

UNIT STUDY
GRADES

4-7

PREQUEL TO *THE WORLDS NEXT DOOR*

VINCENT IN WONDERLAND



C. E. WHITE

A UNIT STUDY FOR HOMESCHOOLERS

The *Vincent in Wonderland* Unit Study complements the fantastic adventure novel for middle-grade readers. It combines biblical values and educational activities in six weeks of supplemental curriculum.

Story passages, chapter assignments, activities, and thoughtful questions foster biblical discussion while exercising reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. Vocabulary exercises and puzzles expand students' vocabulary and provide an opportunity for students to use both critical thinking and reference skills. Memory verse copy work helps students learn Scripture as they practice their handwriting, and coloring sheets offer a fun opportunity for creative expression.

C.E. White (Connie) is an author of middle-grade fantasy, children's books, and Christian non-fiction for adults. Her works are fueled by a lifetime love of both Jesus and reading, and she longs to inspire people of all ages with imagination and words of hope. She has a passion for helping people embrace the lives they have instead of the ones they imagined. Most of Connie's favorite books are at least one-hundred years old, so chances are high that she's secretly a time-traveler who got stuck in the future. She doesn't seem to mind, though, and lives happily in the mountains of North Georgia with her husband and two cats. More at www.cewhitebooks.com.



C.E. WHITE'S



Unit Study

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C.E. White (Connie)



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Week One

A New World

Memory verse:

*“Open your mouth for the people who
cannot speak, for the rights of all
the unfortunate.”*

– Proverbs 31:8



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

barrow

debacle

insensible

knoll

moor

scuttled

Word Scramble

Decode the vocabulary words in the following list.

ROMO

LNKOL

ECLABED

EBISNIELN

UDETSTLC

RBWARO

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter one in the book.

Story Passage

He ran out of the garden, through the moor, and into the marsh. Each footfall sent mud splattering everywhere, and he loved it. Mud was real – the stuff underneath, hidden by the grass and the flowers. His parents only seemed to care about how everything looked on top – everything, including him. He reached the bank of the big creek and plopped down on a sandy patch of ground, chest heaving from his run. Beetles scooted across the surface of the water, and a heron landed with a faint splash in the muddy shallows of the shore opposite him. He ran his hands across the grains of sand, enjoying the feel of the rough grit. The iridescent green of a water bug glinted in the sunlight, and Vincent reached for his bottle, then rose to his knees and leaned out to capture it. It danced out of reach, and he sank back to watch it skate away. A rustling near the far hillock drew his attention, and a head bobbed into view. He frowned as the face appeared. *Hendrik.*

.....
**HOW CAN YOU FOCUS ON OTHER’S HEARTS INSTEAD OF THEIR
OUTWARD APPEARANCES?**
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What do you think Vincent meant by, “His parents only seemed to care about how everything looked on top – everything, including him?”
2. Explain how this connects with why Vincent loved the mud so much.
3. What about Vincent made the rabbit start to understand why he was chosen to help Sian?

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter two in the book.

Story Passage

“Well...” Vincent said, half to himself, “...if I could help prevent severe calamity in any world, I’d like to think I would try, notwithstanding the risk.” He stared at the ground for a moment. “Are people in danger?”

“Certainly,” the rabbit said. “This people will, in all likelihood, never exist at all if the danger is not thwarted.”

“So, you’re saying I’d be protecting this world’s – Sian’s – future?”

“Unquestionably.”

“Why me?” Vincent asked. “I haven’t really got any skills. I’m mostly a disappointment according to anyone you might ask.”

“Well, then, let’s not bother asking them,” the rabbit said. “Going by all the wrong criteria, I’ll wager. I seem to remember that being a common problem among the humans.” Its nose twitched in a rabbit-like manner for the first time. “You know, I do think people usually ask more questions about the ‘new worlds’ bit.”

Vincent shrugged and looked around. “I see worlds everywhere. This one’s just bigger.”

“Hmm....” the rabbit said. “I begin to understand why you were chosen.”

TALK ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU HAD TO DECIDE IF YOU
WOULD HELP SOMEONE.

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Do you think Vincent felt he was a good choice to help protect Sian?
2. What do you think the rabbit meant when he said the humans were always “going by all the wrong criteria?”
3. What was it about Vincent that made the rabbit start to understand why he was chosen to help Sian?

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter three in the book.

Story Passage

“Yes, we’re right behind you.” Vincent brushed off his trousers and didn’t mention the fall. Several slight thumps told him Atralius had already bounded ahead.

“Vincent,” Alice said, “I hope you won’t think me forward, but would you hold my hand? I’m a bit afraid of falling, too, and it would be comforting to know where something – someone – is in this dark.”

“Of course.” His face grew even hotter. “I’m sorry I didn’t offer.” Alice’s hand in his own calmed him somehow. “The dark doesn’t seem quite as complete now. It’s almost as if someone turned on a light.”

“Is it?” Alice said. “I’m glad. I feel the same – as if I could never get lost now that you’re holding my hand, and I don’t even know where we’re going!”

Vincent grew certain his face flushed brighter than his hair and remained infinitely grateful for the darkness.

.....
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL FOR A NEW FRIEND?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why did Vincent’s face feel hot?
2. What clues were there that they both felt better while holding hands?
3. Why would Vincent’s face flush “brighter than his hair?”

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter four in the book.

Story Passage

Alice's voice interrupted his thoughts. "Atralius, where is the light coming from?"

"Why, I made it, obviously."

"Do you mean you just created it out of nothing?" Vincent asked.

"Certainly not. You can't make something out of nothing. But I need no tools to do so if that's what you mean."

"So," Alice said, "you could've lit our way the whole time instead of letting us stumble about in the dark?"

"Yes, of course, I could. Would you have preferred it?"

"Yes!" Alice and Vincent said in unison.

Alice laughed. "We told you we couldn't see!"

"Yes, but you didn't say you didn't like it," Atralius answered. He still pattered around the room, giving them no clues as to his aim.

Vincent laughed, too. "He is right, I suppose."

"Yes, we must be very definite with our preferences from now on," Alice said, "though I did find it pleasant to meet someone in the dark and get to know them before I'd ever seen them. If I could choose how to meet new people in the future, I should always want to do it in the dark, though I can't think how I'd arrange it."

.....
HOW HAS GOD HELPED YOU COMMUNICATE WITH SOMEONE?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why didn't Atralius understand that Vincent and Alice would have preferred to see while they were walking to the tree?
2. What did Alice mean when she said that they "must be very definite with our preferences from now on?"
3. Why do you think Alice found it pleasant to meet Vincent in the dark and then decided she would like to meet people that way in the future?

Day Five

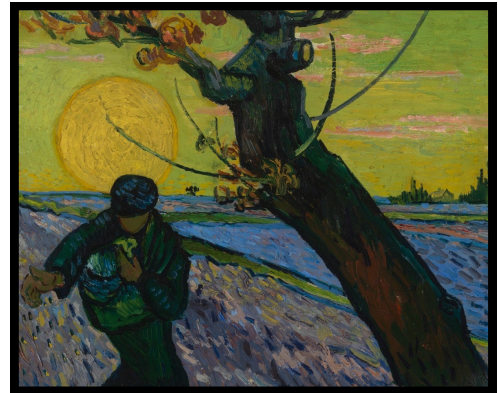
Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter five in the book. Then, recite this week’s memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today’s activity.

Activity: I Think I Saw the Jabberwock (Storytelling – With Art)

MATERIALS:

- Large easel with paper
- Any type of paint and brush
- Water & paper towel to clean brush
- A timer (without sound)
- Chairs (or enough seats for people playing)



Vincent van Gogh, The Sower (1888)

Fantasy or reality? Paul Gauguin taught Van Gogh to paint from his imagination. Vincent always painted what he saw, but this time he painted a few works from memory. He wrote: ‘Gauguin [...] has proved to me a little that it was time for me to vary things a bit – I’m beginning to compose from memory’. This is one of the works in which he tried the new approach. – Van Gogh Museum

INSTRUCTIONS:

You need a large enough room for players to move and switch seats quickly. There needs to be enough seats for as many players minus the one who will be standing at the easel. One player will stand at the easel and start the timer. The player will then begin by saying “While I was in Wonderland...” and tell whatever story their imagination thinks up, while painting a small part of that story on the easel. At any time (or when the timer runs out) the player says, “I think I saw the Jabberwock.” At this point, all players must switch seats, and the player left standing must then be at the easel to continue the story. It is important to keep the timer hidden so as not to clue the other players in on when the switching may occur. To make this a bit harder, add the rule that there is no switching with the seats directly next to yours.

*OPTIONAL: You could still do this activity without the seat switching and make it a table activity of just creative storytelling and art with a smaller group by just passing the paper around in turns.

.....
**HOW CAN WE SHOW APPRECIATION FOR THE DIFFERENT GIFTS GOD
GIVES TO EACH OF US?**
.....

Week Two

A Quest Begins

Memory verse:

*“We look not at the things which are seen,
but at the things which are not seen; for the
things which are seen are temporal, but the
things which are not seen are eternal.”*

—2 Corinthians 4:18



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

comfit

conspicuously

decadent

dispensation

irrelevant

veritable

Secret Message

The rabbit left a secret message for you that uses this week's vocabulary. Can you decode it?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V						
12	18	14	10	14	22	8	11	1	26	12	10	12	18	14	5	7	4	14									
		7			13	14	4	26	12	7	6	24	14			14	19	16	24	8	10	26	8	20			
		8			1			21	14	22	7	21	14	20	22	14			26	20			5	8	15	4	
						11	8	15	12	18				7	20	21				5	14	12				10	8
21	26	14	12	26	20	3	21	26	10	16	14	20	10	7	12	26	8	20									

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter six in the book.

Story Passage

He delicately removed his paw from the overeager clasp of her hand. “Not a wizard...and you don’t have magic powers, either. Just because you don’t understand something doesn’t mean it’s magic. This world magnifies things. It’s young, you see, and young worlds have so much more energy... just like children. And you can’t help but absorb some of it, my dear, especially being young yourself. The gifts, though, those are yours – different in your own world, but still there. Vincent...” – he twirled a paw in the air as if introducing him to an audience – “has a talent for seeing things in ways other people can’t...seeing, in fact, things the way they really are...a talent which he just discovered if I’m not mistaken. And you already had a knack for finding things, I’ll warrant. The longer you’re here, the stronger these gifts will become.”

Vincent garnered his courage. “And why is it stronger if we hold hands?”

“Because you’ve given the energy somewhere to go.”

.....
**DISCUSS HOW YOU CAN USE ONE OF THE GIFTS GOD
HAS GIVEN YOU.**
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Can you think of something you have seen that seemed like “magic,” but really wasn’t?
2. Explain why Alice and Vincent seem to have special powers in Sian.
3. Why do you think Alice and Vincent are stronger together?

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter seven in the book.

Story Passage

The colors washed the room in dances of their own, and he thought he may die from sheer wonder. Tears stung the backs of his eyes, and he made a show of ending the dance by bowing to Alice and releasing her to ease his vision.

It’s beautiful, but...staggering. And this is to get stronger? How will I stand it?

“Atralius,” he said, “you said our gifts will get stronger while we’re here?”

“Yes, I’m fairly certain of it.”

“And just how strong will they get?”

The rabbit turned to look at him. “Why, as strong as you let them, I’d think.” He changed topics but kept talking. “You’ll each need a supply of cakes and tea....”

“Wait,” Vincent interrupted him. “You mean we control how strong they get?”

“Well, if you are very irresolute about them, it could result in some instability. That’s how gifts usually are, you know. They’re there, but if you don’t commit to them, they’re not worth very much.”

HAVE YOU EVER DOUBTED YOUR ABILITY TO USE YOUR GIFTS?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. How do you think Vincent was feeling about what he saw during his dance with Alice?
2. Do you think Vincent was worried about his gift? Why?
3. What did Atralius mean by being “irresolute” about their gifts?

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter eight in the book.

Story Passage

“And when we go back to our world?”

“Your world won’t have the youth of this one to invigorate the gifts, so they’ll be tamed, I think, but still in effect, yes.”

“So, however strong this special sight becomes here, it’s likely to be at least somewhat changed when I go home?”

“Yes, I’m fairly sure, though as I said, it will only become as strong as you let it.”

That’s what I was afraid of.

His new sight, however incredible and magical, transformed everything drastically. How would the water beetles look in this new sight with their shiny backs and the little ridges on their legs? And the birds with their delicate wisps of feather? And his mother’s face with its stern mouth and creases around the eyes? He pictured the crisp lines of stalks grown tall all summer, swaying in the breeze as he stared across the creek. And then he thought of what he’d seen the night before – that melding of one thing into another and the rabbit’s total transformation. What might things at home look like? And people?

Could I ever grow accustomed to it?

DO YOU EVER WORRY ABOUT THINGS CHANGING? HOW CAN GOD HELP YOU WITH THESE WORRIES?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What is Vincent most worried about?
2. How can you tell from this story passage that Vincent already had a special gift of sight before he came to Sian?
3. Do you think Vincent’s worries about his gift are going to cause problems later in the story?

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter nine in the book.

Story Passage

Alice stopped. “Let’s play a game. Shall we, Vincent?”

“A game?”

“Yes. I’m still not quite over seeing that little creature. I’m a bit nervous, and I’m sure a game would help get our sense of adventure back.” She nodded firmly. “You play croquet, yes?”

“Alice....” He started to protest.

“It’ll only take a few minutes, Vincent.” She had rightly guessed his thoughts. “I know we can’t play a proper game.” She smiled at him. “We need something to cheer us up, though. We can take turns being wickets, and we could use sticks for the mallets and these seed pods that fall from the trees – or whatever they are – for the balls. We’re even in a nice sort of flat place for it. It’ll be awfully inexact, but who cares?”

Vincent watched her with a mixture of annoyance and amusement. She gathered a few of the seed pods from the ground and made a pile of them in the center of the clearing. She reached for a stick.

“And this will make a perfect mallet.”

He started toward her. “No, Alice, wait....” But it was too late. The thing in her hand curled around her arm as fast as lightning, teeth snapping viciously.

.....
HOW CAN GOD USE YOU TO BE A COMFORT TO OTHERS?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why does Alice want Vincent to play croquet with her?
2. Why is Vincent watching Alice “with a mixture of annoyance and amusement?”
3. Why do you think Alice did not notice the thing that she picked up wasn’t a stick?

Day Five

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter ten in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activity.

Activity: "STARRY NIGHT" COOKIES based on Vincent van Gogh's painting *Starry Night*

MATERIALS:

- Any store-bought sugar cookie dough (or you can make your favorite recipe from scratch)
- 2-3 containers of white or vanilla frosting
- Several small bowls & spoons for mixing
- Food coloring
- Small plates
- Toothpicks
- plastic knives
- baggies



Vincent van Gogh, The Starry Night (1889)

Vincent had been keen to create a night painting for some time. But not in a conventional way, using black and grey tones. He preferred to use warmer colours like yellow, green and orange, and deep blue tones. - Van Gogh Museum

INSTRUCTIONS:

Recall what Vincent said about Atralius when he first used his gift to look at him. Vincent said, "He's like a star in the heavens! Only...all the colors!" Take a few minutes to study the painting *Starry Night*. Notice the swirls of colors that Van Gogh used in the night sky.

Cut your dough into round circles and bake your sugar cookies according to directions. Let them cool. Use the food coloring to mix up many different colors of frosting. Be sure to leave some white! Then on the small plates experiment by placing a color on the plate in 4-5 small dollops (about a tsp) and adding white to make it lighter and a tiny amount of food coloring to make it darker. This will allow you to make different shades of colors. When you are finished mixing colors, use them to decorate your cookies like the painting, or like you imagine what Vincent saw when he looked at Atralius. Use the tip of your plastic knife and/or the toothpicks to make swirls in your frosting.

Variations: Use baggies to pipe on swirls of icing. Make cupcakes instead of sugar cookies.

Enjoy your treats with a cup of tea and some Jordan Almonds (these are modern comfits).

HOW CAN WE SHOW APPRECIATION FOR THE DIFFERENT GIFTS GOD GIVES TO EACH OF US?

Week Three

Madness

Memory verse:

*“Let your eyes look directly ahead and let
your gaze be fixed straight in front of you.
Watch the path of your feet, and all
your ways will be established.”*

— Proverbs 4:25-26



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

cacophony

silhouette

steadfast

vehemently

unpalatable

vitality

Word Search

Find and circle the hidden vocabulary words from weeks 1-3 in the puzzle below. Words may appear up, down, or diagonally.

S T E A D F A S T U N P A L A T A B L E Y
V C I N S E N S I B L E K D H J L V B U U
R X S C U T T L E D I B V I E J B U G B C
L U M W W N C Y S C W U V E L S Z D U D M
S W L R V C U H V I O Z D I F E W E E V L
G R G D R D D R S E R M L Y T M D N G O S
K L N S W J S Y I D R R F J L A S J I J Y
N P N W K W A P L I V I E I A H L X O I Z
O D M N J D V H H S E G T L T O X I I D B
X H Z Z H R W K O P H X U A E M A K T T A
M R B R P N R A U E E Y O E B V N A O Y R
V O W M W L G F E N M E M Z O L A Q N A R
L K O D Z Q F G T S E C X Z G N E N S V O
W C X R V N D J T A N W K F D K O C T U W
T K G D S A Q T E T T C S Q E C T O K P I
A D E C A D E N T I L T Q S B K O D Z O Y
S X P F Z N A S R O Y I J Q A T N W A T F
Z Q E U O Y A C K N R P B I C N W O M A L
R G C B N T O A B O M S F S L S M R L W H
C A C O P H O N Y X A C M N E F Z F X L Q
N E U A V G C O N S P I C U O U S L Y U I

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter eleven in the book.

Story Passage

“I wouldn’t go the way you’re headed, either,” the Cheshire cat said. “Everyone who goes that way ends up mad.”

“But I don’t want to go among mad people,” Alice said.

“Oh, you can’t help that,” the cat said, its grin growing to alarming proportions. “We’re all mad here. I’m mad. You’re mad.” He pointed at Vincent with his tail. “He’s definitely mad.”

“We’ll take our chances.” Vincent nodded curtly. “Thank you for your kind assistance.”

“Don’t say I didn’t warn you,” the cat said.

Alice curtsied to the cat as it veered off, heading deeper into the forest. They had gone several paces when she looked back over her shoulder. “Vincent! I was going to ask that cat a question, but it’s not there! Where could it have gone so quickly?”

Vincent turned to see nothing at all. “I don’t care. Good riddance.”

She frowned. “What’s wrong with you?”

“I don’t like that cat or whatever it is. I think it’s one of those creatures I’d rather not meet in the forest.”

“But it could talk!” Alice protested.

“Yes, and I didn’t like it any better for all that.”

**TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS IN THE WORLD THAT
DISTRACT US.**

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why do you think the Cheshire Cat called everyone “mad,” and what does he mean by that?
2. Why do you think Vincent doesn’t like the Cheshire Cat?
3. Why did Alice think it was important that the Cheshire Cat could talk?

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twelve in the book.

Story Passage

“But I think we should try something,” Vincent added.

“OK.”

“You said maybe you got off track because you didn’t really want to find the Jabberwock anymore, right?”

“Yes.”

“So, what if you tried to find something else?”

“But what would I look for instead?” she asked.

“What if you tried to find more of the animals we’re to meet along the way? You’re still excited about that, I’ll warrant.”

She grinned. “Oh, yes. That’s just what I am looking forward to.” She cocked her head and looked up at the tops of the trees. “Do you think I could, though? I wouldn’t know what to look for. I’ve only searched for objects when I knew what I wanted to find. How can I find something if I don’t know what it is?”

“That’s what we’re going to test,” he said.

.....
HOW DOES GOD HELP YOU WHEN YOU NEED A NEW PLAN?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does Vincent come up with as an alternative plan for Alice?
2. Why do you think he is making this plan?
3. Why doesn’t Alice really want to find the Jabberwock?

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter thirteen in the book.

Story Passage

Vincent let her do the talking. He didn't like the cat's tone and didn't see a reason to interact with it.

"Hmm," the cat said. "It seems you're going in exactly the direction you did yesterday, so who's to say you haven't already gone off track again?"

"Oh," Alice said, "well, of course, it's possible, but one can't go thinking that way all the time or you'd never get anywhere."

"Too true." The cat hopped lithely to the next tree. "Well, I suppose you'll have a difficult decision when you reach our meeting point from yesterday. After all, from there, it's danger every way except back the way you came."

Vincent glanced at Alice's face and was relieved to see her mouth form a determined line.

"I suppose it is," Alice said, "but we'll go on regardless once we figure out the way. Some things are more important than keeping oneself safe."

The cat jumped to a tree a little further off. "Such bravery...." Its voice trailed off as it sauntered away. "I hope it is rewarded."

.....
HAVE YOU EVER PUT THE NEEDS OF SOMEONE ELSE BEFORE YOUR OWN?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Do you think the Cheshire Cat is trustworthy? Why or why not?
2. How does Alice handle the second meeting with the Cheshire Cat differently?
3. What are some real professions in our world that could use Alice's quote "Some things are more important than keeping oneself safe?"

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter fourteen in the book.

Story Passage

“I see those dark moods passing when you think I’m not paying attention. Your feelings practically hang above your head on a placard.”

“Oh...” He felt his face reddening and looked at his feet.

“Don’t be ashamed of it. I shouldn’t like it if you changed. Most people keep everything so stuffed away.”

He smiled. “I think so, too. I can’t imagine how they live that way. I know I couldn’t. My feelings just boil over like a pot. But don’t you think me strange? Everyone else does.”

She frowned. “‘Everyone’ doesn’t know everything, all squished up in their own heads like they are. They don’t know about this place, do they?”

Vincent smiled. “No, unless they’re very good at keeping fantastic secrets.”

“And they’d think us mad if we told them,” Alice said, “but they’d be wrong.”

Vincent smiled.

“So, if they tell you you’re strange,” Alice continued, “you just remember they don’t know everything, and they’re often wrong. I think you’re extraordinary. And to be extraordinary is, by definition, to be something other than ordinary. And if one isn’t ordinary, I’m afraid one might very often feel out of place. So, promise me, Vincent. Promise me you won’t let them make you ordinary.”

HAVE YOU EVER FELT OUT OF PLACE?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does Vincent mean when he says his feelings “boil over like a pot?”
2. What does Alice mean when she says, “Most people keep everything so stuffed away?”
3. How do you think Vincent felt about what Alice said to him about being extraordinary?

Day Five

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter fifteen in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activity.

Activity: Field of Blue Flowers based on Van Gough's painting: *Iris*



MATERIALS:

- Canvas (8x10 or larger)
- Tempera paint**
- Paint brushes in different widths and sizes (flat and round)
- Pieces of white paper for trial and error
- Water containers & paper towels

***Van Gogh used oil paints. A beginner set usually starts around \$25-30. If oil paints are something you'd like to research and experiment with, this may be a fun activity to incorporate that into.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read about Van Gogh's painting, *Iris*, online.

Iris (Getty Museum): <https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/object/103jnh>

Iris | Van Gogh Gallery: <https://www.vangoghgallery.com/painting/irisesindex.html>

Take time to study the shapes and colors of the flowers. Notice where the flowers are darker colors and where they are lighter colors. Notice how some of the petals and stems look outlined. Take some time to experiment on a piece of paper with the different types of brushes to see what kind of brushstrokes they make. Try out a flower on the piece of paper and then begin your field of flowers, like the one in *Wonderland*, on your canvas.

VAN GOGH OFTEN USED GOD'S CREATIONS TO INSPIRE HIM. HOW DO THEY INSPIRE YOU?

Week Four

Loss

Memory verse:

“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

—1 Peter 4:8



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

etiquette

derision

imperious

indecorous

malevolence

posterity

Secret Message

The rabbit left a secret message for you that uses this week's vocabulary. Can you decode it?

A 26-letter alphabet key is provided for decoding the message:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	

W	X	Y	Z

The secret message, encoded using the alphabet key, is as follows:

```

      " 7 13      3 6 21 24      7 13      3 6 21 24 "
    6 23 8 19 21 12 14 6 3 /      2 13 6      24 21 11 11 12 2
      12 14 1 6 24 12 7 9 22 19 10      " 22 9 8 13
    12 17 3 6 8 7 24 7 9 22      11 6 13 21 25 12 7 24      12 22
    22 12 14 1 19 10      9 17 21 8 8 6 1 2 21 11 19 6      2 13 6
      14 21 19 6 25 7 19 6 17 8 6      7 4      10 7 9 24
      3 6 24 12 22 12 7 17      12 22      22 9 24 6      2 7
    7 4 4 6 17 3      1 7 22 2 6 24 12 2 10      21 17 3      5 7
      21 5 21 12 17 22 2      21 19 19      24 9 19 6 22      7 4
      1 24 7 1 6 24      6 2 12 16 9 6 2 2 6 "
  
```

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter sixteen in the book.

Story Passage

A pang of worry stabbed his heart.

What if I miss her? What if I trample her as I feared she would me when I was small? What if I don't find them in time?

But he tried to put all the awful possibilities from his mind. He had to act. He strode swiftly, and his every move caused whirlpools of color to spin away from him like ribbons caught in the wind. He took some pleasure in smashing the enchanting flowers in his wake.

Drafted trickery to be so beautiful but so dangerous!

Even with his blindfold, the flowers gave no hint of their treacherous power.

I guess my vision has its limits.

He turned to the left and saw nothing but blue all the way to the edge of the wood. He looked to the right – nothing. He looked straight ahead and....

No, no, no! Not now!

A whirling shadow floated along the edge of the glen, as dark as the rabbit had been light.

.....
**HOW DOES GOD HELP YOU TO STAY CALM WHEN THE
SITUATION IS OUT OF YOUR CONTROL?**
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why was Vincent taking pleasure in smashing the flowers?
2. What did Vincent mean when he said, "I guess my vision has limits?"
3. What do you predict is making the dark shadow Vincent sees?

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week's memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter seventeen in the book.

Story Passage

"I'm terribly sorry, caterpillar." Alice furrowed her brow. "It must be very frightening to be a first. We didn't mean to frighten you more."

"Frighten me?" It sounded indignant. "As if a trifling little thing like you could do anything to frighten someone like me."

"Trifling? Why, if I was at my right size...." She straightened her dress as if that would settle her temper. "Three inches is such a wretched height."

"I am EXACTLY three inches high, thank you very much, and it's a very good height indeed!" the caterpillar yelled. "So very rude! I came here so no one could find me, not to have witless creatures imperiling my life. I've got posterity to think of! There will never be more firsts, after all. Must preserve myself. Now, go away!"

"Well, if that's your plan, there's not much of a point." Alice crossed her arms every bit as stubbornly as the caterpillar had earlier.

"And what do you mean by that?" the caterpillar asked.

"I'd rather not be safe if it meant living alone in that mushroom for the rest of my days! You may as well let the Jabberwock get you for all the good you can do in there."

.....
HOW CAN GOD HELP YOU FACE YOUR FEARS?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What did the caterpillar mean when he called Alice "a trifling little thing?"
2. Why do you think this made Alice so upset?
3. Whose side of the argument do you agree with more? The caterpillar's or Alice's? Explain.

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter eighteen in the book.

Story Passage

Vincent closed his eyes.

I can’t bear this sight if it’s going to show me what people have lost, how it changes them....

And then his eyes popped open.

Alice was shaking me, and my vision didn’t change.

He unwound one hand from Duke’s fur and reached forward, tentatively placing it on Alice’s shoulder. She smiled back at him. He returned the smile as if his only purpose had been reassurance. The thunderous creek prevented conversation and opening his mouth at all was likely to result in swallowing a great gulp of water, so he didn’t speak.

Nothing. Everything’s normal!

He removed his hand and attempted to evaluate if the bleary edges in his regular sight had resolved, but with the water constantly splashing in his face, he couldn’t properly test it. He closed his eyes again—a nagging fear settling in his gut.

The rabbit’s words came back to him: “Practice your gifts...the stronger they are, the better your chances....”

Then we’re all doomed because my gift is gone altogether.

HOW DO YOU REMEMBER TO TRUST GOD IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What was it that was scaring Vincent so much about his gift?
2. Why do you think nothing happened when he touched Alice?
3. Do you really think that Vincent’s gift is “gone altogether?”

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter nineteen in the book.

Story Passage

“No.” The caterpillar cast his eyes down and held several hands up. “I’m afraid it’s me who should apologize.”

“I wasn’t apologizing,” Vincent said. “And how did you get here so fast? There’s no way you can crawl as fast as Duke swam down that stream.”

“Silk – you know, riding the winds through the trees. Quite invigorating. Haven’t done it in ages.”

“I’m so glad you enjoyed your trip.” Vincent flexed his tired hands and suddenly felt very resentful of his wet clothes.

“Thank you, young master.” The caterpillar actually bowed this time. “And not only for your well-wishes, but for calling me to task. I shall go with you. It is my duty.” His antennae twitched as he wiggled his nose.

“You’re welcome,” Vincent grumbled. *I rather wish I’d kept my mouth shut.*

“You were right, my boy. Nobility such as I shouldn’t be more cowardly than the nobodies of the world.” He crawled up beside them and continued in his blustering manner. “I’m ready to embark upon my worthy quest.” It prattled on saying nothing of any importance with a great many words as Alice and Vincent both watched.

“He is absolutely infuriating,” Alice whispered to Vincent.

“Yes, well, I suppose we’ll just have to put up with him.”

.....
HOW DO YOU CONTINUE TO BE KIND TO OTHERS WHEN THEY TRY YOUR PATIENCE?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What does the caterpillar mean when he says, “calling me to task?”
2. What do you think of the caterpillar’s character and how he speaks to the children?
3. Why do you think Alice finds him “absolutely infuriating?”

Day Five

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter twenty in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activity.

Activity: THE CREEK based on Van Gogh's painting, *Bank of the Seine*

MATERIALS:

- Thick art paper like cardstock (you could also do a canvas)
- Tempera or acrylic paint
- Paint brushes in different widths and sizes (flat and round)
- Pieces of white construction paper
- Water containers & paper towels



INSTRUCTIONS:

Read about van Gogh's painting, *Bank of the Seine*, online. Vincent van Gogh - *Bank of the Seine* - Van Gogh Museum, <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0077V1962>

Take time to visit this site. Here you can zoom in on the painting and see the brushstrokes up close. Which ways are the brushstrokes going in the water? Which way are they going in the trees and on the bank? Notice that there are many colors used in creating the water, not just blue. How are the colors used to show light and dark? Use this painting as inspiration for how you think the creek that Alice and Vincent traveled on in Wonderland may have looked and create your own picture.

ALICE AND VINCENT HAD TO RELY ON DUKE TO GET THEM DOWN THE CREEK. HOW DO YOU RELY ON GOD TO GET YOU THROUGH THE RAPIDS OF LIFE?

Week Five

Reflections

Memory verse:

“For I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with little, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.”

—Philippians 4:11-12



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

astute

din

macabre

optimism

resolute

respectable

Word Scramble

Decode the vocabulary words in the following list.

ECABAMR

STAUET

IDN

EERTOSUL

RSCPETEBELA

ISIPMOTM

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-one in the book.

Story Passage

“But if I go back with this sight, it’ll all be worse than it already is. I’ll never be like other people.”

“Vincent,” Alice said gently, “I hope you never are. And didn’t you just finish saying you were glad I wasn’t like others?”

“Yes, but...” – he hesitated – “I’ve a feeling it isn’t as hard for you. You’re so happy and comfortable. I bet everybody loves you. I’m lucky to go an hour without upsetting someone.”

“If you become like them,” Alice said, “you’ll only be doing just what you hate – letting them take all your color. If you did that, I think you’d be simply gray and miserable.”

“But it’s so hard not having anyone who understands you.”

She squeezed his hand. “I don’t think life is meant to be easy, but I think it’s meant to be good...in the long run, if you can take it as it comes and do the best you can where you are.”

And despite his discouragement, Vincent smiled and thought of meeting grown-up Alice in Paris, her colors still wild and vivid. *Would that pay for all in between?*

“Just try, Vincent. We need to sleep now, but just try to want it...at least a little.”

“I will, Alice. I promise.” A pang of worry stabbed his heart.

HOW CAN GOD REMOVE YOUR INNER BURDENS?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why is Vincent so worried about being like everyone else?
2. What does Alice mean by “letting them take all your color?”
3. Do you think what Alice said to Vincent will help him get his gift back?

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-two in the book.

Story Passage

“Well,” Cyrus said, “that was a near miss.” He looked up at Vincent. “No thanks to you.” The haughty accusation in his voice was unmistakable.

Vincent said nothing, not certain where this was coming from.

“I overheard your conversation last night,” it said.

“Eavesdropping, were you?” Vincent didn’t like its tone.

“It’s hardly my fault you didn’t hear my return.” It gesticulated with its many arms. “And that’s not the point. I gather you are resisting the very thing we need to kill this brute!”

“I...” Vincent shrugged. The caterpillar was right, and he felt disheartened and deflated, but.... “I don’t want it, OK?” he burst out. “I can’t make myself want something I don’t want!”

“Selfish!” Cyrus said. “Only thinking of how it will affect you!”

“That’s not fair,” Alice said. “He’s trying!”

But her defense only made him feel worse.

It’s just like home. I can’t do anything right, and I’m letting everyone down. Even the one person who believes in me.

**HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE YOU LET SOMEONE DOWN?
WHAT DID YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Do you think it is okay that Cyrus listened to Vincent and Alice’s conversation?
2. Do you think Vincent is being selfish like Cyrus said?
3. Why did it make Vincent feel worse when Alice defended him?

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-three in the book.

Story Passage

“Look, Alice!” He pointed ahead. “We may not have any food, but we can finally get a drink!”

She squinted through the trees. “I think you’re right! I am thirsty!” Alice ran on ahead of him. “It is pretty,” she called back. “I’ve never seen a pond so smooth.”

Something nagged at the back of his mind – the image of the creek at home rose, its tiny currents circling out in all directions from insects and fish and the like. “It looks almost unnaturally calm from back here,” he called out.

Just like the field of flowers did.

Alice knelt to lean over the water’s edge just as he had in pursuit of the water bug beside his own pond before coming to Sian.

“How clear my reflection is!” she cried. “It’s better than a looking glass!” She dipped her hand into the water. “Oh!” She yanked at her arm awkwardly. “Vincent!”

He finally caught up to her at the shore. “What is it?”

“Something’s got me! I can’t pull my arm back! I don’t believe this is water at all! It’s sort of webby, and....” She screamed and lurched forward. Her arm continued to sink jerkily further and further into the pool, just like something on the other side was dragging her in.

.....
HOW CAN GOD HELP YOU USE YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO BE DISCERNING?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What was the first clue that something wasn’t right with the pond?
2. How did Vincent use his knowledge to reason that the pond was suspicious?
3. What do you think is underneath the pond?

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-four in the book.

Story Passage

Its eyes widened, and its long neck crooked back in an exaggerated expression of surprise that would’ve been comical if Vincent had been in the mood for laughing. “You can see her? Rrwawwk!”

“Yes! She’s right there!” Vincent pointed in frustration.

“I don’t see anything except my own reflection. Rrwawwk!”

“Must you make that racket after every sentence?” Vincent nearly yelled. It wasn’t quite cordial, but his nerves stood on edge already, and that shriek was enough to push anyone over.

“What racket? Rrwawwk!” The bird seemed oblivious to Vincent’s rudeness.

“Wait a minute.” Vincent eyed the bird. “You say you don’t see anything?”

“Never do. Rrwaaak!”

“You, Duke?” Vincent asked the tove.

“Only my reflection like the bird says! Can you?”

He ignored the question and asked the same of the caterpillar.

“No, I’d no idea you could see any more than we could!” Cyrus answered.

OK, so my regular sight is altered enough for this at least. He turned back to Alice.

.....
**THINK OF A TIME WHEN TOO MUCH NOISE MADE YOU
MISS SOMETHING IMPORTANT.**
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What distracted Vincent from realizing what the bird was saying to him?
2. Why does Vincent think he’s the only one who can see Alice? Do you agree?
3. Do you think Vincent will free Alice from the pond? How?

Day Five

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter twenty-five in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activity.

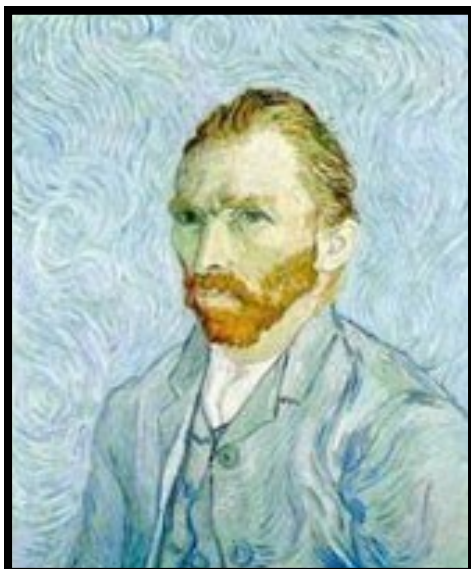
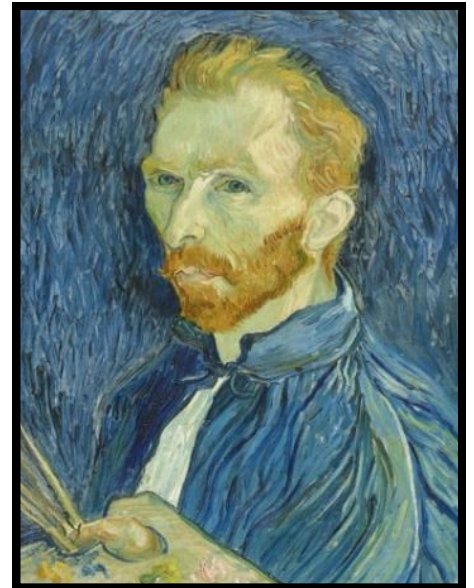
Activity: REFLECTION based on Van Gogh's self-portrait paintings

MATERIALS:

- Thick art paper like cardstock (or a sketch pad)
- Colored pencils with erasers
- Optional: an easel or table easel for sketch pad
- A large handheld mirror, or mirror on stand or wall that can be easily seen into
- Ruler

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

There are several self-portraits of Vincent van Gogh that were both drawn and painted. He used a mirror when he did his self-portraits. Do you think that the colors that he used were a sign of how he was feeling? It's true. Van Gogh said he actually felt calmer in the painting with the light blue swirling background.



INSTRUCTIONS:

Take some time to look at the shape of your own face and head. Is it more round or oval? Try drawing it first. Once you get the shape how you like it, use your ruler to lightly draw a straight vertical line directly down the middle. Then draw a horizontal line lightly across where you think your eyes should be, and another where you think your mouth should be. This will help you keep your facial features in proportion. Once they are drawn on, you can erase the pencil lines and begin to color your face and hair with the colored pencils. Then add your shoulders and body. Finally, decide what mood you want your self-portrait to have and add the background colors that you think will show this mood.

HOW DO YOU REFLECT GOD IN YOUR LIFE?

Week Six

Sacrifice

Memory verse:

“Whoever wants to become prominent among you shall be your servant; and whoever wants to be first among you shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

—Mark 10:43-45



Vocabulary

Word List

As part of your daily work this week, you'll need to use a dictionary and thesaurus to look up definitions, synonyms, and antonyms for the words below.

bleak

gimbal

fainted

spectral

undulating

wistful

Word Search

Find and circle the hidden vocabulary words from weeks 4-6 in the puzzle below. Words may appear up, down, or diagonally.

H W P E S O T H Y P F F W P D I N C Q C Q
E C R K K H F F S E X B B H L W Z O Z I V
E T I B T D A S T F K W C K F G Q M A Q S
S A I W B V O S P W Z L T O L I P S H K W
O V M Q X W L U T F W T G T W M B P I D F
E G X A U O L W U U R Q I L A B V E R M N
O G Z J I E M E A N T W R R N A L C O A S
X N B F N F T T A P D E Y E G L Q T Q C L
G S K E D H C T L B G U Z E S P S R W A S
G C W I E M K I E L D C L A G O C A Z B X
W Q T N C R W M L E E V C A B G L L F R R
I W D T O V J P V A R D S P T P C U V E E
S W J E R M Y E V K I M Q Q E I M P T P G
T Z T D O K Y R G S S L H Q M D N H K E Z
F D D S U X Z I Z I I G H F U T W G L A S
U K M B S G Y O W F O O D J A D M S O Z U
L O X M D O P U A Z N T B M F V G M E D X
Q P W I L G Q S G S R Q S R E E L A G Z R
R N L Z J W V G R E S P E C T A B L E O F
Q U P O S T E R I T Y Y O P T I M I S M P
M A L E V O L E N C E P L E S A G I B X R

Day One

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-six in the book.

Story Passage

“I think you already see everything your gift shows you – just somehow inside your head, like a feeling. And that’s why you like to spend hours on your moor or just on your own.”

“I never thought of that.”

“I’m sure that’s it,” Alice continued. “And if it is, how would your life really be any different? Except that now you’d know it’s real...and wouldn’t that be a relief? You’d know why you wanted to get away instead of feeling there must be something wrong with you.” Her voice sped up as she got excited. “And you could see horrible people coming and avoid them!” She frowned. “Or could you? Do you think it would work like that?”

He laughed. “I don’t know. You’re the only person I’ve seen. But what if you couldn’t avoid them? I know good and well you can’t just live in a room by yourself all the time, as much as I’d like to.”

“Yes, I suppose that’s true, but again, you’d feel just the same as you already do...only you’d have your sight to back it up and reassure you that you weren’t making it all up in your head!”

“I guess you’re right, but it’s still hard to imagine.”

“Just think about it, Vincent. I think you’ll find it’s very sensible.”

.....
**DO YOU THINK IT IS HARD TO TRUST GOD’S PLAN FOR YOU
AND NOT WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE?**
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Do you think Vincent has always had a gift of sight like Alice is saying?
2. What is one reason Alice thinks Vincent has already been seeing with his gift?
3. Do you think Alice’s explanation of Vincent’s gift sounds “sensible?”

Day Two

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-seven in the book.

Story Passage

The Cheshire cat approached on the side near Duke’s little den.

“I do wish you had those bells. If you were Dinah, I would scold you!” Alice said.

Vincent frowned. *Unpleasant little beast. At least I’m my right size this time.* “Just dropping in to be disagreeable again?” he asked.

It flicked its fluffy tail at him, turning its head nonchalantly. “I’ve only ever been honest, after all!” It strode a few steps nearer Duke and her babies. “It isn’t my fault if you didn’t take my advice.” Its eyes fell on Duke’s little hollow. “Well, what have we here?”

Vincent turned back to the food, but something dark and spectral caught his eye. Little tendrils of black seeped from the cat’s eyes, curling around its head in obsidian coils.

What.... Alice moved closer to it, and he grabbed her arm. “Alice, it’s....” And when he touched her, the sight came back full force. The inky horror before him was not a cat. It writhed like a living horde of shadows.

“What is it?” Alice asked.

His grip on her arm tightened, and his breath came in ragged gasps. He only managed a whisper. “That’s it....”

“So, you can see me now,” the cat said slyly. “I suppose the game is up then.”

.....
HOW CAN GOD HELP YOU SEE HIDDEN DANGERS?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. What was the clue that Vincent saw that gave the Jabberwock away?
2. What was the Jabberwock after?
3. Did you predict that Vincent’s sight would come back to him when he needed it?

Day Three

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-eight in the book.

Story Passage

“With your help,” the old man continued, “I can save her. I do not do it often, and this time I cannot do it alone, for I no longer hold Alice’s time. The creature has stolen it. You must take its head, for her time is stored there, but not for long. It will fade into memory. But with its head, young Vincent, I can restore what has been lost.”

“But how will I find the Jabberwock without Alice?”

“Use your gift, child.” The old man’s voice grew thin. “It is stronger than you know. When the sand runs out, she can no longer be saved. Once you have taken its head, shatter the glass, and I will find you.”

“You’re Time, then?” Vincent said. “Father Time?”

The form wavered, translucent, but he caught a faint nod just before it vanished entirely. He turned back to the object in his hand – the dainty glass curves, gilded and fragile, the sand glinting as it drained, each grain diminishing Alice’s chance at life.

Such a beautiful, dreadful object.

.....
HOW DOES GOD GIVE YOU COURAGE?
.....

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Explain in your own words how Alice can be saved.
2. Does Vincent have any doubts?
3. Why did Vincent call the hourglass “a beautiful, dreadful object?”

Day Four

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

In your reading journal, copy this week’s memory verse and vocabulary definitions. Then, read chapter twenty-nine in the book.

Story Passage

“I think, young master, she would do better to forget this.”

“You can do that?” Vincent asked.

“Yes, but would you have me?”

“Yes, I don’t want her to remember becoming...” — he looked back down at her — “...becoming this.”

“But I cannot choose so carefully. If she does not remember this, she will not remember any of it, except as in a dream.”

Vincent’s heart dropped. “You mean, she won’t remember me.”

“I’m afraid not.”

Hot tears welled. Vincent remembered how Alice’s color had dimmed when they got lost. He thought of how the Jabberwock had tainted the oyster and how Alice herself had changed as it yelled in anger. It terrified him to think of her faded and dull, or worse — empty and black. He couldn’t risk it. He couldn’t bring her back to darkness. He nodded. “It’s better.”

Father Time placed a hand on his shoulder. “Very good. I will return her to her home.” He touched his finger to Alice’s forehead.

HAVE YOU EVER MADE A SACRIFICE FOR A FRIEND?

Passage Questions

Read the **STORY PASSAGE** and answer the following questions in your reading journal.

1. Why do you think this was a difficult decision for Vincent?
2. What factors did Vincent think about that helped him make his decision?
3. If you were in Vincent’s place, would you have made the same decision? Why or why not?

Day Five

Memory Verse, Vocabulary, & Reading

Read chapter thirty in the book. Then, recite this week's memory verse aloud and complete the activity below. Include the coloring page and vocabulary puzzle with today's activity.

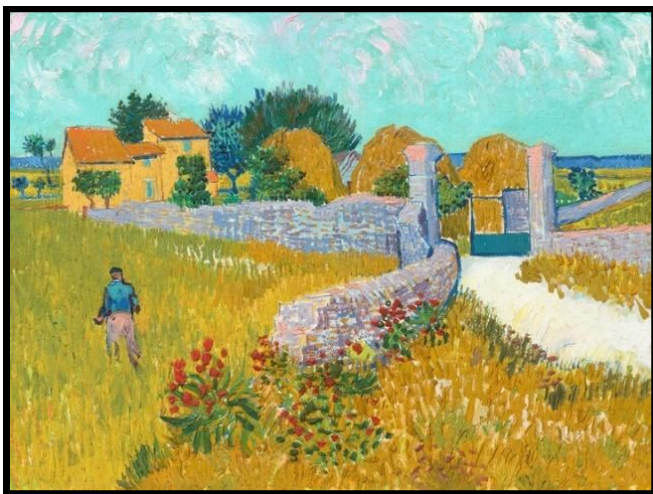
Activity: A FAVORITE PLACE based on Van Gogh's painting: *Farmhouse in Provence*

MATERIALS:

- Watercolor paper (or paper thick enough for watercolors)
- Watercolor paints
- Brushes in different sizes (flat and round)
- Crayons
- Water containers & Paper towels

INSTRUCTIONS:

Think about the painting that Alice and Vincent talked about in the Epilogue. Alice said that it was important that the man was alone in the picture. She said, "the man is still discovering". We don't know what, but that's why it's lovely. He could be dreaming about absolutely anything! But putting someone else in the painting with him would demolish any wistful contemplation." On your paper, draw the back of yourself small, with the crayons in one of your favorite places. Think of a beautiful place that you just love to stand and look at, a place that inspires you. Draw the structures around you in crayon. Then paint the larger environment, such as grass and sky over the crayon with watercolors.



Van Gogh arrived in Arles in February 1888, the landscape covered with snow. But it was sun that he sought in Provence – a brilliant light that would wash out detail and simplify forms, reducing the world around him to the kinds of flat patterns he admired in Japanese woodblock prints.

- National Gallery of Art

HOW DO YOU PRACTICE THANKFULNESS?

Answer Key

WEEK ONE: A NEW WORLD

DAY ONE

1. Vincent felt that his parents didn't know who he really was on the inside, that they only cared about his outward appearance and actions.
2. Vincent loved the mud because it is what is underneath the grass and flowers. He is comparing the mud to what is on the inside of people when you get to know their real selves, as opposed to just their outward appearance.
3. The clue here is that Vincent frowns when he sees Hendrik's face. We know that he recognizes him and that there is not a happy reaction to seeing him.

DAY TWO

1. Vincent told the rabbit that he didn't have any "skills," and that he was "mostly a disappointment according to anyone you might ask." So, he probably was confused as to why he would be chosen for such an important task.
2. Answers will vary. The rabbit was making it clear that often humans consider the wrong things important.
3. Vincent states, "I see worlds everywhere. This one's just bigger." He reveals that he is very open-minded and has a gift of seeing things in ways that many people do not.

DAY THREE

1. Vincent's face grew hot because Alice asked to hold his hand. Sometimes when people get embarrassed or nervous, they might blush. This causes their face to flush, or blood to rush to their cheeks, making their face feel warmer.
2. The clues are in what Vincent and Alice say to each other. Vincent states how the "dark doesn't seem quite as complete," and Alice tells Vincent that she feels that she "could never get lost now that you're holding my hand."
3. When Alice tells Vincent how she feels while holding his hand, it makes Vincent blush even more, making his face turn more red. Here he is comparing it to being even more red than his hair.

DAY FOUR

1. Atralius said that they didn't mention anything about not liking the dark.
2. Apparently, Atralius is very literal. Alice means that they must be specific and say exactly what they mean to him in order for him to understand their wants and needs.
3. Answers will vary. Alice may have found that meeting someone in the dark was less stressful because there were no appearances involved. She was able to get to know Vincent without any judgments based on appearances from either her or Vincent, and she found that to be appealing.

Word Scramble

ROMO	EBISNIELN
<u>M O O R</u>	<u>I N S E N S I B L E</u>
LNKOL	UDETSTLC
<u>K N O L L</u>	<u>S C U T T L E D</u>
ECLABED	RBWARO
<u>D E B A C L E</u>	<u>B A R R O W</u>

WEEK TWO: A NEW QUEST

DAY ONE

1. Answers will vary.
2. Atralius explains that they do not have magic powers, that their gifts have always been there, even in their own world. He tells them that Sian, being a young world, has a great amount of energy that magnifies their gifts, making them stronger the longer they stay.
3. Answers will vary. Possible answers may include explanations that Atralius gives that take place immediately following this story passage. (About how the energy travels through them in a circular pattern while holding hands, growing stronger each time around). They also might mention how they might work better as a team, have more strength by using their gifts together, etc.

DAY TWO

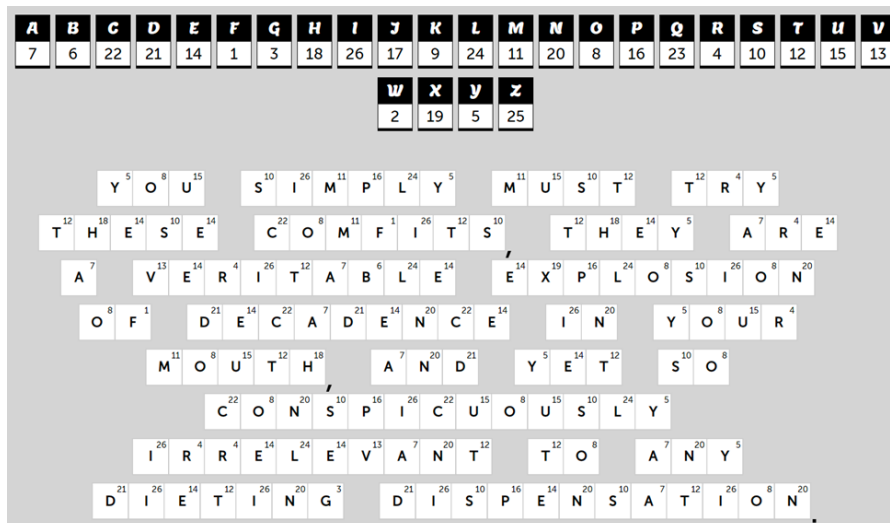
1. Vincent is overwhelmed. He is brought to tears by the beauty he sees. His words include "how will I stand it," and it also says that "he thought he may die from sheer wonder."
2. Answers will vary. They should recognize that since Vincent has said, "how will I stand it," he is already concerned. He is trying to keep the conversation with Atralius going about how strong his gift will become and whether or not he will be able to control its strength.
3. Irresolute means showing or feeling hesitancy, or to be uncertain. So, Atralius was telling Vincent if people were unwilling to commit or work at learning to use their gifts, then gifts might not become very strong or reliable. (This is less about emotional doubt - which we all have - than it is about a willingness to commit and work at things even when we do have doubt/fear.)

DAY THREE

1. Vincent is worried that things will look different at home and that he will not be able to ever get used to it.
2. You can tell because of the way Vincent describes things so carefully, with such detail. (Ex. The "water beetles...with their shiny backs and the little ridges on their legs.)
3. Answers will vary.

DAY FOUR

1. Alice is hoping to improve their moods. She is still feeling "nervous" about seeing the creature that the Jabberwock has killed, and she is trying to take their minds off of it.
2. Vincent is conflicted because part of him does not feel like playing a game, but he is entertained by the way Alice is using her surroundings so well to make the game work.
3. Answers will vary. Alice is focused only on trying to set up the game and not paying close attention to details. Also, the animal has camouflage and does indeed look like a stick.



WEEK THREE: MADNESS

DAY ONE

1. Answers will vary. The cat is referring to the definition of mad as being mentally ill or losing one's mind.
2. Answers will vary. It could be that the cat's grin is "alarming," or that Vincent thinks that the cat is more discouraging than helpful.
3. Alice is remembering that Atralius told them that the only animals that could talk would be able to help them in some way.

DAY TWO

1. Vincent's plan is for Alice to search for more of the helpful animals that they are supposed to meet on their journey.
2. Answers will vary. Likely, Vincent is trying to keep Alice's focus off of the Jabberwock.
3. The Jabberwock scares her.

DAY THREE

1. Answers will vary.
2. Alice is much more confident, direct, and brave.
3. Answers will vary. Possible answers may include: Military, Missionaries, Fire & Rescue, Police, Medical, etc.

DAY FOUR

1. Vincent cannot keep from expressing his feelings. They come out whether he wants them to or not.
2. Alice means that many people purposefully do not show their emotions. They keep them on the inside instead of expressing them openly.
3. Answers will vary.

S	T	E	A	D	F	A	S	T	U	N	P	A	L	A	T	A	B	L	E	Y
V	C	I	N	S	E	N	S	I	B	L	E	K	D	H	J	L	V	B	U	U
R	X	S	C	U	T	T	L	E	D	I	B	V	I	E	J	B	U	G	B	C
L	U	M	W	W	N	C	Y	S	C	W	U	V	E	L	S	Z	D	U	D	M
S	W	L	R	V	C	U	H	V	I	O	Z	D	I	F	E	W	E	E	V	L
G	R	G	D	R	D	D	R	S	E	R	M	L	Y	T	M	D	N	G	O	S
K	L	N	S	W	J	S	Y	I	D	R	R	F	J	L	A	S	J	I	J	Y
N	P	N	W	K	W	A	P	L	I	V	I	E	I	A	H	L	X	O	I	Z
O	D	M	N	J	D	V	H	H	S	E	G	T	L	T	O	X	I	I	D	B
X	H	Z	Z	H	R	W	K	O	P	H	X	U	A	E	M	A	K	T	T	A
M	R	B	R	P	N	R	A	U	E	E	Y	O	E	B	V	N	A	O	Y	R
V	O	W	M	W	L	G	F	E	N	M	E	M	Z	O	L	A	Q	N	A	R
L	K	O	D	Z	Q	F	G	T	S	E	C	X	Z	G	N	E	N	S	V	O
W	C	X	R	V	N	D	J	T	A	N	W	K	F	D	K	O	C	T	U	W
T	K	G	D	S	A	Q	T	E	T	T	C	S	Q	E	C	T	O	K	P	I
A	D	E	C	A	D	E	N	T	I	L	T	Q	S	B	K	O	D	Z	O	Y
S	X	P	F	Z	N	A	S	R	O	Y	I	J	Q	A	T	N	W	A	T	F
Z	Q	E	U	O	Y	A	C	K	N	R	P	B	I	C	N	W	O	M	A	L
R	G	C	B	N	T	O	A	B	O	M	S	F	S	L	S	M	R	L	W	H
C	A	C	O	P	H	O	N	Y	X	A	C	M	N	E	F	Z	F	X	L	Q
N	E	U	A	V	G	C	O	N	S	P	I	C	U	O	U	S	L	Y	U	I

WEEK FOUR: LOSS

DAY ONE

1. Vincent is angry about the symptoms that the flowers produced, and for what they still may do to his friends.
2. He could not see the danger in the flowers.
3. Answers will vary. (The Jabberwock)

DAY TWO

1. Trifling means unimportant or trivial.
2. Alice was offended because she was on a very important quest. She felt she was neither little nor unimportant.
3. Answers will vary.

DAY THREE

1. He was scared of what his gift would be like when he returned home, of what it would show him about people.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

DAY FOUR

1. It means to call someone to account for a shortcoming or a mistake. He also felt like they were calling him to do his duty.
2. Answers will vary. The caterpillar is apologizing, but he is still extremely arrogant and refers to them as "nobodies."
3. Answers will vary. The caterpillar is insulting and he "prattled on saying nothing of any importance with a great many words."

The image shows a word search grid with a letter key at the top. The letter key consists of two rows of letters in black boxes with white numbers below them. The first row contains letters A through V, and the second row contains W, X, Y, and Z. Below the letter key is a crossword puzzle grid. The crossword puzzle consists of white squares with black squares representing non-letter positions. The crossword puzzle is filled with words from the text above, with numbers indicating the starting positions of the words. The words are: OH DEAR OH DEAR EXCLAIMED THE RABBIT IMPERIOUSLY SUCH I N D E C O R O U S B E H A V I O R I S S I M P L Y U N A C C E P T A B L E T H E M A L E V O L E N C E O F Y O U R D E R I S I O N I S S U R E T O O F F E N D P O S T E R I T Y A N D G O A G A I N S T A L L R U L E S O F P R O P E R E T I Q U E T T E

WEEK FIVE: REFLECTION

DAY ONE

1. He already feels as if he doesn't fit in at home, like nobody understands him. He says, "I'm lucky to go an hour without upsetting someone." Vincent feels that now it will become worse.
2. He will no longer be his true self. He won't show his true colors, he will only be a shadow of himself.
3. Answers will vary.

DAY TWO

1. Answers will vary.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Alice has always encouraged Vincent. She has always had faith in him. Vincent feels as if he has failed her.

DAY THREE

1. Alice said, "I've never seen a pond so smooth."
2. He thought about his pond back home and what he knew to be true about it "...the image of the creek at home rose, its tiny currents circling out in all directions from insects and fish and the like." This led him to the conclusion that the pond was "unnaturally calm."
3. Answers will vary.

DAY FOUR

1. The bird made a loud shrieking sound after everything that it said.
2. He thinks that his regular sight was just changed a little bit. Answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

Word Scramble

Decode the vocabulary words in the following list.

ECABAMR

M A C A B R E

STAUET

A S T U T E

IDNT

D I N

EERTOSUL

R E S O L U T E

RSCPETEBELA

R E S P E C T A B L E

ISIPMOTM

O P T I M I S M

Answer Key

WEEK SIX: SACRIFICE

DAY ONE

1. Answers will vary.
2. One reason she thinks Vincent has always been seeing with his gift is that he spends hours alone on his moor.
3. Answers will vary.

DAY TWO

1. Vincent saw “little tendrils of black” that “seeped from the cat’s eyes.”
2. It was after Duke’s babies.
3. Answers will vary.

DAY THREE

1. Answers will vary. Vincent must cut off the Jabberwock’s head because that is where her time is held, but he only has until the grains in the hourglass run out to do it. When he breaks the hourglass, Father Time will reappear to save Alice.
2. Vincent states, “But how will I find the Jabberwock without Alice?”
3. The craftsmanship of the hourglass is beautiful, however what it represents, Alice’s death, is dreadful.

DAY FOUR

1. Answers will vary. Alice is Vincent’s true friend, the one person who has accepted him and encouraged him.
2. He thinks about what Alice looked like when the oyster yelled out in anger after his family was killed by the Jabberwock. He cannot bear to for Alice to lose her color, for her to “become empty and black.”
3. Answers will vary.

H	W	P	E	S	O	T	H	Y	P	F	F	W	P	D	I	N	C	Q	C	Q
E	C	R	K	K	H	F	F	S	E	X	B	B	H	L	W	Z	O	Z	I	V
E	T	I	B	T	D	A	S	T	F	K	W	C	K	F	G	Q	M	A	Q	S
S	A	I	W	B	V	O	S	P	W	Z	L	T	O	L	I	P	S	H	K	W
O	V	M	Q	X	W	L	U	T	F	W	T	G	T	W	M	B	P	I	D	F
E	G	X	A	U	O	L	W	U	U	R	Q	I	L	A	B	V	E	R	M	N
O	G	Z	J	I	E	M	E	A	N	T	W	R	R	N	A	L	C	O	A	S
X	N	B	F	N	F	T	T	A	P	D	E	Y	E	G	L	Q	T	Q	C	L
G	S	K	E	D	H	C	T	L	B	G	U	Z	E	S	P	S	R	W	A	S
G	C	W	I	E	M	K	I	E	L	D	C	L	A	G	O	C	A	Z	B	X
W	Q	T	N	C	R	W	M	L	E	E	V	C	A	B	G	L	L	F	R	R
I	W	D	T	O	V	J	P	V	A	R	D	S	P	T	P	C	U	V	E	E
S	W	J	E	R	M	Y	E	V	K	I	M	Q	Q	E	I	M	P	T	P	G
T	Z	T	D	O	K	Y	R	G	S	S	L	H	Q	M	D	N	H	K	E	Z
F	D	D	S	U	X	Z	I	Z	I	I	G	H	F	U	T	W	G	L	A	S
U	K	M	B	S	G	Y	O	W	F	O	O	D	J	A	D	M	S	O	Z	U
L	O	X	M	D	O	P	U	A	Z	N	T	B	M	F	V	G	M	E	D	X
Q	P	W	I	L	G	Q	S	G	S	R	Q	S	R	E	E	L	A	G	Z	R
R	N	L	Z	J	W	V	G	R	E	S	P	E	C	T	A	B	L	E	O	F
Q	U	P	O	S	T	E	R	I	T	Y	Y	O	P	T	I	M	I	S	M	P
M	A	L	E	V	O	L	E	N	C	E	P	L	E	S	A	G	I	B	X	R

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A terrifying enemy.

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<https://cewhitebooks.com/books/the-worlds-next-door/>

