

Reading For Comprehension Series
By Lee Ann Berg

Everything for a Dog

By Ann K. Martin

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Everything for a Dog
Reading For Comprehension Series Bundle
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Everything For A Dog

By ann m. martin

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Published by Felwel and Friends, New York

This is a story of three different characters. Their unique stories eventually intertwine to provide an intriguing tale of two boys who each love their respective dogs.

Teacher's Guide

Please note: The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Vocabulary grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1999*.)

The page number of a vocabulary word and the range of page numbers may not correspond to the published text of the book you are using. If that is the case, you will find the vocabulary word and/or the basis for the comprehension questions and answers on pages that are approximately the same as those used in creating this study guide.

The answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. Sometimes they have been written into shortened phrases. This makes the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.

Preset: To prepare the students for reading this story, it is recommended that the teacher instruct the students to keep notes about the two boys in the story as the story is read. It will help keep the boys and their part of the story straight as the tale unfolds.

Chapter 1 Bone Pp. 1-11

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

focus (7, 1) the point at which an image is formed in an optical system

intriguing (8, 1) interesting

vital (7, 1) fundamental; indispensable

insulated (8, 2) isolated

tolerated (9, 3) to allow to be; allow to be done without hindrance, abide

encountered (8, 8) to meet usually unexpectedly

unsanitary (7, 10) not free from filth or infective matter

Comprehension Questions

- 1. Why did Bone's mother wait to give Bone and his sister their names? Pp. 1-2**
She wanted to know that they were strong enough to live. There were five puppies in Bone's litter, but only Bone and Squirrel survived.
- 2. How long did Bone live in utter darkness and silence after he was born? Pp. 3-4**
It was eleven days before Bone's eyes and ears were opened.
- 3. What animal on the Merrion property seemed oblivious to the danger that humans posed? Pp. 5-6** Mine, the female fox, seemed to have no fear while Mother taught Bone and Squirrel how to protect themselves and where and when to hide.
- 4. What happened to Mine? Pp. 6-7** Bone and Squirrel heard a blast from a rifle, and then they saw Mine lying still in the garden.
- 5. What happened to Bone's mother? P. 8** The day after Mine was killed, Bone's mother left as she always did. She never came back. The two puppies never learned about her fate. Bone felt she would never have left his sister and him at so young an age unless she could not return to them.
- 6. What was Bone's and Squirrel's connection to Matthias? Pp. 9-10** He was a Merrion. He found the two puppies and tried to befriend them by bringing them food and trying to hold and pet them.
- 7. Why did Bone and Squirrel leave the Merrion property? Pp. 10-11** They saw the man with the rifle again. They heard Mrs. Merrion tell the man that, "They're nuisances." Bone felt it was time to leave.

Chapter 2 Charlie Pp. 12-21

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

varnished floors (6, 12) a liquid spread on a surface and dries into a hard glossy coating

podium (_, 14) a dais or a lectern used by a speaker from which to orate

concoction (11+, 15) to prepare by combining raw materials

pro prowess (12, 15) extraordinary ability or skill

griffin (_, 18) a mythical animal which was part lion, and part eagle

memoriam (8+, 20) in memory of

Comprehension Questions

- 1. Where do we meet Charlie at the beginning of the story in chapter 2? Pp. 12-13**
He and his parents were at his dead brother's eighth grade graduation. It had been nine months since RJ's death. The family was still in the early stages of grief.
- 2. What connection did Charlie's family have with the small town in which they lived? Pp. 14-15**
His parents had been born there as had his brother and Charlie. Charlie often wondered if he was using the same equipment and books that his parents had had in school.
- 3. What was special about the day RJ died? Pp. 16-17**
There was nothing special about the day. Just all usual things happened like getting off the school bus, being met by Sunny, their dog, and Mom having cake ready for them when they stepped in the house.
- 4. What had Charlie created or built that he wanted RJ to see? Pp. 18-19**
Charlie had made his first kite. He hoped RJ would see his masterpiece.
- 5. How had RJ died? Pp. 20-21**
He had tried to get Charlie's runaway kite out of a tree and fell to his death.

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Student's Guide

Chapter 1 Bone Pp. 1-11

Vocabulary

- focus (1)
- intriguing (1)
- vital (1)
- insulated (2)
- tolerated (3)
- encountered (8)
- unsanitary (10)

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Bone's mother wait to give Bone and his sister their names? Pp. 1-2
2. How long did Bone live in utter darkness and silence after he was born? Pp. 3-4
3. What animal on the Merrion property seemed oblivious to the danger that humans posed? Pp. 5-6
4. What happened to Mine? Pp. 6-7
5. What happened to Bone's mother? P. 8
6. What was Bone's and Squirrel's connection to Matthias? Pp. 9-10
7. Why did Bone and Squirrel leave the Merrion property? Pp. 10-11

Chapter 2 Charlie Pp. 12-21

Vocabulary

varnished floors (12)

podium (14)

concoction (15)

proWess (15)

griffin (18)

memoriam (20)

Comprehension Questions

1. Where do we meet Charlie at the beginning of the story in Chapter 2? Pp. 12-13
2. What connection did Charlie's family have with the main town in which they lived? Pp. 14-15
3. What was special about the day RJ died? Pp. 16-17
4. What had Charlie created or built that he wanted RJ to see? Pp. 18-19
5. How had RJ died? Pp. 20-21

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Student's Workbook

Chapter 1 Bone Pp. 1-11

Vocabulary

focus (1) _____

intriguing (1) _____

vital (1) _____

insulated (2) _____

tolerated (3) _____

encountered (8) _____

unsanitary (10) _____

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Bone's mother wait to give Bone and his sister their names? Pp. 1-2 _____

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Comprehension Questions

1. Where do we meet Charlie at the beginning of the story in chapter 2? Pp. 12-13

2. What connection did Charlie's family have with the small town in which they lived?
Pp. 14-15 _____

3. What was special about the day RJ died? Pp. 15-17

4. What had Charlie created or built that he wanted RJ to see? Pp. 18-19

5. How had RJ died? Pp. 20-21

Teacher's Key to Workbook

Please note: The first number in parentheses following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989*.)

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Comprehension Questions

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She wanted to know that they were strong enough to live.

2. **How long did Bone live in utter darkness and silence after he was born?** Pp. 3-4

It was eleven days before Bone's eyes and ears were opened.

3. **What animal on the Merrion property seemed oblivious to the danger that**

the man posed? Pp. 5-6 Mine, the female fox, seemed to have no fear

4. **What happened to Mine?** Pp. 6-7 Bone and Squirrel heard a blast from a rifle, and

then they saw Mine lying still in the garden.

5. **What happened to Bone's mother?** P. 8 She left and didn't come back after Mine

was killed.

6. **What was Bone's and Squirrel's connection to Matthias?** Pp. 9-10 He was a

Merrion. He found the two puppies and tried to befriend them.

7. **Why did Bone and Squirrel leave the Merrion property?** Pp. 10-11 They saw the

man with the rifle again and decided they should leave this property.

Chapter 2 Charlie Pp. 12-21

Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

varnished floors (6, 12) a liquid spread on a surface and dries into a hard glossy coating

podium (, 14) a dais or a lectern used by a speaker from which to orate

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1. **Where do we meet Charlie at the beginning of the story in chapter 2? Pp. 12-13**

He and his parents were at his dead brother's eighth grade graduation.

2. **What connection did Charlie's family have with the small town in which they**

lived? Pp. 14-15 His parents had been born there as had his brothers and Charlie.

Charlie often wondered if he was using the same equipment and books that his
parents had had in school.

3. **What was special about the day RJ died? Pp. 16-17** There was nothing special

about the day. Just the usual things happened like getting off the school bus, being

met by Sunny, their dog, and Mom having cake ready for them when they stepped in
the house.

4. **What had Charlie created or built that he wanted RJ to see? Pp. 18-19** Charlie

had made his first kite. He hoped RJ would see his masterpiece.

5. **How had RJ died? Pp. 20-21** He had tried to get Charlie's runaway kite out of a

tree and fell to his death.

Key Question

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Everything For A Dog
By ann m. martin

Answer these questions in complete sentences. Name _____

1. Ch. 1. What animal on the Merrion property seemed oblivious to the danger that humans posed?

2. Ch. 3. Why was Henry so angry with Matthew, his best friend?

3. Ch. 5. What made Charlie angry when thinking about RJ?

4. Ch. 8. What did Charlie look forward to in the evening of the Fourth of July?

5. Ch. 10. Why was Charlie “slightly humiliated” when he got off the school bus after the first day at school that next fall?

6. Ch. 13. What did Dad show Charlie that was a secret that he was keeping from Mom?

7. Ch. 15. Who did Henry go to visit that Christmas Day?

8. Ch. 16. Why did Henry's dad come to talk to Henry in his room?

9. Ch. 17. Why didn't Buddy come bounding toward Henry, happy and excited as Henry envisioned him doing?

10. Ch. 18. What did Charlie finally realize about the grim day when RJ died?

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Key Questions Answer Key

Answer these questions in complete sentences. Name _____

1. Ch. 1. What animal on the Merrion property seemed oblivious to the danger that humans posed?

Mine, the female fox, seemed to have no fear while Mother taught Bone and Squirrel how to protect themselves and where and when to hide.

2. Ch. 3. Why was Henry so angry with Matthew, his best friend?

Matthew had moved away. Henry had never bothered to make any other friends since Matthew and he were so well suited to each other.

3. Ch. 5. What made Charlie angry when thinking about RJ?

Charlie's parents' lives had changed. They all missed RJ. Charlie called RJ stupid for climbing so high in the tree thinking he was invincible.

4. Ch. 8. What did Charlie look forward to on the evening of the Fourth of July?

Maybe he and his dad can go to the fireworks show at the high school stadium that night."

5. Ch. 10. Why was Charlie "slightly humiliated" when he got off the school bus after the first day at school that next fall?

His mother was waiting for him to get off the bus. No other 5th grader parents were waiting to meet their children.

6. Ch. 13. What did Dad show Charlie that was a secret that he was keeping from Mom?

Dad was making a Victorian dollhouse for Mom for Christmas. Charlie thought that Mom was a little old for a dollhouse since she was all grown up. Dad asked Charlie to help him make the dollhouse.

7. Ch. 15. Who did Henry go to visit that Christmas Day?

He went to see Letty Lewis. She was surprised but pleased to see him. She was alone that day.

8. Ch. 16. Why did Henry's dad come to talk to Henry in his room?

Henry's parents knew something was wrong by the way Henry was acting. Finally Henry told his father he had a secret outdoor dog.

9. Ch. 17. Why didn't Buddy come bounding toward Henry, happy and excited as Henry envisioned him doing?

Buddy had been caught in a leg-hold trap. He had struggled with his enemy (the trap), but couldn't get loose.

10. Ch. 18. What did Charlie finally realize about the gum dog when RJ died?

Buddy being in such dire straits, jogged his memory back to that awful day of RJ's death. He realized it wasn't his fault after all those years of blaming himself and his kids.

Vocabulary Worksheet

Name _____

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. _____ Meaning: _____

2. _____ Meaning: _____

3. _____ Meaning: _____

4. _____ Meaning: _____

5. _____ Meaning: _____

6. _____ Meaning: _____

7. _____ Meaning: _____

8. _____ Meaning: _____

9. _____ Meaning: _____

10. _____ Meaning: _____

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Comprehension Worksheet

Name _____

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

5. _____

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Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name _____

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. _____ Meaning: _____

2. _____ Meaning: _____

3. _____ Meaning: _____

Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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