

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

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Reading and Comprehension

I. Chapter 1 - September

A. Vocabulary

Make sure you understand the meaning of these words before you read.

detention reassignment mutilation artificial gene
casualty architect bankruptcy recruited perimeter
propulsion asphalt technique legitimate

B. Read Chapter 1 - September.

C. Understanding What You Have Read

Answer the questions in complete sentences. Make sure you include all relevant information.

1. Explain why Holling has to spend Wednesday Afternoons alone with Mrs. Baker.
2. Describe the Hoodhood home. Why does Holling call it the Perfect House?
3. Mr. Hoodhood is unsympathetic to Holling's feelings that Mrs. Baker hates him. Why us this?
4. What happened in the soccer game at recess?
5. Why did the Principal want to see Holling?
What was the result of Holling's visit to the Principal's Office?

D. Thinking About What You Have Read.

These questions ask for your ideas and opinions, therefore there are no right or wrong answers. However, you must give reasons for your answers.

1. What are your first impressions of the following characters?
Holling Hoodhood Mrs. Baker Mr. Hoodhood Mr. Guareschi
2. Mrs. Baker recommended that Holling repeat grade Six math while his classmates are at Hebrew and Catechism classes.
Why do you think she did this?
3. The novel follows Holling's activities through a school year and the first chapter is set in September.
How do you feel at the beginning of a new school year?
What do you look forward to? Is there anything you dread?
Give reasons for your answers.

Grammar Activities - #5



The object of a sentence can be of two types: direct and indirect.

The direct object in a sentence is the person or thing affected by the action described in the verb or verbs.

Examples: *Holling looked at the rats.* (direct object)
Mrs. Baker smiled at Meryl Lee. (direct object)

An indirect object refers to the person or thing that is the direct object.

Examples: *Holling put the cream puffs on the window sill.*
(direct object, indirect object)
Mr. Hoodhood took Holling to the meeting.
(direct object, indirect object)

The indirect object can be placed before the direct object.

Examples: *Holling gave Meryl Le a red rose.*
(indirect object, direct object)

A. Identify the direct and indirect objects in these sentences.

1. Holling remained in school every Wednesday.
2. Holling fetched the cream puffs from the kitchen.
3. The cream puffs were covered in chalk dust from the blackboard erasers.
4. Mickey Mantle was at the store signing baseballs.
5. Mr. Goldman gave twenty-four cream puffs to Holling.
6. Mrs. Baker worked with Holling on his lines .
7. The yellow tights were a great embarrassment for Holling.
8. Holling gave an excellent performance as Ariel.
9. Mrs. Baker won a silver medal at the Olympic Games.
10. At his bar mitzvah, Danny Hupfer became a man.

B. Write five sentences indicating the subject, predicate and object.
Tell whether the subjects and predicates are simple or compound and if the objects are direct or indirect.

Creative Writing - #3

From the selection of the stories of the plays by Shakespeare choose one and read it.

1. Retell it in your own words.
2. Was it a tragedy or a comedy? How do you know this?
3. Holling thought that the characters in Shakespeare's plays often reacted in an unrealistic way.
Is this true or false regarding the characters in the story you chose to read?
4. Why did you choose this particular story?

Creative Writing - # 4

Choose one of the plots for a play by Shakespeare and rewrite it as a short story with a modern setting.

For instance the setting for Romeo and Juliet could be changed from family rivalry to rivals between two gangs.

You may also change the location of your story, but you should retain the same characters.

Integrated Activities - # 5

Much to his surprise, Holling enjoyed reading the plays by William Shakespeare.

Use the resources available to you, including the internet, research this playwright making notes as you read.

Use these notes to write a biography of Shakespeare.

You may include illustrations if you wish.

Integrated Activities - # 6

Although a book jacket is designed to protect the cover of a book, it also gives the publisher an opportunity to bring a book to the purchase or reader's attention.

Design a book jacket for *Day of Tears*, using the following plan.

<i>Inside Flap</i>	<i>Back Cover</i>	<i>Spine</i>	<i>Front Cover</i>	<i>Inside Flap</i>
List of other books by the Author	Information about the novel. <i>This should pique the reader's interest, but not give anything away</i>	Title and Author	Colored Illustration Title and Author	About the Author

Go to your library and look at other book jackets if you need ideas for this activity.