



**Little
Novel·Ties**



The Legend of the Bluebonnet

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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 *The Legend of the Bluebonnet*. 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.

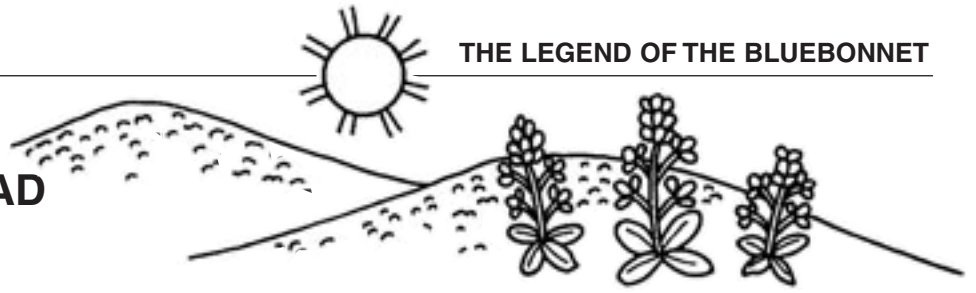
Word Study – Words that Go Together

On this page, children identify words that belong in the same category; for example, words that name family members, the seasons, directions, and times of day. Children are then asked to describe how the words within each group are alike.

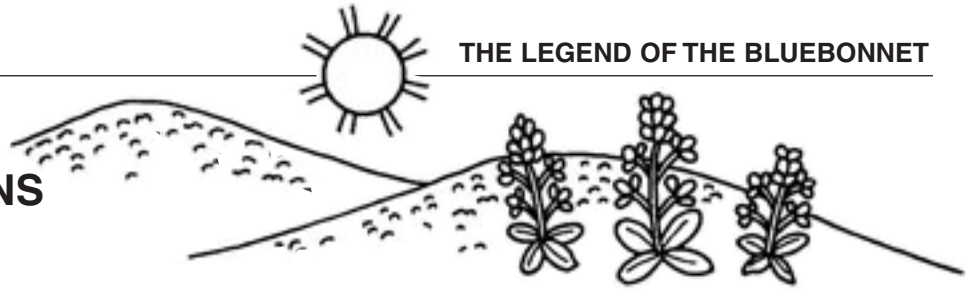
Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

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. What do you think this story is about?
2. The bluebonnet is the state flower of Texas. Find the pictures of bluebonnets on the cover. How do you think this flower got its name?
3. The girl on the cover is holding a doll that she loves more than anything else that she owns. Make a list of your favorite belongings. Then draw a circle around the item that you like the best. Share your list and your reasons for choosing this item with a partner.
4. Draw a picture to show a favorite belonging or an object that you would like to own.



STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why are the Comanche People worried? What do they ask the Great Spirits?
2. How could drought cause illness and death?
3. Who is She-Who-Is-Alone? What happened to her family?
4. Describe the warrior doll. Why is this doll so important to She-Who-Is-Alone?
5. Who is the shaman? Why does he go alone to the hill? What important message does he bring back to the People?
6. What do the man and the woman do when they hear the shaman's message?
7. Why does She-Who-Is-Alone take her warrior doll to the top of the hill? How do you think she feels about what she has done?
8. What surprise greets She-Who-Is-Alone when she wakes up? What do the People believe when they see the hillside?
9. What do you think might have happened if She-Who-Is-Alone had not been willing to part with her doll?
10. The shaman tells the People that the Great Spirits were punishing them because they had become selfish. What proof can you find of that selfishness? What lesson do you think She-Who-Is-Alone taught her People?