

Teacher's Guide for Spider

March 2015

Teacher's Guide prepared by Teresa Nordheim

Teresa Nordheim is a freelance writer with well over thirty published magazine articles. She loves the challenge of making education for children enjoyable and fun. www.teresanordheim.com

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 March 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 perfect, mail it to Spider:

Spider's Mailbox

P.O. Box 300

Peru, IL 61354

Doodlebug & Dandelion:

(RL/RI1) Answer the following questions from the story:

1. What was the name of the television show?
2. Why do you think the experiment was called, "elephant's toothpaste"?
3. What was the name of the host for the television show?
4. Why was Tomiko upset with his assistants?
5. What did the host think Tomiko tried to do with his assistant?

(L4) Define the following words: zany, oozing, uber, confidently, engaged

(W1) Write an opinion piece. Tell about a time when you helped a friend or a friend helped you. What were the pros and cons of working with your friend? Be sure to include many details.

The Return:

Write a poem with every other sentence rhyming.

Art Connection: The following video demonstrates an art project designed for kids.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWhJTb_99n0

Blushing Blake:

(RL/RI1) Answer the following questions from the story:

1. Why was Blake blushing?
2. Who pointed out that Blake was blushing?
3. What book did Blake study?
4. What was the title of the dance he was planning to make?
5. What was Blake wearing from his trip last summer?

(L4) Define the following: fabulous, blushing, negatively, hack, applauded

Loony Balloon Inflator:

Follow the directions and complete the recipe on this page.

The Wind and the Sun:

(L4) Define the following words: stroll, stuffy, vented, splendid, daze

(RL/RI1) Answer the following questions from the story:

1. Without the sun, what would the Earth not have?
2. What did the sun do when he got angry?
3. How do the sun and the wind work as a team?
4. What did the wind see when he was walking?
5. What did the wind do to the girl?

(SL) Research a type of weather. Write a report and present it to the class. Use the following weather types: wind, rain, snow, sunny, foggy

Elephant Sky:

(W4) Imagine you had an elephant as a friend. What adventures would you experience? Be sure to include at least three examples of items you would paint. Also, use a strong opening and closing sentence.

Sundog Sky:

Watch the following video on sundogs: <http://youtu.be/afm1aWuL8ww>

(RL/RI1) Answer the following questions about the story:

1. Where can you spot a sundog?
2. Do larger planets have more or fewer sundogs?
3. Name at least one movie or book named after sundogs?
4. What is the precise degrees they form around the sun?
5. If the sun were a clock, what time would you see sundogs? (hint there should be two times)

(L4) Define the following: horizon, brilliant, indicate, snoozing, pooch

Baking in the Fairy Mound:

Geography connection: Locate Scotland on a world map.

(RL/RI1) Answer the following questions about the story:

1. What did Maude find on the other side of the door after she followed the lights?
2. Why did the fairy folk get upset with Maude?
3. What did Maude need to do before she could return home?
4. What did Maude need to do to break the spell on the barrel of flour?
5. What three wishes did Maude chose?

(L4) Define the following: realm, indeed, vanished, generations, mound