



UNIT OVERVIEW

Mice At Center Ice *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 students *must understand* the novel or they will be unable to do the required assignments)

2) Vocabulary and Language

Each chapter also includes activities dealing with such things as word meanings, use of 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.

***** Note *****

As you can see, due to space considerations, the answers have not been included. (I suppose it is only fair that if students have to read the book, so must the teachers)



CHAPTERS 1, 2
Questions



Chapter 1 - HOCKEY NIGHT

1. What is the setting of the story?

2. What are the names of the three mice?

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

3. Where did the mice sit to watch the hockey game?

4. Where did the three mice live?

5. Why was the other locker room off limits to the mice?

6. What does MHL stand for?

7. What is the Cheddar Cup?

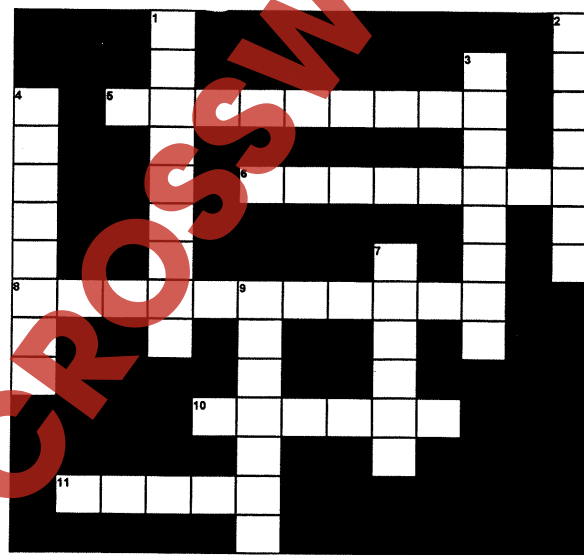
4. Arrange these words in alphabetical order.

sacred	bitches	bannister	tweaked
scurried	investigate	pedestal	jammed
swaggered	noble	huddled	

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | |

5. CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use the words from Question 4 to complete the puzzle. Use your dictionary if you don't know the meanings.



Across	Down
--------	------

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5. staircase railing | 1. walked rudely |
| 6. the base of a statue | 2. crowd close together |
| 8. to look into | 3. a type of pants |
| 10. pressed together | 4. ran fast |
| 11. of high birth | 7. belonging to God |
| | 9. pulled sharply |

3. RAPHAEL RESEARCH

Benny told Figaro and Peppy that the Cheddar Cup had been made long ago by the Master Mouse Moulder, an artist named RAPHAELA.

The author used alliteration and a play on words to create humour here. There is an artist by the name of Raphael. This is to whom the author was referring when she said Raphaela. Look in the encyclopedia in your library or look in an art book to find information on this artist. Look for the answers to these questions.

1) What type of paintings made Raphael famous?

2) Where did he live?

3) Who were his art teachers?

4) When did he live?

5) What do his paintings look like?

4. FIGHTING INTERVIEWS

In MICE AT CENTRE ICE the rats stole the Cheddar Cup by fighting and playing rough. Fighting at hockey games has become a serious issue. Interview 3 people to determine their feelings about fighting at games. What is their reaction to fighting? What is the solution to this type of action?

Think of the questions you want to ask and write them down first. Remember you must interview 3 different people.



Questions:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- #1 Person:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

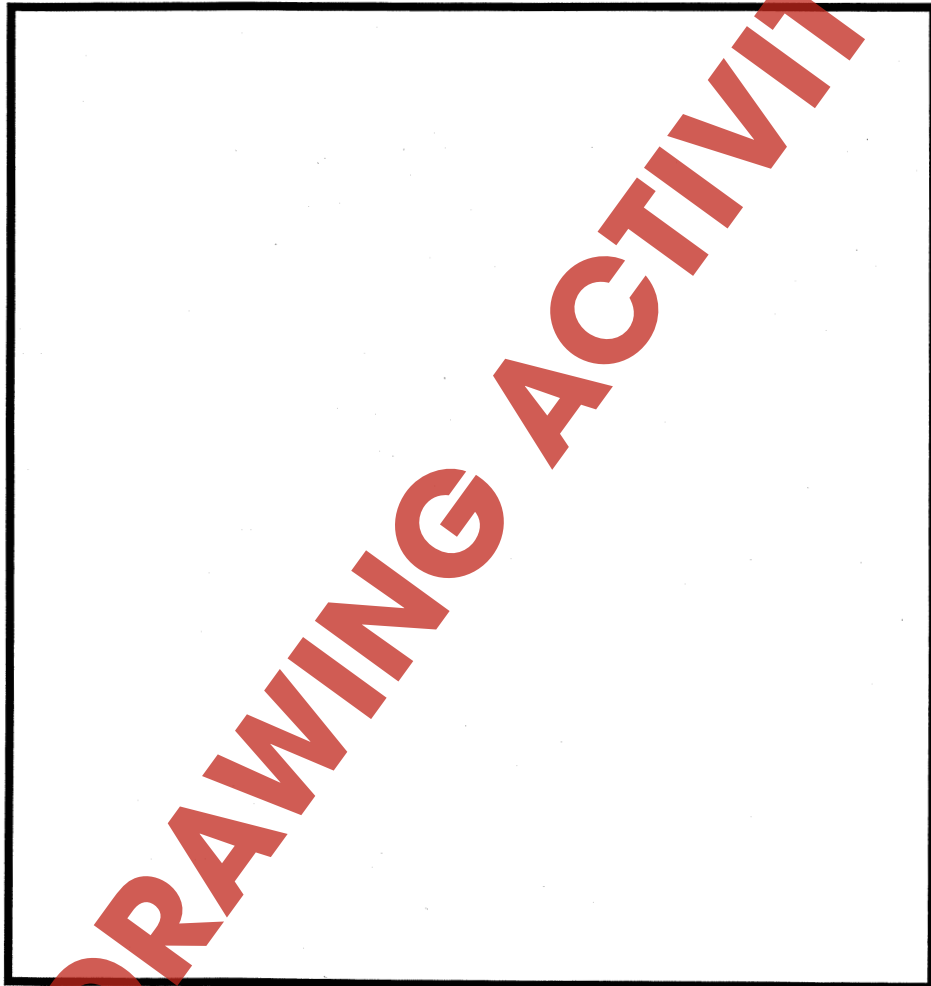
- #2 Person:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

- #3 Person:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Solution: _____

5. **THE CHEDDAR CUP**

There in front of them stood the Cheddar Cup! It was exactly like the Stanley Cup. Instead of silver, though, the bright orange Cheddar shone with a waxy glow more beautiful than any silver or gold. It was magnificent. It stood on a small wooden pedestal made from a bannister. Draw the Cheddar Cup. Colour it.



CHAPTERS 3, 4
Vocabulary and Language



1. Arrange these words in **ALPHABETICAL ORDER**.

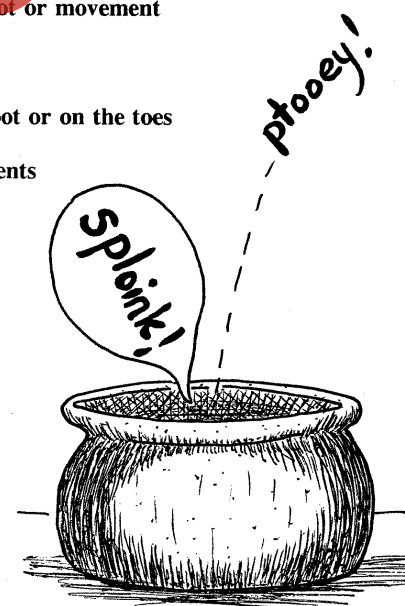
heist minor	somersault jubilant	scrawny sketch	guardian doubtful	abandoned mention
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- 1) _____ 6) _____
 2) _____ 7) _____
 3) _____ 8) _____
 4) _____ 9) _____
 5) _____ 10) _____

2. **VOCABULARY**

Match the words and their meanings.

- a) pirouette _____ to pretend to make a shot or movement
 b) profile _____ to call a game or fight
 c) sluggish _____ to whirl about on one foot or on the toes
 d) fetch _____ to make insulting comments
 e) shinny _____ slow moving
 f) deke _____ a side view or outline
 g) cuspidor _____ a simple kind of hockey
 h) challenge _____ to go and get
 i) taunt _____ a container to spit into



CHAPTERS 5, 6
Writing and Creativity



1. **ACROSTIC POEMS:**

Make a poem to tell what the characters are like, using the first letter in their name as the first letter in your character word.
 Make an Acrostic Poem with **BORIS, PEPPY, YOUR NAME, and the name of a friend.**

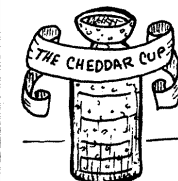
B _____
O _____
R _____
I _____
S _____

P _____
E _____
P _____
P _____
Y _____



EVALUATION

Mice At Center Ice
Estelle Salata



Chapters	Questions	Vocabulary and Language	Writing and Creativity	TOTAL
1, 2	26	57	78	161 = %
3, 4	21	40	40	101 = %
5, 6	15	54	38	107 = %
7, 8	15	38	41	94 = %
9, 10	23	44	20	87 = %
11, 12	15	36	40	91 = %
13, 14, 15	43	34	50	127 = %

TOTAL: _____ = %
768

COMMENTS

