

Stranger By Chris Van Allsburg Study Guide

Probuditi!Heat Wave!The Widow's Broom (25th Anniversary Edition)Alexander and the Wind-Up MouseScarecrowThe Reasons for Seasons (New & Updated Edition)Ben's DreamThink Big With Think Alouds, Grades K-5The StrangerBad Day at RiverbendJust a Dream 25th Anniversary EditionQueen of the FallsThe Wretched StoneThe Z Was ZappedNotice & NoteThe Wreck of the ZephyrBook LustThe Misadventures of Sweetie PieChris Van AllsburgThe Chronicles of Harris BurdickOne Morning in MaineThe Polar ExpressThe Garden of Abdul GasaziA Day's WorkReally, Rapunzel Needed a Haircut!ZathuraOrdinary Mary's Extraordinary DeedMichael Vey 5The Last DragonThe StrangerThe Sweetest FigGreystone Secrets #1: The StrangersTwo Bad AntsThe Alphabet Theatre Proudly Presents the Z was ZappedImogene's AntlersMossyJumanjiYoung Thomas EdisonThe Mysteries of Harris BurdickThe Boy Who Loved Words

Probuditi!

A young girl's good deed is multiplied as it is passed on by those who have been touched by the kindness of others.

Heat Wave!

The game under the tree looked like a hundred others

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Peters and Judy had at home. But they were bored and restless and, looking for something interesting to do, thought they'd give Jumanji a try. Little did they know when they unfolded its ordinary-looking playing board that they were about to be plunged into the most exciting and bizarre adventure of their lives. In his second book for children, Chris Van Allsburg again explores the ever-shifting line between fantasy and reality with this story about a game that comes startlingly to life. His marvelous drawings beautifully convey a mix of the everyday and the extraordinary, as a quiet house is taken over by an exotic jungle.

The Widow's Broom (25th Anniversary Edition)

Left on their own for an evening, two boisterous brothers find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical space adventure board game.

Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse

Presents lessons intended to help students read literature with deeper understanding, introducing signposts that help them identify significant moments in literature and anchor questions that encourage them to read more closely.

Scarecrow

What to read next is every book lover's greatest dilemma. Nancy Pearl comes to the rescue with this

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wide-ranging and fun guide to the best reading new and old. Pearl, who inspired legions of litterateurs with "What If All (name the city) Read the Same Book," has devised reading lists that cater to every mood, occasion, and personality. These annotated lists cover such topics as mother-daughter relationships, science for nonscientists, mysteries of all stripes, African-American fiction from a female point of view, must-reads for kids, books on bicycling, "chick-lit," and many more. Pearl's enthusiasm and taste shine throughout.

The Reasons for Seasons (New & Updated Edition)

At the edge of a cliff lies the wreck of a small sailboat. How did it get there? "Waves carried it up in a storm," says an old sailor. But is it possible that waves could ever get that high? There is another story -- the story of a boy and his obsessive desire to be the greatest sailor, the story of a storm that carried the boy and his boat to a place where boats glide like gulls high above the water and not upon it. Chris Van Allsburg tells that story of the boy and his boat, the Zephyr, in words and haunting, full-color pastel paintings. His sailboats sail the night sky with the stars in pictures so vivid that the reader can almost hear the wind in the sails. Here is a work of unusual artistry that will enchant readers of all ages for many years to come.

Ben's Dream

Francisco, a young Mexican-American boy, helps his

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grandfather find work as a gardener, even though the old man cannot speak English and knows nothing about gardening.

Think Big With Think Alouds, Grades K-5

When he has a dream about a future Earth devastated by pollution, Walter begins to understand the importance of taking care of the environment.

The Stranger

Alexander, a real mouse, wants to be a toy mouse like his friend Willy until he discovers Willy is to be thrown away.

Bad Day at Riverbend

When the dog he is caring for runs away from Alan into the forbidden garden of a retired dog-hating magician, a spell seems to be cast over the contrary dog.

Just a Dream 25th Anniversary Edition

Fourteen black-and-white drawings, each accompanied by a title and a caption, entice readers to make up his or her own story.

Queen of the Falls

On his birthday, Calvin and his friend Rodney see a magician perform, then copy him by hypnotizing

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Calvin's little sister, but the joke is on them when they are unable to snap her out of it.

The Wretched Stone

While spending the summer in Chinatown with his great-aunt, a young boy finds an old ten-man dragon in a shop and gets a number of people to help him repair it.

The Z Was Zapped

Depicts how A was in an avalanche, B was badly bitten, C was cut to ribbons, and the other letters of the alphabet suffered similar mishaps.

Notice & Note

A think-aloud process that comes close to bottling magic Grab a pencil, and you are on your way to dynamic lessons using Molly's three-step planning process. Read Once: Go wild, putting a flurry of sticky notes on spots that strike you Read Twice: Whittle your notes down to the juiciest stopping points Read Three Times: Jot down what you will say so there's no need to wing it in front of the kids Molly helps you focus on just five strategies: asking questions, making inferences, synthesizing, understanding the author's purpose, and monitoring and clarifying. Includes more than 20 ready-made think aloud scripts, activities, templates, and more.

The Wreck of the Zephyr

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This whimsical story of a little girl who wakes one morning to discover she has grown antlers has delighted children since it was first published 15 years ago. The perfect Christmas present for any kid looking forward to a visit from Santa's reindeer--or any reader looking for some year-long fun! The family doctor, the school principal, and even Imogene's know-it-all brother, Norman, fail to resolve her dilemma. Imogene, the cook, and the kitchen maid, however, make the best of things, finding unusual uses for Imogene's new horns. Meanwhile, the problem appears to be solved when Imogene awakes the next morning antler-free. But the family (and the reader) are in for a surprise when Imogene comes down to breakfast. . . .

Book Lust

A strange glowing stone picked up on a sea voyage captivates a ship's crew and has a terrible transforming effect on them.

The Misadventures of Sweetie Pie

Traces the childhood, education, and career of children's literature author and illustrator Chris Van Allsburg.

Chris Van Allsburg

OF COURSE you think I was a horrible old witch, locking fair haired Rapunzel in that tall, tall tower. You don't know the other side of the story. Well, let me

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tell you.

The Chronicles of Harris Burdick

Late on Christmas Eve, after the town has gone to sleep, a boy boards a mysterious train that waits for him: the Polar Express bound for the North Pole.

When he arrives there, Santa offers him any gift he desires. The boy modestly asks for one bell from the reindeer's harness. It turns out to be a very special gift, for only believers in Santa can hear it ring.

"Magical glowing double spread pictures . . . an original and memorable book." - Guardian
"Evocative, realist pastels and atmospheric text." - Sunday Times
"A thrilling tale." - Independent

One Morning in Maine

How did Thomas Edison grow up to be America's greatest inventor? Michael Dooling explores the beginnings of Edison's genius as a young scientist to the man everyone called "The Wizard."

The Polar Express

While he should be studying for a geography test, Ben dreams about a voyage around the world.

The Garden of Abdul Gasazi

Renowned storytellers share tales inspired by the thought-provoking illustrations in Chris Van Allsburg's "The Mysteries of Harris Burdick," including Kate

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DiCamillo, Lois Lowry, Stephen King, and Jon Scieszka.

A Day's Work

When two bad ants desert from their colony, they experience a dangerous adventure that convinces them to return to their former safety.

Really, Rapunzel Needed a Haircut!

When Sheriff Hardy investigates the source of a brilliant light and shiny slime afflicting Riverbend, he finds that the village is becoming part of a child's coloring book streaked with greasy crayons.

Zathura

In this Parents' Choice Gold Award-winning book, Selig collects words, ones that stir his heart (Mama!) and ones that make him laugh (giggle). But what to do with so many luscious words? After helping a poet find the perfect words for his poem (lozenge, lemon, and licorice), he figures it out: His purpose is to spread the word to others. And so he begins to sprinkle, disburse, and broadcast them to people in need.

Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed

Depicts how A was in an avalanche, B was badly bitten, C was cut to ribbons, and the other letters of the alphabet suffered similar mishaps.

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Michael Vey 5

A 25th anniversary edition of the enchanting story of a widow who finds herself in possession of an extraordinary broom after a witch falls into her garden. Some of Minna Shaw's neighbors don't trust her clever broom. "It's dangerous," they say. But Minna appreciates the broom's help. She enjoys its quiet company. But one day two children get taught a well-deserved lesson by the broom. For her neighbors, this is proof of the broom's evil spirit. Minna is obligated to give up her dear companion. Chris Van Allsburg, master of the mysterious, brings this tale to life with moody and memorable pictures that will haunt readers long after the book's covers are closed—now in a new edition to celebrate this beloved book's twenty-fifth anniversary.

The Last Dragon

Through the story of an ordinary man unwittingly drawn into a senseless murder on an Algerian beach, Camus explored what he termed "the nakedness of man faced with the absurd." First published in 1946; now in a new translation by Matthew Ward.

The Stranger

Who will help Mossy return home to Lilypad Pond? Mossy, an amazing turtle with a gorgeous garden growing on her shell, loses her freedom when Dr. Carolina, a biologist, takes her to live in her Edwardian museum. Visitors flock to see Mossy, but it

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is Dr. Carolina's niece, Tory, who notices how sad Mossy is living in a viewing pavilion. She misses the outdoors and her friend, Scoot. Dr. Carolina finds a way to keep the spirit of Mossy alive at the museum. She invites Flora and Fauna to paint Mossy's portrait. Then she and Tory take Mossy home, where Scoot is waiting for her. Jan Brett fans will pore over the colorful paintings of Lilypad Pond and lush borders displaying wildflowers, ferns, butterflies and birds in contrast to elegant spreads of the museum filled with visitors in stylish Edwardian dress and exquisite borders of shells, rocks, crystals and birds' eggs. MOSSY gives readers a fascinating look at nature in the wild and on display in a natural history museum.

The Sweetest Fig

It's a big day for a little girl when she discovers her first loose tooth and makes a trip to the grocery store on the mainland.

Greystone Secrets #1: The Strangers

A newly revised and updated title from nonfiction star GAIL GIBBONS "Gibbons uses simple words and clear, colorful pictures to explain the seasons, the solstices, and the equinoxes. Besides discussing the earth's tilt and orbit, she also comments on what people and animals do in each season of the year."--Booklist

Two Bad Ants

While on their most dangerous mission so far,

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Michael, Taylor, Ostin, and the rest of the Electroclan discover the resistance has been compromised and their families are missing.

The Alphabet Theatre Proudly Presents the Z was Zapped

A terrible Heat Wave descends upon a farm, turning the corn to popcorn and almost cooking the cows, but the girl of the family saves the day.

Imogene's Antlers

* Winter 2018-2019 Kids' Indie Next List Pick * Indie Bestseller * Time for Kids Book Club: Top 10 Summer Reads * New York Times bestselling author Margaret Peterson Haddix takes readers on a thrilling adventure filled with mysteries and plot twists aplenty in this absorbing series about family and friendships. Perfect for fans of *A Wrinkle in Time* and *The City of Ember*! What makes you you? The Greystone kids thought they knew. Chess has always been the protector over his younger siblings, Emma loves math, and Finn does what Finn does best—acting silly and being adored. They've been a happy family, just the three of them and their mom. But everything changes when reports of three kidnapped children reach the Greystone kids, and they're shocked by the startling similarities between themselves and these complete strangers. The other kids share their same first and middle names. They're the same ages. They even have identical birthdays. Who, exactly, are these strangers? Before Chess, Emma, and Finn can

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question their mom about it, she takes off on a sudden work trip and leaves them in the care of Ms. Morales and her daughter, Natalie. But puzzling clues left behind lead to complex codes, hidden rooms, and a dangerous secret that will turn their world upside down. Praise for *The Strangers*: "A secret-stacked, thrilling series opener about perception, personal memories, and the idiosyncrasies that form individual identities." (Publishers Weekly, starred review)

Mossy

The enigmatic origins of the stranger that Farmer Bailey hits with his truck and brings home to recuperate seem to have a mysterious relation to the weather. Could he be Jack Frost? "The author-illustrator has woven a thread of fantasy in and around his realistic illustrations to give the reader, once again, a story that stays in the imagination." -- Horn Book

Jumanji

After being given two magical figs that make his dreams come true, Monsieur Bibot sees his plans for future wealth upset by his long-suffering dog.

Young Thomas Edison

Scarecrows. They perch high above gardens and fields, with borrowed coats and button eyes and pie-pan hands that glint in the sun. What else is there to know about them? Perhaps more than we realize.

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Newbery Medalist Cynthia Rylant's rich and poignant story, powerfully illustrated by Lauren Stringer, will resonate deeply in the hearts of readers, who just might find themselves seeing the world in a whole new way.

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick

From two-time Caldecott winner Chris Van Allsburg, creator of *Jumanji* and *The Polar Express*, comes a poignant story of one hamster's struggle with destiny. Being a pet store hamster isn't much fun for Sweetie Pie, but life in human homes proves downright perilous. As Sweetie Pie longingly gazes out of his cage at the squirrels frolicking in the trees, he wonders if he'll ever have the chance to feel the wind in his fur. Allsburg's expressive, soft-hued illustrations artfully capture a hamster's-eye view of the wide and wonderful world where maybe, just maybe, Sweetie Pie could someday run free.

The Boy Who Loved Words

She could remember standing in a park near the falls, hypnotized by the sight and sound, and holding her father's hand as they took a walk that would lead them closer. That's what everyone wonders when they see Niagara . . . How close will their courage let them get to it? At the turn of the nineteenth century, a retired sixty-two-year-old charm school instructor named Annie Edson Taylor, seeking fame and fortune, decided to do something that no one in the world had ever done before—she would go over Niagara Falls in

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a wooden barrel. Come meet the Queen of the Falls and witness with your own eyes her daring ride!

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