



**Little
Novel·Ties**



Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday

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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 *Alexander, Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday*. 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.

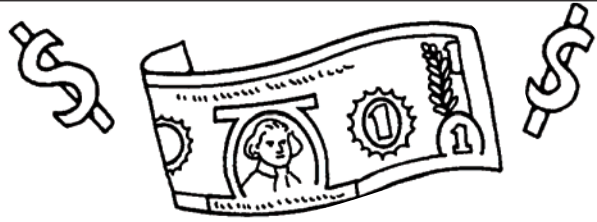
Word Study – Words That Belong Together

This page offers children the opportunity to identify words that belong in the same category; for example, words that name coins, relatives, parts of the body, and so on. Children are then asked to describe how the words are alike.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

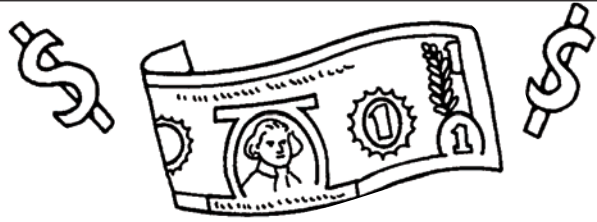
The story questions include a number of literal, inferential, and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. The picture questions help children draw inferences from the illustrations and focus their attention on picture details.

BEFORE YOU READ



1. Read the title of the book. What do you think the story is about?
2. Look at the picture of Alexander on the cover. Do you think Alexander is still rich? What makes you think this?
3. Imagine that someone gave you a dollar. List things you might do with it. Then share your list with a partner. Did you list any of the same things?
4. Alexander's parents encourage him to save his money to buy something special. Draw a picture of something that you think is worth saving for. Then share your picture with a partner.

STORY QUESTIONS



1. What do Alexander's older brothers have that Alexander does not have? How does Alexander feel about this?
2. What happened last Sunday to make Alexander feel rich?
3. What advice does each family member give to Alexander? What advice would you give him?
4. What does Alexander buy first? How much does he spend? How does he try to get some of this money back?
5. What bets does Alexander make? How does he feel when he loses the bet with his mother? Do you think his mother is fair?
6. What fines must Alexander pay? Do you think these fines are fair? Why or why not?
7. Imagine that you are Anthony. What would you say when Alexander explains that he "rescued" your candy bar?
8. Describe Alexander's purchases at Cathy's garage sale. Does he get good bargains? Explain your thinking.
9. What problem does Alexander have by late Sunday afternoon? How does he try to solve it?
10. What does this old saying mean, "Don't let money burn a hole in your pocket"? Is this good advice for Alexander? Tell why you think as you do.