



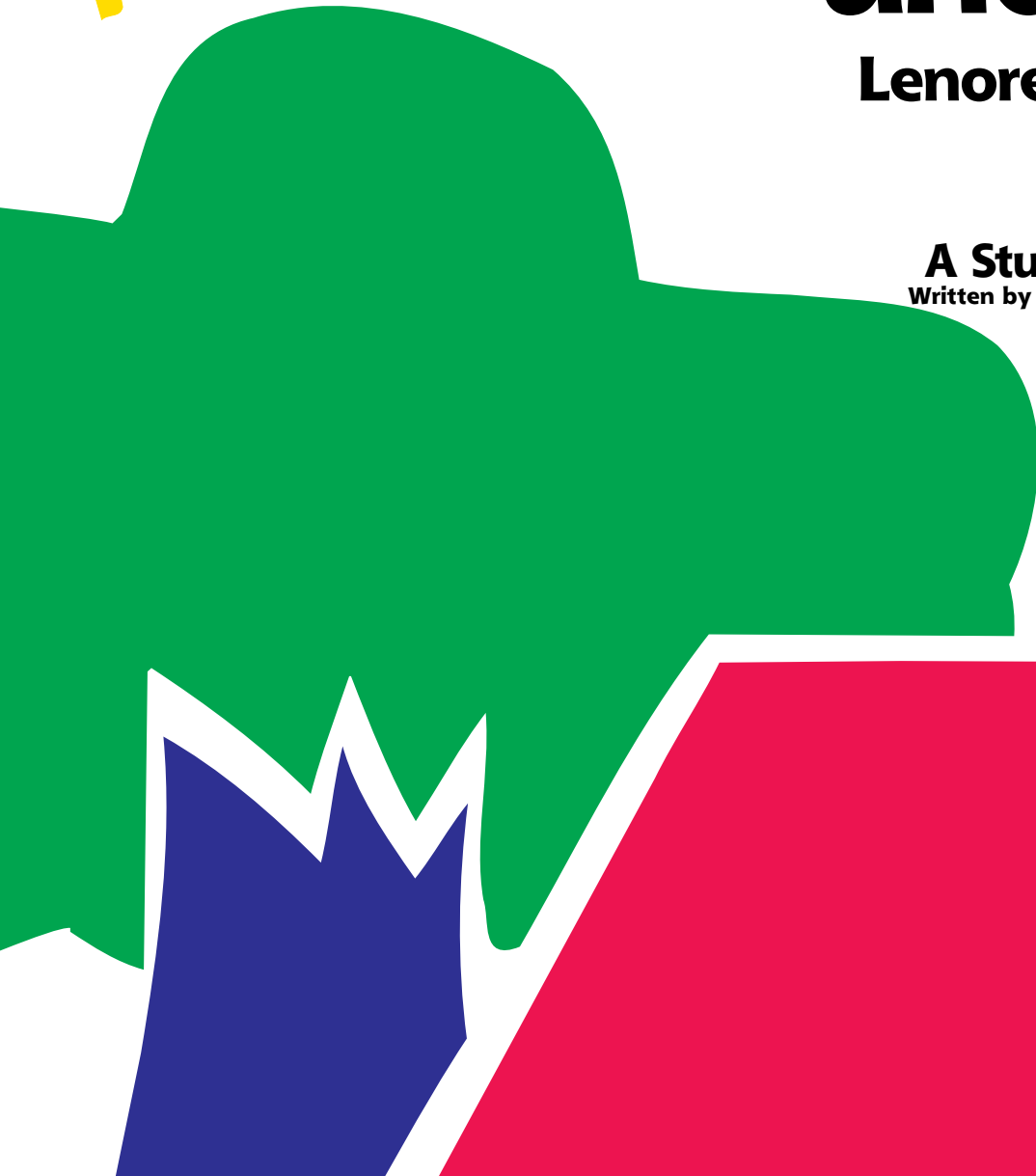
**Little  
Novel·Ties**



# **Anna Banana and Me**

**Lenore Blegvad**

**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 *Anna Banana and Me*. 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, build concepts, or provide 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 Paint a Picture

The text of *Anna Banana and Me* contains many sensory adjectives that help to paint a vivid picture in the reader’s mind. On this page, children read sentences and identify the adjective or adjectives in each sentence. As an extension, they are asked to write their own sentences in which they describe a monster that is so scary that it might frighten even the intrepid Anna Banana.

### 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. The picture questions help focus children’s attention on picture details.

## BEFORE YOU READ



1. Read the title of the book. Then look at the picture on the cover. Where do you think the children are? What are they doing?
2. Find the title page of the book. Then look at the illustration on this page. Can you tell where the children live? Where do you think they go to play?
3. This story tells about being afraid. List things that can be scary or frightening. Share your list with a partner. Check to see if you listed any of the same things.
4. In this story, a shy boy who is often afraid gets over his fear. Draw a picture. Show something that no longer frightens you.

## STORY QUESTIONS



1. Who is telling this story? How do you know?
2. Where do the children live? Where do they like to play?
3. Describe the children's secret hiding place. What does Anna Banana find there? Why is this special?
4. What adventure do the children have in the boy's apartment building? Why hasn't the boy ever explored these places before?
5. How does the boy go home after Anna Banana leaves? Why do you think he decides to take the stairs instead of the elevator?
6. What do the children do to have fun in the playground? Do they feel the same way about swinging?
7. Describe the two sand castles. How are they the same and how are they different? Who cares more about how the castle looks? What makes you think this?
8. What story does Anna Banana pretend to read? How does the boy feel about the story? How can you tell?
9. What does Anna Banana shout before she leaves for home? What effect does this have on the boy?
10. What problem does the boy have? What does he find that helps him solve this problem? What do you think he wishes for?
11. Was the feather really magic? Tell why you think as you do.
12. What do you think will happen the next time the children play together?