



Resourceful By Nature

NoveList K-8 Electronic Resource

1. What is the Tone of Doreen Cronin's book *The Trouble with Chickens: a J. J. Tully Mystery*?

Funny; Suspenseful

2. What is one of the activities suggested in the Picture Book Extender for the book *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever* by Marla Frazee?

Take students on a walk outside to collect some items from nature—like those that James and Eamon collect—rocks, shells, and pieces of wood. Have the class create a museum and ask individuals to describe each exhibit for the group. For more information about this book and creating museum objects, see the website for this book.

Ask students to think of a time when they and a friend had "the best time ever." Have them draw a picture of what happened. Then ask them to create a caption for their art that represents what their mother might say if she were describing this incident.

3. List two of the questions provided in the Book Discussion Guide for the book *Holes*.

How would you describe Stanley Yelnats? Do you like his character?

"It was a little surprising, [Stanley] thought, that X-Ray was the leader of the group, since he obviously wasn't the biggest or the toughest. In fact, except for Zero, X-Ray was the smallest" (page 53). Why do you think X-Ray is seen as the leader by the other boys? What qualities does he possess?

What changes do you see in Stanley as a result of his time at Camp Green Lake?

Describe the relationship between Stanley and Zero. Why do you think they were able to become such good friends?

Why do you suppose Katherine Barlow becomes the outlaw Kissin' Kate Barlow?

How do the scenes from the past tie into Stanley's current situation?

What meaning does the song have throughout the novel?

Are the curses real?

What are some themes and lessons found in *Holes*?

4. What is one of the techniques recommended for children under the age of two, in the Reading Tips for Parent article?

Take the child on your lap and open the book to the beginning. Don't be upset if the baby grabs the book and begins to chew on it. You can give the child a toy to hold in each hand or buy cloth or vinyl books or keep the book just out of reach of the child.

Turn the pages slowly and talk about what you see as you point to the pictures.

Repeat common, familiar picture names, and encourage your baby's interaction through your own voice tone.

Praise your child when he or she tries a new word, even if they don't say it exactly right. Making approximations is the first step toward reading.

Recite or sing nursery rhymes and songs.

Encourage your child to point and "read" about what he sees in the book.

Sometimes when you say a word the child will try to say it also.

Keep the sessions short. Five minutes will probably be enough time at first. Most babies have a short attention span.

Use books with heavy cardboard or plastic pages. These are great for the babies to look at by themselves.

Choose books with simple bold and colorful shapes and simple single word text.

Obtain a library card for your child.

5. (a) How many books are in currently in the *Scaredy Squirrel* series? (b) What is the title of the most recent *Scaredy Squirrel* book? (c) What Shortgrass member public library has this book in its collection?

(a) There are five books in the *Scaredy Squirrel* series as of February 2011.

(b) The fifth book is titled: *Scaredy Squirrel Has a Birthday Party*

(c) The Brooks Public Library has this book in their collection. (The other libraries listed are not public libraries; rather they are school libraries.)

6. (a) How many books are recommended in the Multiculturalism 4-6 (Canada) Grab and Go Book Lists? (b) What is the title of the book in this list by Rukhsana Khan? (c) What is the Lexile of Rukhsana Khan's book?

(a) There are 22 books recommended in this list.

(b) The title of the book by Rukhsana Khan is: *Muslim child: Understanding Islam Through Stories and Poems*

(c) The Lexile of this book is 560