

***Reading For Comprehension Series***  
***By Lee Ann Berg***

***Matilda Bone***

By Karen Cushman

Published by Dell Yearling Books

Random House Children's Books

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Reading Level 6.3

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Matilda Bone

Reading For Comprehension Series Bundle

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## **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. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989*.)

The page number of a vocabulary word or 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.

And the answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. The answers have sometimes been made in shortened phrases which make the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.

**Prediction:** Study the cover of the book, both front and back. What time in history does the artist wish to depict? What foods does the young girl have in her basket? What do the two small pictures at the top of the cover represent? How would you describe the people on the back of the cover?

## Chapter One Arriving Pp. 1-8

**Prediction:** Why would a person of Medieval Times have a last name such as bone? Discuss how people were given last names.

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

**inflict** (8, 2) afflict, as if by striking or to give by

**subdue** (7, 2) to bring under control, vanquish, curb

**crone** (, 3) hag

**wizened** (, 3) to cause or become dry, wrinkled, shrunken

**implements** (8, 3) tool, utensil, instrument

**milksop** (, 5) an unmanly man

**puny** (, 5) slight in size, power, importance, weak

**draughts** (, 6) game of checkers

**passion** (7, 6) strong feelings

**pallet** (, 7) a small, hard or makeshift bed

### Comprehension Questions

1. **Where did Father Leufredus leave the young girl, Matilda? Pp. 1-2** He left her at the place of Red Peg, the Bonesetter.
2. **How old was Matilda? Pp. 1-2** 14 years old
3. **Who had been her protection from the world as long as she could remember? Pp. 1-2** Father Leufredus
4. **What trade was Matilda supposed to learn? Pp. 3-4** She was to assist a bonesetter.
5. **What special treat had Peg bought as a special treat for Matilda's coming? Pp. 5-6** She bought sausages which Matilda wouldn't eat because the priest had told her sausages were where butchers hid their mistakes.
6. **What did Matilda think of her new employment and place in the world? Pp. 7-8** She considered herself too good for it. She longed to return to the manor.

## Chapter Two Looking for Deliverance Pp. 9-19

**Prediction:** What can you deduce about Matilda's previous life? Where do you think she probably fits in the social stratum of society?

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

**brazier** ( , 10) a vessel used for holding burning coals

**obliged** (5, 10) to bind by a favor or do something as a favor, force, compel

**descend** (5, 14) to swoop down or appear suddenly, as in an attack

**aught** ( , 15) zero, cipher

**appalled** (10, 18) to overcome with horror, dismay

**blasphemy** (12, 18) the act of expressing lack of reverence toward God

**prostrate** (11, 19) lying flat with face on the ground in adoration or submission

**heretical** (12, 19) opinion or doctrine contrary to church dogma

### Comprehension Questions

1. **What did Matilda learn to her dismay the next cold morning? Pp. 9-10** Matilda was to keep the fire going. She complained all the time she was getting the fire going.
2. **What was the next surprise Matilda learned? Pp. 11-12** Breakfast and also all meal making was to be Matilda's work.
3. **What was Red Peg willing to give Matilda for assisting her? Pp. 13-14** Peg would give Matilda room and board and an occasional penny.
4. **What did Matilda think she should do for Peg? Pp. 13-14** She should assist her with reading, writing, and figuring. Peg said she had little use for those three things.
5. **What was the first thing Peg showed Matilda about bone setting? Pp. 15-16** She showed Matilda how pack a limb with comfrey root and wet leather that would shrink as it dried to act as a splint.
6. **What did Matilda do when Peg declared that she had made a bad bargain in thinking Matilda could assist? Pp. 17-18** Since Matilda had no place to go Matilda said softly to show her again, and she would pay attention.
7. **Who was Tom? Pp. 18-19** Peg's husband

## **Student's Guide**

## Chapter One Arriving Pp. 1-8

### Vocabulary

inflict (2)

subdue (2)

crone (3)

wizened (3)

implements (3)

milksop (5)

puny (5)

draughts (6)

passion (6)

pallet (7)

### Comprehension Questions

1. Where did Father Leufredus leave the young girl, Matilda? Pp. 1-2
2. How old was Matilda? Pp. 1-2
3. Who had been her protection from the world as long as she could remember? Pp. 1-2
4. What trade was Matilda supposed to learn? Pp. 3-4
5. What special treat had Peg bought as a special treat for Matilda's coming? Pp. 5-6
6. What did Matilda think of her new employment and place in the world? Pp. 7-8

## Chapter Two Looking for Deliverance Pp. 9-19

### Vocabulary

- brazier (10)
- obliged (10)
- descend (14)
- aught (15)
- appalled (18)
- blasphemy (18)
- prostrate (19)
- heretical (19)

### Comprehension Questions

1. What did Matilda learn to her dismay the next cold morning? Pp. 9-10
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7. Who was Tom? Pp. 18-19

**Student's Workbook**



## Chapter One Arriving Pp. 1-8

### Vocabulary

inflict (2) \_\_\_\_\_

subdue (2) \_\_\_\_\_

implements (3) \_\_\_\_\_

passion (6) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

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## Chapter Two Looking for Deliverance Pp. 9-19

### Vocabulary

appalled (18) \_\_\_\_\_

blasphemy (18) \_\_\_\_\_

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heretical (19) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

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\_\_\_\_\_

7. Who was Tom? Pp. 18-19 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter Three Going to Market Pp. 20-28

### Vocabulary

meager (22) \_\_\_\_\_

clamored (22) \_\_\_\_\_

ecstasy (26) \_\_\_\_\_

beseech (27) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

1. What did Matilda have to do that she had never done before because as Matilda said she would seek higher things? Pp. 20-21 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did Matilda find at market? Pp. 22-23 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did the poultryman become angry with Matilda? Pp. 24-25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did Matilda unknowingly buy to eat for her 3 pennies? Pp. 24-25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What did Matilda encounter on her way home? Pp. 26-28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Workbook Answer Key

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## Chapter One Arriving Pp. 1-8

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She considered herself too good for it. She longed to return to the manor.

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7. **Who was Tom? Pp. 18-19** Peg's husband

## Chapter Three Going to Market Pp. 20-28

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

**meager** (8, 22) thin, lacking richness or strength, poor

**clamored** (8, 22) a noisy shouting, a loud continuous noise

**ecstasy** (9, 26) extreme emotional excitement

**beseech** (7, 27) to beg urgently, implore, plead

### Comprehension Questions

- 1. What did Matilda have to do that she had never done before because as Matilda said she would seek higher things? Pp. 20-21** She would go to market, buy food and cook it for dinner. Peg gave her three pennies and the directions to the market.
- 2. What did Matilda find at market? Pp. 22-23** People were bundled up in woolen scarves and gloves, buying and selling, begging and thieving. All kinds of things were for sale from food to perfumes, beeswax candles, spices, silk, leather and entertainment.
- 3. Why did the poultryman become angry with Matilda? Pp. 24-25** She started to buy a live chicken, but when she learned she had to kill it herself, she dropped it, and it got away. Matilda didn't pay for the chicken.
- 4. What did Matilda unknowingly buy to eat for her 3 pennies? Pp. 24-25** A fishman sold her a rotten, reeking fish.
- 5. What did Matilda encounter on her way home? Pp. 26-28** A well-padded woman was begging Master Theobald, the physician, to take her as an assistant so she could learn from him. Matilda wished that she had been sent to attend this great man instead of Peg.

## Key Questions



## Matilda Bone

### *Key Questions*

Answer in sentences.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What did Matilda think of her new employment and place in the world? Pp. 7-8

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2. What kinds of things did Matilda find going on at market? Pp. 22-23

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3. Who were Arelda, Agrippina, and Gerty? Pp. 47-48

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4. Why did Matilda question having a friend like Tildy? Pp. 58-60

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5. What did Peg tell Matilda about Tom? Pp. 70-71

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**Key Questions Answer Key**

**Matilda Bone**  
**Key Questions Answer Key**

Answer in sentences.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**She considered herself too good for it. She longed to return to the manor.**

2. What kinds of things did Matilda find going on at market? Pp. 22-23

**People were bundled up in woolen scarves and gloves, buying and selling, begging and thieving. There were all kinds of things for sale from food to perfumes, beeswax candles, spices, silk, leather and entertainment.**

3. Who were Arelda, Agrippina, and Gerty? Pp/ 47-48

**They were the leeches that Horanswith Leech used to help Grizzl.**

4. Why did Matilda question having a friend like Tildy? Pp. 58-60

**When Matilda said Tildy shouldn't be laughing, Tildy blasphemously said laughing was like praying, it told God how much one enjoyed the world He made. Father Leufredus probably wouldn't want Matilda to be friendly to Tildy.**

5. What did Peg tell Matilda about Tom? Pp. 70-71

**Tom had great worth, he had a way with him. He was never too busy to talk or listen. He gave great care and comfort to people.**

## **Student Research**

## ***Matilda Bone***

By Karen Cushman

### **Learn about Medieval Times**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

The story of *Matilda* takes place in Medieval Times. On the lines below, list 5 differences between today and living in Medieval Times. If you list entertainment as one of the differences, be sure to tell what we do today as compared to what people in those times did. You will be able to use the information you read about in *Matilda Bone* or you can find additional information by using the internet.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## Comprehension Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## 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. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_