

Teacher's Guide for Spider

February 2014

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? Why do you think this theme might have been chosen for the February issue?

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:

(SL6) Visit: <http://www.thebestclass.org/rtscripts.html> Divide class into small groups and choose a few different plays. Break into groups and practice for a few days. When ready to perform, have each group come up in front of the class and present their play.

(L4) Define the following: fierce, gnawed, curtsied, intermission, conquer

Snowman Sniffles:

(W2) Write about a time when you were sick and someone took care of you or write about a time you took care of someone else.

Art Connection:

Visit the following link to create an adorable snowman art project. All you will need is popsicle sticks, paint and googly eyes.

Mattia's Crossing:

Geography Connection:

Locate Norway and Sweden on a world map.

(RL/RI 1) Remembering Facts:

How did Mattia's normally get to and from school?

What happened on this one day that changed the events drastically?

Who helped Mattia?

What was wrong with Mattia's mom?

(RL/RI 3) Compare and Contrast:

What does ice on a pond look or feel like? What might you compare it to?

Two Kings and Two Dice:

Geography Connection: Learn about the history of Scandinavia and why Norway and Sweden may have had issues learning to get along with one another. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qyv1ixhbfXY> (approx.. 3 minutes)

(RL/RI 1) Remembering Facts:

What was the name of the Norwegian King?

What was the name of the Swedish King?

What island did they both claim belonged to them?

How did they determine who would rule the island?

What number did the Swedish King roll?

What number did the Norwegian King roll?
Who won?

(W 7) Use the internet and books from the library to research facts on Heimskringla and discuss what you learn.

Northern Lights:

(W 7) Use the internet to research the cause of Northern Lights.

Watch the following National Geographic video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcfWsj9OnsI> (approx.. 5 minutes)

(RL/RI 7) Compare and Contrast:

The author compares the Northern lights to the flight of a swan. How are they alike and how are they different?

Flying with Artic Terns:

(L 4) Define the Following: depart, migrating, nesting, predators, molt.

Watch the following video of the Artic Tern in action: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bte7MCSBZvo> (approx. 6 minutes)

(RL/RI 1) Remembering Facts:

The Artic Tern migrates from _____ to _____.

How big is the Artic tern?

What color is the chick when it hatches?

What do they like to eat?

When do they start to migrate?

Fruity Valentine Nachos:

(L 3) Follow the directions on the page to create your own tasty treat.

Happy Ever After:

(L 4) Define the following: clever, cluttered, chaff, sensible

(W 3) Write a narrative: Write a story telling about how you would test someone to see if they were a real princess. Would you tests be difficult or easy? How many tests would you make them do? What would you do if you learned they were not a true princess? Make sure you have a clear opening sentence, at least five details, and an ending sentence.