

## *Teacher's Guide*

### A Short Summary of the Story

Two unlikely companions, a prince and a whipping boy, run away from a castle for two different reasons. (A whipping boy is used by the king and the defenders of the prince to be the recipient of any punishment the prince may need.) The two encounter two highwaymen who plan to ransom the prince, a hot-potato man who helps them, and a girl with a dancing bear who also befriends them. The two escape from the highwaymen twice, once in the forest where the whipping boy outwits them and in the sewers under the city where they are again found by the outlaw. The story has a happy ending when Jemmy, the whipping boy, and Horco, the prince, who was originally known as Prince Brat, become friends. Jemmy voluntarily returns to the castle with Horco to become further educated, as well as become a true companion for the prince.

**Please note:** The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989*.)

The page number of a vocabulary word or the range of page numbers may not correspond to the published text of the book you are using. If that is the case, you will find the vocabulary word and/or the basis for the comprehension questions and answers on pages that are approximately the same as those used in creating this study guide.

The answers to the comprehension questions are not always written in complete sentences. Sometimes they have been written into shortened phrases. This makes the answers easier to find as well as limiting the space needed to give the answers.

**Prediction and reading preset:** The teacher should read the back cover to the children and then ask: What will the two boys' adventure be like? How can two boys coming from such different backgrounds get along?

## **Chapter 1 In which we observe a hair-raising event Pp. 1-4**

Prediction: What does a hair-raising event mean? Who will scare whom, or what else may happen?

### **Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)**

**defiantly** (7, 2) full of defiance, bold

**contrite** (13, 4) penitent, repentant

**exasperation** (10, 4) vexation, irritation

**bawl** (, 4) to cry or cry out loudly

**gloat** (7, 4) to think about something with triumphant and often malicious delight

**obliged** (5, 4) force, compel or to bind by a favor

### **Comprehension Questions**

# SAMPLE

- 1. What was the hair-raising event? P. 1** Wings were tied to the hair and came off the heads of the wearers.
- 2. What are some synonyms for "spank?" P. 2** thrash, cuff, smack, whacks, etc.
- 3. Why did they send for Jemmy? P. 2** Jemmy was the whipping boy. He was needed to receive the prince's punishment for misbehaving.
- 4. Why wasn't a prince ever spanked? P. 2** He was never spanked because when he grew up to be a king, he might remember who hit him and do away with his punisher.
- 5. Why was Prince Brat so annoyed with Jemmy? P. 4** Jemmy never cried or yelled when he was hit.
- 6. What threat did the prince make toward Jemmy? P. 4** The prince told Jemmy that you will either bawl or you will be replaced as whipping boy, and you will be returned to your former existence.

## Chapter 2 Wherein the prince cannot write his name Pp. 5-6

Prediction: Discuss the title of this chapter. What does the title of this chapter tell us?

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**thrashing** (5, 5) beating, whipping,

**ferrets** (10, 5) animals that are related to weasels

**rascal** (5, 6) a mean or dishonest person; a mischievous person

**smirking** (\_, 6) to wear a self-conscious or conceited smile; simper

### Comprehension Questions

1. **Why did Jemmy expect to be thrashed the next morning? P. 5** As usual, the prince wouldn't know his lessons. The tutor would have to punish the prince (Jemmy).
2. **What was Jemmy's father's occupation? P. 5** a rat-catcher
3. **Why was Jemmy looking forward to the whipping he would take for Prince Brat? P. 6** Jemmy would have his freedom. The prince had threatened to turn Jemmy back to his former station in life if he didn't yell or bellow through-out the whipping.
4. **What was the outcome of Jemmy attending the prince's lessons? P. 6** Jemmy learned to read, write and add.

## Chapter 3 The runaways Pp. 7-8

Prediction: From the title we can guess someone runs away. But since the word is plural (runaways) who will run away, and why?

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**gallows** (7, 8) a frame from which criminals are hanged; also the punishment of hanging

**scragged** (\_, 8) killed (made up word by author)

### Comprehension Questions

- 1. What two mischievous schemes did Prince Brat find boring? P. 7** 1. He dumped bullfrogs in the moat to keep everyone awake. 2. He hog-greased the knights' saddles so they slipped off their horses and clattered to the ground.
- 2. Why did the prince choose to run away with Jemmy? P. 8** He had no friends, he was afraid of the dark, and he probably relished the idea of getting Jemmy in trouble.

# SAMPLE

*Student's Guide*

**SAMPLE**

## Chapter 1 In which we observe a hair-raising event Pp. 1-4

### Vocabulary

defiantly (2)

contrite (4)

exasperation (4)

bawl (4)

gloat (4)

obliged (4)

### Comprehension Questions

1. What was the hair raising event? P. 1
2. What are some synonyms for "spank?" P. 2
3. Why did they send for Jemmy? P. 2
4. Why wasn't a prince ever spanked? P. 2
5. Why was Prince Brat so annoyed with Jemmy? P. 4
6. What threat did the prince make toward Jemmy? P. 4

**SAMPLE**

## Chapter 2 Wherein the prince cannot write his name Pp. 5-6

### Vocabulary

thrashing (5)

ferrets (5)

rascal (6)

smirking (6)

### Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Jemmy expect to be thrashed the next morning? P. 5
2. What was Jemmy's father's occupation? P. 5
3. Why was Jemmy looking forward to the whipping he would take for Prince Brat? P. 6
4. What was the outcome of Jemmy attending the prince's lessons? P. 6

**SAMPLE**

## **Chapter 3    The runaways    Pp. 7-8**

### **Vocabulary**

gallows (8)

scragged (8)

### **Comprehension Questions**

1. What two mischievous schemes did Prince Brat find boring? P. 7
2. Why did the prince choose to run away with Jemmy? P. 8

# SAMPLE



*Student's Workbook*

**SAMPLE**

## Chapter 1 In which we observe a hair-raising event Pp. 1-4

### Vocabulary

defiantly (2) \_\_\_\_\_

contrite (4) \_\_\_\_\_

exasperation (4) \_\_\_\_\_

bawl (4) \_\_\_\_\_

gloat (4) \_\_\_\_\_

obliged (4) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

1. What was the hair raising event? P. 1 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are some synonyms for "spank"? P. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did they send for Jemmy? P. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why wasn't a prince ever spanked? P. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why was Prince Brat so annoyed with Jemmy? P. 4 \_\_\_\_\_

6. What threat did the prince make toward Jemmy? P. 4 \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE**

## Chapter 2 Wherein the prince cannot write his name Pp. 5-6

### Vocabulary

thrashing (5) \_\_\_\_\_

ferrets (5) \_\_\_\_\_

rascal (6) \_\_\_\_\_

smirking (6) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Jemmy expect to be thrashed the next morning? P. 5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was Jemmy's father's occupation? P. 5 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why was Jemmy looking forward to the whipping he would take for Prince

Brat? P. 6 \_\_\_\_\_

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4. What was the outcome of Jemmy attending the prince's lessons? P. 6 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 3 The runaways Pp. 7-8

### Vocabulary

gallows (8) \_\_\_\_\_

scragged (8) \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

1. What two mischievous schemes did Prince Brat find boring? P. 7 \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why did the prince choose to run away with Jemmy? P. 8 \_\_\_\_\_

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## *Workbook Answer Key*

# SAMPLE

***Please note:*** The first number in parenthesis following a vocabulary word indicates the approximate grade level at which the student should know the definition of the word while the following number indicates the page on which the word was found. (Word grade placement is per *EDL Core Vocabularies in Reading, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, 1989.*)

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## Chapter 1 In which we observe a hair-raising event Pp. 1-4

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

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**gloat** (7, 4) to think about something with triumphant and often malicious delight

**obliged** (5, 4) force, compel or to bind by a favor

### Comprehension Questions

1. **What was the hair raising event?** P. 1 Wigs were tied to chairs and came off the heads of the wearers.
2. **What are some synonyms for "spank"?** P. 2 the sh, cuff, smack, whacks, etc.
3. **Why did they send for Jemmy?** P. 2 Jemmy was the whipping boy. He was needed to receive the prince's punishment for misbehaving.
4. **Why wasn't a prince ever spanked?** P. 2 He was never spanked because when he grew up to be a king, he might remember who hit him and do away with his punisher.
5. **Why was Prince Brat so annoyed with Jemmy?** P. 4 Jemmy never cried or yelled when he was hit.
6. **What threat did the prince make toward Jemmy?** P. 4 The prince told Jemmy that you will either bawl or you will be replaced as whipping boy, and you will be returned to your former existence.

## Chapter 2 Wherein the prince cannot write his name Pp. 5-6

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

**thrashing** (5, 5) beating, whipping

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**smirking** (, 6) to wear a self-conscious or conceited smile; simper

### Comprehension Questions

1. **Why did Jemmy expect to be thrashed the next morning? P. 5** As usual, the prince wouldn't know his lessons. The tutor would have to punish the prince (Jemmy).
2. **What was Jemmy's father's occupation? P. 5** a rat-catcher
3. **Why was Jemmy looking forward to the whipping he would get for Prince Brat? P. 6** Jemmy would have his freedom. The prince had threatened to turn Jemmy back to his former station in life if he didn't yelp or bellow through-out the whipping.
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## Chapter 3 The runaways Pp. 7-8

### Vocabulary List with Definitions (grade appropriate #, page where word is found)

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### Comprehension Questions

- 1. What two mischievous schemes did Prince Brat find boring? P. 7** 1. He dumped bullfrogs in the moat to keep everyone awake. 2. He hog-greased the knights' saddles so they slipped off their horses and clattered to the ground.
- 2. Why did the prince choose to run away with Jemmy? P. 8** He had no friends, he was afraid of the dark, and he probably relished the idea of getting Jemmy in trouble.

# SAMPLE



*Key Questions*  
**SAMPLE**

## Key Questions Answer Key

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following question in complete sentences.

### Chapters 1-4

1) Why did Jemmy look forward to the whipping he would take for Prince Brat? (Pg. 6)

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2) How did Jemmy's father make money from rat-catching? (Pg. 11) \_\_\_\_\_

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Chapters 5-8

What did the prince bring along with Jemmy and him when they ran away? Page 16

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If the cutthroats saw any soldiers, what threat did they make to Jemmy? Page 23

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Chapters 9-12

How did Jemmy try to convince the outlaws that they needed to send Horace with the ransom note? Page 31

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How was Jemmy discovered hiding in the straw used for a bed? Page 40 \_\_\_\_\_

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## Key Questions Answer Key

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following question in complete sentences.

### Chapters 1-4

- 1) Why did Jemmy look forward to the whipping he would take for Prince Brat? (Pg. 6)**

Jemmy would have his freedom. Horace had threatened to turn him back to his former station in life if Jemmy didn't yelp or bellow throughout the whipping.

- 2) How did Jemmy's father make money from rat-catching? (Pg. 11)**

He sold the rats to dog-and-rat pits where dogs and rats were pitted against each other in a fight to the death.

### Chapters 5-8

- 3) What did the prince bring along with Jemmy and him when they ran away? (Pg. 16)**

He brought a basket filled with great tasting food, china plates, silverware, and a gold crown.

- 4) If the cutthroats saw any soldiers, what threat did they make to Jemmy? (Pg. 23)**

If the outlaws saw even one soldier, they would crack the prince's neck.

### Chapters 9-12

- 5) How did Jemmy try to convince the outlaws that they needed to send Horace with the ransom note? (Pg. 31)**

He said in an understatement, "The king will "only" torture you."

- 6) How was Jemmy discovered hiding in the straw used for a bed? (Pg. 40)**

When asked by Cutwater where the prince was, Horace told him that Jemmy was under the straw.

## Studying Personalities

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion questions:

Do you see any changes in the two main characters' personality traits from the beginning to the end of the story? Think about what this tells you of story plots. On what is a good story plot based?

Studying the Personality Qualities of both the Prince and Jemmy

Read chapters 1-10. Get into groups of three or four. Brainstorm with your group. List some character qualities for both the prince and Jemmy to this point in the story. Use the back of this sheet if you need more room.

Prince Horace

SAMPLE

Jemmy

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Further activity:

Use the information you have collected about the personalities of both Jemmy and the prince. On this page write about either the prince or Jemmy. Be sure to explain how this boy has changed. Use examples to prove what you state such as: *The prince was lazy. He would not even try to learn his lessons. He could not read or write even though his tutor encouraged him in every way possible.*

SAMPLE

## Research Activity

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Look up the Medieval Ages on the Internet, in an encyclopedia, or another source. Write down 5 facts you learn about the Medieval Ages that you didn't know before.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE**

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the included word list.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAMPLE**

\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

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8. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Comprehension Worksheet*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Answer five comprehension questions in complete sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **SAMPLE**  
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4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Vocabulary and Comprehension Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following blanks to list and define vocabulary words chosen from the word list.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

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Answer three comprehension questions in complete sentences.

# SAMPLE

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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