GILBERTO
AND THE
WIND
Marie Hall Ets

A Study Guide
Written by Garrett Christopher
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For the Teacher

This reproducible Little Novel-Ties study guide consists of activities to use in conjunction with the book Gilberto and the Wind. The picture book and its corresponding guide can become an important element in your whole language reading program. The guide contains a synopsis; background information on the author and illustrator; suggested pre-reading activities; exercises that focus on vocabulary; visual literacy, story comprehension, and critical thinking skills; and extension activities that link the story to other curriculum areas.

Suggestions For Using Activities

Pre-Reading Activities – Before You Read

These activities are designed to activate children’s prior knowledge and build concepts or background information. They will motivate children to read and help them to understand the story better. Children can discuss answers to the questions with a partner, in a small cooperative learning group, or with the entire class.

Word Study – Words of Action

This page presents examples and brief instructional material to introduce the concept of verbs, which are identified as action words. Children write the missing action words to complete sentences. Then they solve a puzzle to answer a question posed in the sentences.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

The story questions include a number of literal, inferential, and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. Depending upon the level of the group, you may wish to have children respond orally or in writing. The picture questions help children draw inferences from the illustrations.
BEFORE YOU READ

1. Read the title of the book. Then look at the picture on the cover. Who is Gilberto?

2. Gilberto looks as if the wind is blowing his hat. Look at the pictures in the book. What else can the wind blow?

3. The wind makes many sounds. What words can you think of that tell about the wind and its sounds? Make a list. Share it with a partner.

4. Sometimes the wind is a helper. Other times, the wind is not. Draw two pictures. Show one way the wind can help. Show one way the wind can hurt.
STORY QUESTIONS

1. What does Gilberto do when he hears the wind whispering at the door?

2. How does Wind play a trick on Gilberto with his balloon?

3. How does Gilberto know that Wind loves to play with the wash hanging on the line?

4. What do you think Gilberto means when he says the wind tries on the clothes hanging on the line?

5. What happens to Gilberto’s umbrella in the wind?

6. Why can’t Wind give Gilberto a ride on the pasture gate? What happens when Gilberto climbs on?

7. How does Gilberto’s experience with a kite differ from that of the big boys? Can you think of any reasons that might help explain this difference?

8. How do Gilberto and Wind play with a pinwheel?

9. What plaything does Wind like best of all?

10. When does Wind frighten Gilberto? What does Gilberto do?

11. What would the weather be like on a day when Wind is tired?