



**Little
Novel·Ties**



Abby

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 *Abby*. 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 – Contractions

This page presents examples and brief instructional material on contractions. Children are asked to match four contractions with the two words from which they are formed. Then they write the correct contraction to complete a sentence.

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.

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. Look at the pictures on the first few pages. Kevin is Abby's brother. About how old is Kevin? About how old is Abby?
3. Abby loves to look at her baby book. What could you learn by reading someone's baby book? Make a list. Then talk about it with a partner.
4. Baby books often tell about a child's favorite toy. Draw two pictures. Show a toy you liked as a baby and a toy you like now.

Then**Now**



STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is Abby doing when her mother comes home?
2. Where did Abby come from? How old was she when she arrived? What was she wearing? Can you guess what is special about Abby?
3. Who is Kevin?
4. What does Abby want Kevin to do? Why doesn't Kevin want to do what Abby wants?
5. Why does Abby get upset? What words would you use to describe how she is probably feeling? How can you tell?
6. Who helps Kevin understand Abby's feelings? How does this help?
7. What special thing does Kevin want to do with Abby?
8. What does Kevin plan to tell about Abby during show-and-tell?
9. What does it mean to be adopted? In what way does this make Kevin and Abby different? In what way are Kevin and Abby the same?
10. What plan does Abby suggest to her mother? How do you think Abby's mother feels about Abby's idea? How do you think Kevin might feel?