

THE NIGHT THEY STOLE THE STANLEY CUP: A Novel Study

UNIT OVERVIEW

This novel, by Canadian author Roy MacGregor, is sure to be a success with students. The story involves a local hockey team as they follow a trail of intrigue and mischief. A student booklet provides a backbone for the novel study and insures student comprehension as well as building vocabulary and language skills. Related activities are suggested which add variety and meaning to the workbook-style questions in the booklet. Great for the entire class, small groups or individually. This current, humorous novel deals with mature themes in a way that kids can relate to. "The Night They Stole the Stanley Cup" is sure to score with students.

TEACHER STUFF

The unit has been designed using an "outcome-based learning" approach. Included are:

Part I - Essential Learner Outcomes - general goals and objectives

Part II - Specific Program Outcomes - student objectives outlined in behavioral terms

Part III - Student Evaluation

Part IV - Suggested Activities/Topics - A variety of activities, instructional strategies, resources are suggested

Part V - Culminating Activities

Part VI -Extension Activities

Part VII - Discussion Questions and Answers - A series of questions requiring answers in full sentences to be used as a basis for discussion or for students to answer in their notebooks.

Part VIII - Student Activity Booklet - Answer Key

STUDENT STUFF - Booklet

A copy of the booklet is given to each student (photocopied) to be completed and marked on an ongoing basis. The booklets can be bound with plastic coils or simply stapled. Using thicker paper for the cover (which can be coloured as the teacher reads the book outloud) and collecting the booklets, rather than letting students keep them in their desks, will help increase the life of the booklets.

One preferred strategy is to have students pre-read the novel on their own and then to have the teacher read the novel outloud once the unit is formally started. Some students will choose to read along while others simply listen. The pace of activities, questions and marking is left to the discretion of the teacher. The discussion questions focus on higher level questions while the booklet deals with more knowledge-based information. Wherever possible, students should be encouraged to write answers in full sentences.

CHARACTER PROFILE

Chapter Title	_____
Setting	_____
Name of Character	_____
Age of Character	_____
Male or Female (Circle One)	F M

Describe the character. Tell what you think the character looked like.

What kind of personality did this character have?

What did the character do that you admire?

A BOOK REVIEWER - THUMBS UP OR THUMBS DOWN

Setting	_____
Characters	_____

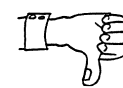
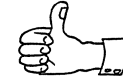
You are working for a large magazine as a book reviewer. Your job is to tell three million readers a bit about the book (without giving away the ending) and whether or not they should read it.

Briefly describe what happens in the book and the main characters - without giving away the ending. (Use at least four complete sentences with proper punctuation.)

How would you rate this book? (Draw a thumb up or down in the box provided)

- _____ EXCELLENT
- _____ GREAT
- _____ OK - I Can Live With It
- _____ NOT TOO GOOD
- _____ DOWNRIGHT LOUSY

Why did you choose the rating you did? (Give at least one good reason)



THE NIGHT THEY STOLE THE STANLEY CUP



CHAPTERS 1/2

Title: _____ /2

Make up your own title

1. The Screech Owls were like the Leafs because they had gone through a _____ season. /2

2. List 7 new members of the Screech Owls hockey team. /14

3. Who had arranged for the team to attend the Leaf's practice? /2

4. What's the simile on page 6? /2

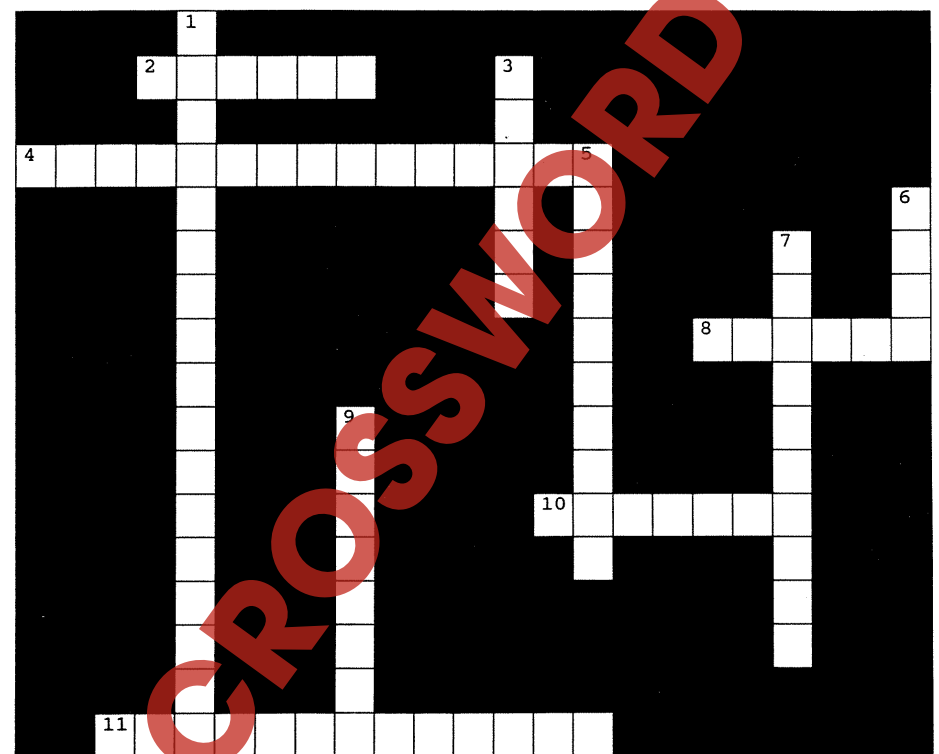
5. Who on the Leafs was just as nervous and fidgety as half of the Screech Owls? /2



CHAPTERS 5/6

Title: _____ /2

Screech Owl Crossword /22



Across

Down

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2. "As if a mad dog were coming through" is an example of this. | 1. Simile on p. 26 |
| 4. Code to enter rooms... _____ followed by two short ones | 5. Kids had these through their cheeks |
| 8. Captain and wimp | 6. Screech _____ |
| 10. Landmark they could see from their hotel | 7. To be very impressed with someone p. 26 |
| 11. One of Travis's favorite players | 9. World's biggest strip joint |

Think Time??? /18

Think about a time when you had problems like Travis... having to put up with someone you didn't like... feeling like a failure... being caught between your friend's loyalty and your parent's expectations. Describe what happened. /4 What did you do to solve your problem(s)? /8 Would you solve that problem today the same way? /2 Explain. /4



/42

CHAPTERS 13/14



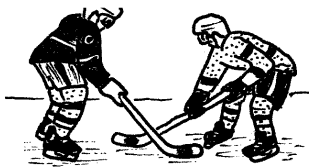
Title: _____ /2

- Who did Travis notice in front of the Zanzibar? _____ /2
- Who did Travis and Nish take to catch the robbers? /2

- Sneaking things back that you've stolen is called shoplifting. /2

- Liz told Travis the score 3-2 (p.72) and that made him happy. Recall the 2 teams that played. (Hint ch.12)
_____ and _____. /2
- Travis and his teammates were excited they were in the finals but the coaches looked _____ (simile) _____ /2
- If they left the hotel at night where did the coach give them permission to shop?
_____ /2

CHAPTERS 21/22



Title: _____ /2

- Travis thought that they couldn't beat the Toronto Towers because they didn't have the _____ on their team. /2
- At this game there would be a camera crew from _____, _____ between periods and player _____. /6
- What hadn't Muck noticed about Nish during the game? /2

- Who tied up the game? /2 _____
- Give three reasons why you thought this letter of apology was a good one. /6
1st _____
2nd _____
3rd _____

Novel Study Marks

Ch. 1/2	___ /32	
Ch. 3/4	___ /36	
Ch. 5/6	___ /42	
Ch. 7/8	___ /32	Excellent:85% and up (349-410)
Ch.9/10	___ /22	Good: 75-84% or (308-348)
Ch.11/12	___ /30	Ok: 65-74% or (267-307)
Ch.13/14	___ /30	
Ch.15/16	___ /46	
Ch.17/18	___ /46	
Ch.19/20	___ /40	
Ch.21/22	___ /36	
Ch.23/24	___ /18	
Total	___ /410	

Culminating activity:

Part VII - Discussion Questions And Answers

The discussion questions are designed to get students thinking about some of the more complicated issues in the novel and to act as "springboards" for further discussion. Some teachers may also choose to have students write down the answers for these questions in their notebooks using complete sentences.

Chapters 1/2

1. What was the "Little Stanley Cup"?
2. Why was Travis speechless when he met Doug Gilmour?
3. Do you think Nish lost his underwear or was someone playing a practical joke? Explain your answer.

Chapters 3/4

1. Why did Travis think Andy Higgins might be stealing things?
2. Do you think Muck is a good coach or a bad coach? Explain your answer.
3. Why did Muck not like games that were too easy?

Chapters 5/6

1. Why did Travis feel like he was in a no-win situation?
2. Why do you think Nish said he got into the Zanzibar even though this was not true?
3. What would you have done if you were team captain?

Chapters 7/8

1. How did Travis help Nish feel better about his fear of heights?
2. Why did Nish not want to go to the hospital after hurting his ankle?
3. Why was the team in trouble against the Vedettes?

Chapters 9/10

1. If you had a chance to go to the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto, what would you wish to see the most?
2. Why were the two men suspicious?

Chapters 11/12

1. What do you think should happen to the three players caught stealing?
2. Why was Travis still not friendly towards Andy?
3. Why was Liz called stone-hands?
4. Why did Travis not want to tell the police his name when he reported that the cup was about to be stolen?

Chapters 13/14

1. How did the thieves plan to get into the Hockey Hall of Fame?
2. Why do you think Andy has "turned over a new leaf"?
3. Why did Travis and Nish think Andy might make an excellent third partner?

Chapters 15/16

1. Why was hiding in the bathrooms not the best idea?
2. Why didn't the boys untie the two guards?

rs 17/18

Explain the plan that Travis had to catch the crooks.
Do you think the boys were "brave" or "foolish" in trying to catch the crooks without adult help?

rs 19/20

Describe the role each of the three boys played in helping to catch the crooks.

Travis:

Nish:

Andy:

rs 21/22

Do you think Muck knew what the three boys had done? Explain your answer.
How do you think the game will end?

rs 23/24

Do you like the ending of the story? (Yes/No) Explain your answer.
What do you think the main idea of this story is? Explain your answer.
Is this a "boys book" or a "girls book"? Explain your answer.

rs

rs 1/2

The "Little Stanley Cup" was a big hockey tournament held in March, for Novice, Intermediate and Bantam teams from Canada and the United States. A small version of the Stanley Cup is presented to the winning team.

Travis was speechless because he was in awe of Doug Gilmour, an NHL superstar, who was talking to him.

Probably someone was playing a joke because no one would touch Nish's underwear and they found the underwear in the freezer.

rs 3/4

Travis suspected Andy because he has some new tapes which would have cost a great deal of money - more than allowance money.

Answers will vary.

Easy games made the team overconfident and more likely to lose in the important second game of the tournament.

rs 5/6

As captain, Travis knew that he was partly responsible if members of the team got into trouble. He also knew he would look like a "wimp" if he told Andy the return of the stolen things.

Nish was trying to impress his friends and did not want to be seen as a failure.

Answers will vary.

ANSWER KEY