

Teacher Guide

Grades 3–4

The Whipping Boy

Sid Fleischman

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THE WHIPPING BOY

by
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Teacher Guide

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Note

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Skills and Strategies

Thinking

Brainstorming, classifying and categorizing, evaluating, analyzing details, synthesizing ideas

Literary Elements

Character, setting, plot development, story map, figurative language

Vocabulary

Synonyms/antonyms

Comprehension

Predicting, sequencing, cause/effect, inference

Writing

Narrative, expository—report writing, descriptive, different types of poetry, persuasive

Listening/Speaking

Participation in discussion

Chapter 7
Being an account of a great mix-up
 pages 19-22

Vocabulary

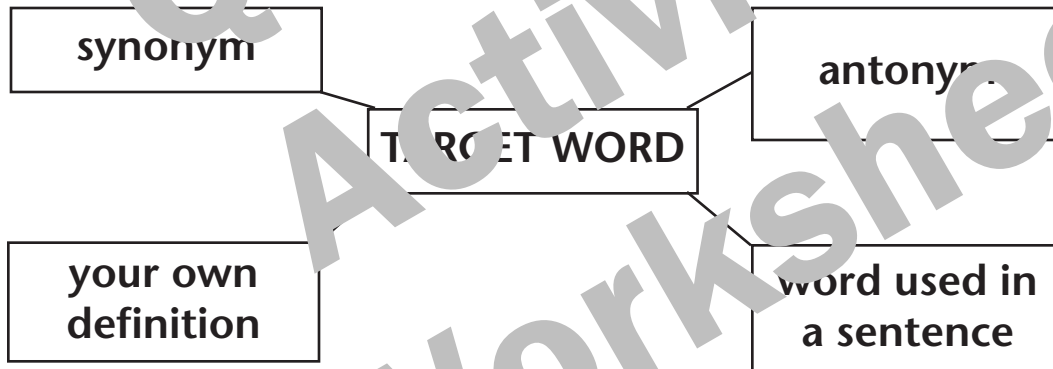
rummaged 19	handkerchiefs 19	scribbled 19	curs 20
document 20	erupted 20	calculating 20	scheme 20
mangy 20	flummoxed 21	arrogantly 21	gnat 21
witless 21			

Vocabulary Activity

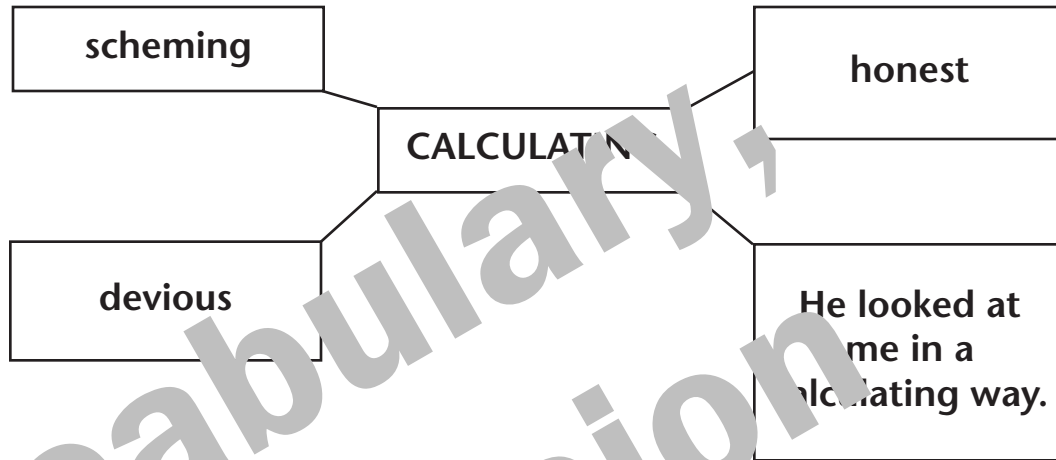
List a synonym and an antonym and make a word map (following the format below) for the vocabulary words: *curs*, *calculating*, *witless*, *arrogantly*, and *mangy*. For example:

VOCABULARY WORD	SYNONYM	ANTONYM
curs	roundrels	he
calculating	scheming	honest
witless	foolish	clever
arrogantly	haughtily	modestly
mangy	shabby	elegant

Word Map Format:



Example:



Questions For Discussion

1. What do the cutthroats use to write the ransom note? (p. 19—They use a scrap of paper, a sharpened hawk’s feather, and the juice of a beet root.)
2. Why won’t the cutthroats believe that the prince can’t write? (p. 20—“Kings and such-like are learned to write and read as soon as they fall from the cradle.”)
3. What do you know about the schooling of the prince that the cutthroats do not? (The prince refuses to learn, thinking that he will always get someone else to read to him and to write his name for him.)
4. Why does the knowledge that Jemmy can read and write cause the cutthroats to think that something is amiss? (p. 21—since they think that a prince, but not a shipping boy, can read and write, the cutthroats think that the boy has stolen identities.)
5. Why is Jemmy going along with the identity switch? (pages 20 & 21—He has a scheme, and will try to trick the cutthroat into letting the prince go.) What do you think Jemmy’s scheme might be? (Discuss on your own.)

Post-reading Activities

1. What do you think might have happened to Prince Horace had he been alone when captured by the cutthroat? With that in mind, write a diary entry leading to this chapter.
2. Make illustrations to go with your written work. How do you picture Prince Horace, Cutwater and Billy?
3. Will Jemmy be able to carry out his scheme? What do you think will happen next?

Story Map



Characters _____

Time and place _____



Problem _____



Goal _____



Beginning → Development → Outcome



Resolution _____

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