



**Little
Novel·Ties**



Caps for Sale

**Told and Illustrated by
Esphyr Slobodkina**

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 *Caps For Sale*. 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. The last activity is-designed to elicit varied responses from children.

Word Study – “Where” Words

This page reinforces story words that describe special locations and colors. Children follow simple coloring directions to demonstrate their understanding of these words.

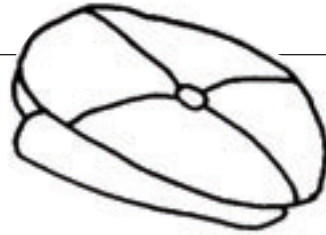
Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

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

BEFORE YOU READ

1. Read the title of the book.
Then look at the picture on the cover.
What do you think this story is about?
2. Can you spot some animals in the picture?
What are they doing?
3. A peddler is someone who sells things.
What do you think this peddler sells?
4. Monkey business is another way of saying “funny business.”
Can you guess what funny things a monkey might do with a cap?
Share your ideas with a partner.
4. Draw a picture. Show what kind of cap you would buy from the peddler.





STORY QUESTIONS

1. How is the peddler in this story different from other peddlers?
2. The word wares means “things to sell.” What wares does this peddler sell? Why do you think the peddler carries his wares in a special way?
3. If you lived in the peddler's town, how would you know he was coming down your street?
4. What does the peddler do when he reaches the great big tree? What surprises the peddler when he wakes up?
5. Where are some of the places that the peddler looks for his missing caps? Where are the caps?
6. Why does the peddler shake his finger at the monkeys? Why do the monkeys shake their fingers at the peddler?
7. The story doesn't tell how the monkeys got the caps. How do you think they got them?
8. How does the peddler get his caps back? What does he do when he gets them back?
9. What advice would you give the peddler the next time he takes a nap under a tall tree?