

T E A C H E R ' S G U I D E

Keep Your Eye on Amanda!



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D I S T R I B U T E D B Y :

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About *Keep Your Eye on Amanda!*

The *Keep Your Eye on Amanda!* Teacher's Guide gives students an opportunity to interact with literature, art, and the newspaper through this story by Avi. Tim Bush provides the illustrations.

Keep Your Eye on Amanda! is a delightful tale about a pair of raccoon twins—Philip and Amanda. Philip is responsible. He follows rules and he keeps his eye on his sister. Amanda has a deep-seated need for excitement and adventure. Her rebellious nature leads her into a partnership in crime with a local burglar. Philip and the other animals in Boulder's Central Park must save Amanda from herself. The animals come up with a creative solution that is exciting enough even for Amanda.

Lesson Plans

The lesson plans for each chapter are divided into these parts:

Vocabulary identifies important vocabulary words in the chapter. Teachers may use the vocabulary instructional activities they choose, such as identifying phonics elements, using root words and affixes, or determining meaning from context.

Let's Discuss questions provide an opportunity to discuss the story with students. Most of the questions require students to obtain meaning across text and to think critically.

Newspaper Activities offer real-world connections that relate to the topics and content of each chapter.

Additional Activities

These activities help students explore topics and literary elements in the story.

Puzzles

A crossword puzzle and a word search are provided.

Acknowledgements

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Introduces Philip and Amanda

Let's Discuss

1. What evidence do Amanda and Philip have that the house they are looking at is deserted?
2. Where do Amanda and Philip live?
3. What did the twins' mother mean when she said Amanda loves excitement too much and rules too little?
4. How does Amanda get Philip to do what she wants?
5. Why isn't Amanda afraid of the man they find in bed in the house?
6. What is Philip afraid might happen to the raccoons if they get caught in the house?
7. What three words would you use to describe Amanda? What three words would you use to describe Philip?
8. Why do you think the twins' mother has told Philip to be in charge, rather than Amanda?
9. Why do you think Philip doesn't want to follow Amanda?
10. Make a prediction: What will Philip find when he goes to Amanda?



NEWSPAPER ACTIVITY

Find a newspaper photo or comic strip that shows two children. Pretend they are siblings. Make up an adventure story about them.

VOCABULARY

exasperation, n
extreme frustration

reluctance, n
a holding back

sarcastically, adv
in a nasty, hurtful way

Let's Discuss

1. In the house, what different foods attract Amanda and Philip?
2. How does Philip talk himself into believing that it is OK to eat the granola?
3. What accident does Philip cause in the kitchen? How is this important later in the story?
4. Why does Philip think the man in the house resembles a raccoon?
5. Why isn't Amanda concerned about the man who is chasing them?
6. How do Philip and Amanda respond differently to being chased?
7. What upset does Philip cause as he tries to escape?
8. Why do you think Amanda didn't follow Philip out of the house?
9. What would you do if you caught two raccoons in your home?
10. Make a prediction: What will happen to Amanda in the house?

**NEWSPAPER ACTIVITY**

Look through the grocery store ads for foods that Philip and Amanda would like to eat. Add up the costs of the foods you select.

VOCABULARY**careened, v**

moved from side to side in a dangerous way

dapper, adj

very stylish, neat and trim

swooned, v

fainted from delight

What Happened to Amanda?

Let's Discuss

1. How does Amanda try to trick the man into feeling sorry for her?
2. What does Joe say that makes Amanda realize he doesn't own the house?
3. How does Joe explain the fact that he is occupying the house?
4. What word does Joe use to describe his "job"?
5. Why is Amanda so intrigued with Joe's work?
6. What argument does Amanda use to persuade Joe to let her work with him?
7. Why do you think Amanda wants to become a thief like Joe?
8. How do you think Philip feels when Amanda doesn't come out of the house?
9. What tells you that Philip's mother is old?
10. Make a prediction: What will Philip do to help Amanda?



NEWSPAPER ACTIVITY

Find a comic strip that shows someone getting into trouble.

VOCABULARY

cupola, n

a small structure on top of a roof

slyly, adv

in a sneaky manner

(coal) tender, n

a vehicle attached to a locomotive that carries fuel