the internet and books to find information on your given bug. Present this information to the class. Choose from the following: bees, ants, termites, roaches, butterflies, and moths

The Poor Little Bee

(W10) Poetry

Write a poem about your favorite animal. After you have completed the rough draft, exchange it with a classmate and provide feedback for one another.

(RL/RI6) Compare and Contrast

The last line reads: "Has only one arrow in his quiver." What is the author comparing to an arrow and why does the bee only have one arrow?

Emma and the Honey Thief

(W9)

Research honeybees online or in textbooks. What effect does smoke have on them?

Discuss why Emma might have been afraid to be around the bees?

Hold a debate in class on the pros and cons of honeybees.

(RL/RI 10)

What animal was trying to steal the honey?

How did Emma scare it away?

Why do bees normally sting people?

Where Did the Honeybees Go?

(SL5 Video Presentation)

Honey Bees: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7cX2cjFunw>

(L4) Vocabulary

Define the following words: immune, biologist, pesticide, gobble, migrating

(W1) Write an Opinion

What would the world be like if honey bees no longer existed? Write at least two paragraphs detailing what would be different, and what would be the same? Be sure to include several details.

(RL/RI 6) Author's Point of View

What other animals help spread pollen?

What are some of the reasons why scientists think the honey bees are disappearing?

What do mites do to honey bees?

Eau de Forest: A Woodsy Cologne

Locate each of the items listed in the poem within the illustration. Can you find them all?

Art Connection

Make your own woodsy creatures: <http://3abn.org/kids-crafts/kids-craft-nature-critters-2/>

Mr. Slurmbucket

(RL/RI 10) Recalling Information

Name three items that Mr. Slurmbucket didn't like.

How did he block out nice smells?

What were the names on the jars in his Cupboard of Foul Odors?

What did he use to wash his dishes with?

What was the special item Molly received?

How did Molly get even?

(W1) Write Opinion

Smells remind people of places, times, and even people. Think about the smell of fresh cut grass, chlorine in a pool, lemonade, or Grandma's lilac bush. What scent is special to you or reminds you of someone or some places special?

Art Connection

Draw an illustration to go with your story about your favorite scent.

(L4) Vocabulary

Define the following words: repulsive, foul, despised, congratulated, marvelous, atmosphere, polluting

Smelly Stickers

Follow the instructions and complete the recipe to make smelly stickers of your very own.

Spider's Corner

Spider is looking for stories about something smelly (good or bad smelly). Send this to Spider's Corner, P.O. Box 300, Peru, IL 61354