

UNIT OVERVIEW

Bunnacula *A Novel Study*

OVERVIEW

This novel study provides teachers with a highly structured format for teaching language arts as students develop a love for reading longer materials like novels. Various areas such as reading comprehension, vocabulary development, spelling, grammar, and writing are all entwined in this integrated approach eliminating the need for teaching these skills separately. Activities are divided into three main sections:

1) Chapter Questions

For each chapter, students answer a thorough set of questions requiring answers in complete sentences. Reading comprehension is key as students must read and understand the *entire* book in order to answer the questions. (One major strength of the novel study approach is that it is much more difficult for students to "fake" their way through the comprehension questions than with shorter stories often used to teach comprehension)

2) Vocabulary and Language

Each chapter also includes activities dealing with such things as word meanings, using the dictionary, spelling, parts of speech, antonyms/synonyms, syllables, punctuation and grammar.

3) Writing and Creativity

In this section, students apply what they have learned about language and grammar skills to write more effectively. Creative writing is the focus of this less-structured segment allowing teachers more opportunity to incorporate their own ideas into developing creative writing skills.

EVALUATION

Teachers can use the marking format provided or devise their own. Certain assignments, especially in the Vocabulary and Language section are well suited to marking by students. However, it is important teachers mark assignments requiring answers in complete sentences to monitor student progress in this crucial area.



Chapter 1 - THE ARRIVAL

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- Why was Harold left at home?

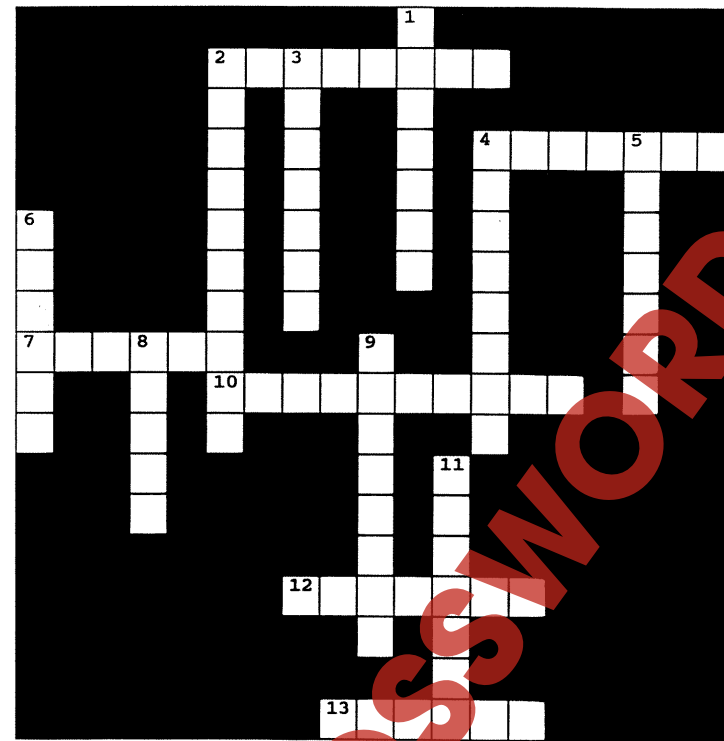
- In public places, what is considered impolite by people?
1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
- On the night of the visitor's arrival, what was the setting? (page 4)
1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____
- What is Chester afraid of?
1) _____ 2) _____
- Name the members of the Monroe family.
1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____
- Mom Monroe was very calm when they came in, which surprised Harold. How would we expect the boys' mother to be? (page 6)

- What is Mr. Monroe's occupation (job)? _____
- What is Mrs. Monroe's occupation? _____
- Harold says he is a mongrel. What is a mongrel?

G.

CROSSWORD - CHAPTERS 1, 2

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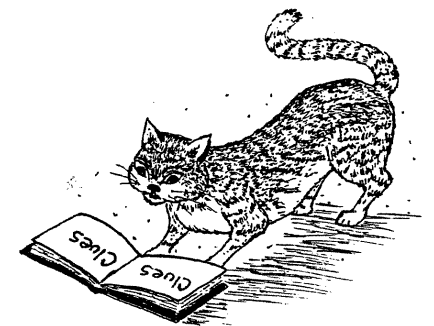
- obscure
caravan
hysteria
tranquil
trauma
digress
preference
peculiar
disdain
hideous
glisten
unison
clench
stash
compromise

ACROSS

- weird or strange
- ugly
- all at once
- to come to an agreement
- to shine
- held tight

DOWN

- to wander from the main topic
- choice
- a traveling group of wagons
- frantic, uncontrolled excitement
- not easy to understand or hard to see
- a shocking or bad experience
- to save or hide in a certain spot
- peaceful, relaxed
- to look upon with disgust or dislike



E. Place these names in the correct location on the map below.

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- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Carpathian Mountains | 2) Russia |
| 3) Romania | 4) Transylvania |
| 5) Black Sea | 6) Europe |



F.

RESEARCH CARD - EDGAR ALLEN POE

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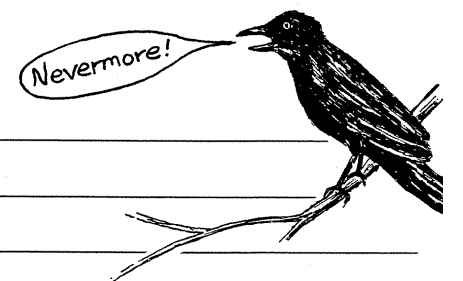
EDGAR ALLAN POE (1809-1849)

Edgar Allan Poe was one of the greatest poets and writers in the United States. His best-known poem is called "The Raven." Poe was one of the first mystery writers. He wrote the first horror stories. The most famous were "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "The Masque of the Red Death."

After a few years he was going to marry another lady but, on the way to the wedding, he stopped in the city of Baltimore. No one knows why he stopped there or what happened, but he was found lying in the street. He died.

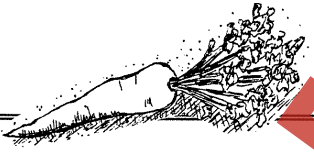
Poe was always very poor because writers did not get paid much in those days. He had a very unhappy childhood because his father left the family and his mother died when he was three. He was raised as a foster child. When he grew up he joined the army and became a sergeant major. He later got married, but he could not afford to feed his wife and her mother. They often went without food. His wife got sick with tuberculosis and died. Poe was very sad and depressed.

The stories Poe wrote were filled with terror and strange, terrible things. He wrote about people being buried alive and coming back from the dead. He wrote about mummies. He wrote about vampires. People thought he was very odd to write such stories, and they made up false stories about him, saying he was drunk. A hundred years later, Hollywood made movies about his books and stories. The movies scared people out of their wits, but they were not as bad as the movies they make today.



- What country was Mr. Poe from? _____
- What kind of stories did he write? _____
- Name two famous stories. _____
- Name four things Poe liked to write about.
1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____

H. CHARACTER PROFILE



Chapter Title _____

Setting _____

Name of Character _____

Age of Character _____

Male or Female (Circle One) **F** **M**

Choose a character to describe from Chapter 1 or 2. Tell what you think the character looked like. (Physical Characteristics)

What kind of personality did this character have?

What did the character do that you admire?

CHAPTERS 3, 4
Vocabulary and Language

A. Use your dictionary to find the MEANINGS of the underlined words.

1) Chester's curiosity had been raised by the rabbit's behavior.

2) The boys always ran immediately to the bunny cage.

3) Harold was always very indulgent with Chester's strange ways.

4) Harold was confident the boys would love him again.

5) Chester thinks it is a challenge to find out more about the bunny.

6) After hurting his paw, Chester had a handicap.

7) In the hallway there was a huge clock with a pendulum.

8) Chester did not think Harold was the scholarly type.

B. Beside each pair of words, write A (antonym), S (synonym), or H (homonym).

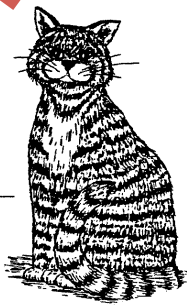
open-closed	_____	blew-blue	_____	harmless-dangerous	_____
true-false	_____	large-huge	_____	forget-remember	_____
bored-board	_____	one-won	_____	stomach-tummy	_____
hop-leap	_____	noise-quiet	_____	drooling-dripping	_____
closer-farther	_____	fourth-forth	_____	moment-minute	_____
noticed-saw	_____	two-too	_____	calm-excited	_____
not-knew	_____	pray-prey	_____	asleep-awake	_____

CHAPTERS 5, 6
Writing and Creativity

A. Write a HAIKU poem about the garlic or Chester's bath or Harold's supper.

A Haiku poem does not rhyme.
Line 1 has 5 syllables. e.g. Loud, crashing thunder
Line 2 has 7 syllables. And then the rain pouring down
Line 3 has 5 syllables. The rainbow appears.

TITLE: _____



B. WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Tell what made each event happen.

Mrs. Monroe was screaming in the kitchen.

Chester was wearing a towel.

Chester had to wear his funny sweater.

Chester had garlic all over the living room.

Harold got a steak for supper.

Chester was thrown outside.

EVALUATION

Bunnica
By Deborah and James Howe

Chapters	Questions	Vocabulary and Language	Writing and Creativity	TOTAL
1, 2	33	112	84	229 = %
3, 4	23	117	92	232 = %
5, 6	22	167	75	264 = %
7, 8, 9	20	86	81	187 = %



TOTAL: 912 = %

COMMENTS

G. WHO SAID the following?

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Robert! There's something wrong in the kitchen!

No, it's shaving cream, you idiot.

They're using chemicals in our food.

I'm a vampire, you dolt. Can't you tell?

YEOW!

I'm going to kiss you on your little nose.

It's not polite to talk with your mouth full.

Shut the door. I'm freezing.

That's my towel. What's the matter, Chester, were you cold?

H. WORDSEARCH - CHAPTERS 5, 6

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A L V O U X R E Y I R D V Y P H L F R F
 N G B O N M U E L H E E M A N A T E D V
 C H U R N I N G V H U F L G U M U Y V W
 P J N Y M C P J C G D E S U R V E Y Z O
 U W N X H X I A W A F N B C C K Z T R W
 D V I U E H O L C R I S P L Y T A B B Y
 J S C G V R T W G L L I X U D R A L G T
 O L U E P S M G G I V V W C D Y B N H X
 W V L P B R Y T O C P E N D A N T C T W
 O Z A V Z L O J N D P L Z D N T T K F Z
 Q K N D D N B G W B G Y M C D Q F I D M
 G W Q C K S R E R Q P V U F V G O R E C
 Y K C J Q B D L L E B N W Q C T T J R K
 G K H N C G R G B J S Y A V X P T B P G
 V O V R M H I C W Z V S Z X U F Q I G J
 R P C G W C R X P E K N E U C U J T O P
 K A S R H E W J V U P B T D P W E N F F



ANSWER KEY

Bunnicula	pendant	survey	approached
emanated	crisply	reluctant	defensively
churning	tabby	garlic	progressed

1. nails clicking on the floor 2) strange smell 2. A pendant made of garlic. 3. Because his book said garlic renders vampires
 4. The smell was making him sick to his stomach. 5. Chester. Mrs. Monroe had him in the sink lathered with soap to try to get the
 m.

6 Questions:

1. He wanted him to help him get Bunnicula out of his cage. 7. He was going to pound it into Bunnicula's heart. The book said to
 e into the vampire's heart.8. He ran to the kitchen to get a bowl of water to throw at him.9. Mrs. Monroe picked him up and tossed him

5&6 Vocabulary & Language:

1) permit 2) a hanging ornament, main piece suspended from a necklace. 3) to view in detail, appraise 4) to come near or nearer to
 5) protective 6. brisk, sharp; clear 7. unwilling; disinclined 8. the act of a person or thing that churns
 9) elves; teeth; ladies; men; cries; halves; tabbies; noses; bodies; screams; brushes; blushes; bunnies; children; messes; women;
 10) kisses; kitties; mice; cats

5&6 Vocabulary & Language:

1) midnight; funniest; strange; awful; peaceful; piercing; feline; toasty
 2) defensively; crisply; peacefully; upon; gently; I; him
 3) ff 4) ll 5) dd 6) pp 7) tt, ll 8) bb 9) ll 10) ll, ll 11) dd 12) gg

5&6 Vocabulary & Language:

1) m bounding down the stairs. 2) Holy cow. What's going on? 3) Can't you ask your friend about these vegetables? 4) They've put
 5) Pete. 6) Chester bit Harold on the neck. 7) Why are you wearing garlic on your neck? 8) I've got to stop Bunnicula. 9) Harold
 Bunnicula was a vampire. 9) Chester pretended to be Dracula rising from the dead.
 10) in-ed; impolitely: im-polite-ly; unironed; un-iron-ed; absently: ab-sent-ly; independence: in-depend-ence; unusually: un-usual-ly;
 11) unfortunate-ly; unwrapped: un-wrap-ped; rereading: re-read-ing; unavailable: un-avail-able; unearthly: un-earth-ly;
 12) -ed; unexplained: un-explain-ed; uneventfully: un-eventful-ly

5&6 Vocabulary & Language:

1) Chester; Pete; Chester; Harold; Mrs. Monroe, Harold; Chester; Mr. Monroe

V O U X R E Y I R D V Y P H L F R F
 B O N M U E L H E E M A N A T E D V
 U R N I N G V H U F L G U M U Y V W
 M C P J C G D E S U R V E Y Z O
 H X I A W A F N B C C K Z T R W
 I U E H O L C R I S P L Y T A B B Y
 C G V R T W G L L I X U D R A L G T
 U E P S M G G I V V W C D Y B N H X
 L P B R Y T O C P E N D A N T C T W
 A V Z L O J N D P L Z D N T T K F Z
 N D D N B G W B G Y M C D Q F I D M
 Q C K S R E R Q P V U F V G O R E C
 C J Q B D L L E B N W Q C T T J R K
 H N C G R G B J S Y A V X P T B P G
 V R M H I C W Z V S Z X U F Q I G J
 C G W C R X P E K N E U C U J T O P
 S R H E W J V U P B T D P W E N F F

5&6 Writing & Creativity:

1) vegetables all over the kitchen. He was wearing Mr. Monroe's towel pretending to be a vampire. Mrs. Monroe thought he was cold.
 2) to keep the vampires away. Chester tried using the steak to pound a stake into Bunnicula's heart. Because he had ruined their steak and