

CIRCLE C MILESTONES BOOK 1

THICK AS THIEVES

LITERATURE GUIDE



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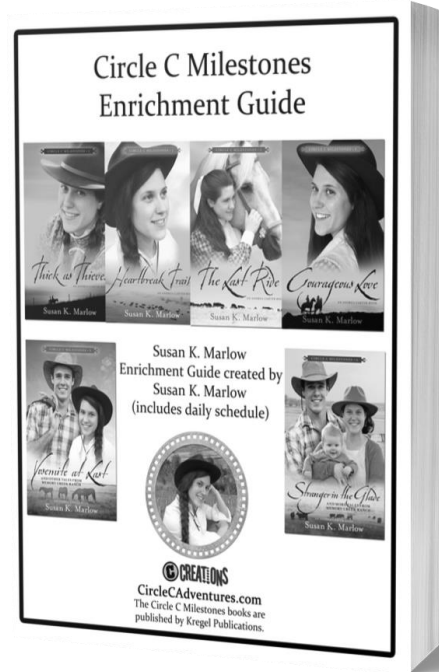
ENJOY THIS FREE THICK AS THIEVES STUDY GUIDE

Explore the other books in the Circle C Milestones, along with a 300-page study guide!

ANDI CARTER'S ADVENTURES IN THE CIRCLE C MILESTONES

Andrea Carter is back in a new series for ages eleven and up. More adventures with an older, teen Andi, who is growing up in 1880s California. Will she realize her dream of helping run the Circle C ranch? Or does God have other plans for this plucky young woman? Follow Andi as she gradually discovers that breaking wild horses is far easier than growing up. (This series stands alone, with no need to read previous books.)

1. ***Thick as Thieves***. When outlaws turn from rustling Circle C cattle to stealing horses, Andi forges an unlikely bond with an unpleasant classmate, whom she believes may hold the key to recovering Taffy's missing foals.
2. ***Heartbreak Trail***. A real cattle drive is a far cry from what Andrea Carter envisions when she receives permission to accompany her brothers on the trail. Can Andi survive hard work, lack of sleep, danger, and an obnoxious cowhand trying to win her attention?
3. ***The Last Ride***. City cousin Daniel Carter is sent west to the Circle C ranch in hopes that hard work will change his delinquent behavior. Instead, the young man endangers both Andi's life and the life of her mare, Taffy. Is forgiveness even possible?
4. ***Courageous Love***. The Carter family find themselves the target of a series of mysterious ranch-related disasters. Before long, Andi is hurled into the middle of the maelstrom when a specter from her family's past returns seeking revenge for previous wrongs.
5. ***Yosemite at Last: And Other Tales from Memory Creek Ranch***. Andi and Riley's new life together is highlighted in these fifteen exciting short stories. Storms, mountain lions, and ranch life culminate in the greatest adventure they've ever faced.
6. ***Stranger in the Glade: And More Tales from Memory Creek Ranch***. Fourteen more stories highlighting the next three years on Memory Creek. Surprise visitors from the past keep this young couple guessing.



Daily Schedule for Book 1: Thick as Thieves

Find the answer key for *Thick as Thieves* at the back of this guide

Week 1	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapter 1	Chapters 2-3	-----	Chapter 4
Enrichment Guide	Pages 7-9	Page 10	Pages 11-13	Pages 14-15
Week 2	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapters 5-6	-----	Chapter 7	Chapters 8-9
Enrichment Guide	Page 16	Pages 17-18	Pages 19-21	Page 22
Week 3	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	-----	Chapter 10	Chapters 11-12	-----
Enrichment Guide	Pages 23-24	Pages 25-26	Page 27	Pages 28-31
Week 4	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapter 13	Chapters 14-15	-----	Chapter 16
Enrichment Guide	Pages 33-34	Page 35	Pages 36-37	Pages 38-39
Week 5	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapters 17-18	-----	Chapter 19	Chapter 20-21
Enrichment Guide	Page 40	Pages 41-43	Page 44	Page 45
Week 6	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapter 22	Chapters 23-24	Chapters 25-26	-----
Enrichment Guide	Pages 46-48	Page 49	Page 50	Pages 51-53

Story Synopsis: When *Thick as Thieves* opens, Andi Carter is going on fourteen and looks forward to her mare, Taffy, delivering her first foal. What should be a routine foaling goes awry, and even big brother Chad may not be able to save the day. Later, just when everything is going well, Andi faces a new challenge. Macy Walker, a homeless, ill-bred girl, invades the classroom and drags Andi to the brink of death on a runaway horse. Worse, a string of cattle rustling breaks out in the valley, and then the thieves go after the ranchers' horses. Andi is unwillingly drawn into a shaky friendship with Macy. Together they hazard a dangerous journey and learn the true meaning of compassion and friendship.

Learn more about the book by answering these questions, based on the cover and first few pages.

1. When was *Thick as Thieves* published? _____
2. Who is the publisher? _____
3. "Genre" is the term given to indicate the kind of book and the audience for *Thick as Thieves*. The back cover gives the genre _____ audience _____
4. The front piece shows the character quality of **FRIENDSHIP** for *Thick as Thieves*.

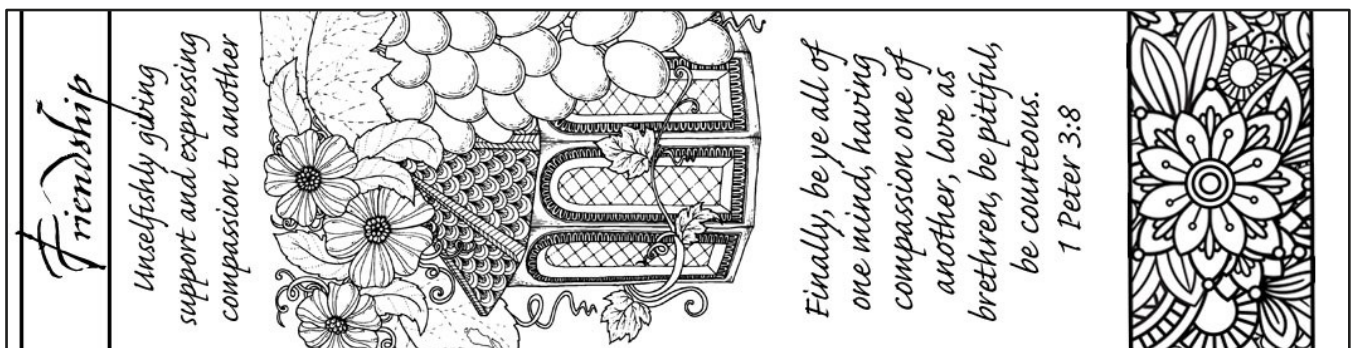
Read the definition of "friendship" on the front piece (page 5). Give an example of what giving "support" to someone might look like. _____

5. Read the verse (King James is the version Andi would have read in the 1800s). What do you think "be pitiful" means in a modern Bible translation (circle one)?

pathetic or sad full of kindness heartbreaking inadequate

Create a bookmark to help keep your place in the book. It will also remind you of the character quality and the Bible verse. Read the verse on the bookmark once each day. By the time you finish the book, you will have easily memorized this verse. Use colored pencils to decorate the bookmark. Cut around the bookmark on the solid line. For added strength, use packing tape on both sides. Trim and keep in your book.

----- CUT THE PAGE HERE. LEAVE THE TEXT ABOVE. -----



GRAMMAR REVIEW: EIGHT PARTS OF SPEECH

This Milestones study does not dwell intensively on grammar, but here are a few basic grammar concepts you should become familiar with—the eight parts of speech.

Noun – names a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns are common (boy, river, mountain, city, love) or proper (Chad, Mississippi, Mt. St. Helens, Chicago). A noun has many jobs in a sentence. It can be used as a subject, a direct object, an indirect object, or the object of the preposition.

Pronoun – can take the place of a noun. (I, we, you, he, she, they, him, her, we, us, etc.)

Verb – describes the action or a state of “being” in a sentence. Action verbs are easy to find. (*Think*: what is the subject doing?) The state-of-being (linking) verbs are: am, is, are, was, were, be, being, or been. It’s a good idea to memorize this short list. Some action verbs can work as linking verbs. *Example*: Andi *smelled* the cookies (action). The cookies *smelled* good. (linking)

Adjective – modifies (tells more about) a noun: *white* snow, *happy* child, *seven* pennies. Andi brushed Taffy’s *golden* coat and combed out her *tangled, creamy* mane.

Adverb – modifies a verb or an adjective and answers the question “where, when, or how.” Andi ran *quickly*. The family ate *late*. He did a *terribly* messy job. Mitch does *not* swim *well*.

Preposition – a word used with a noun or pronoun that expresses a relationship and is found in a prepositional phrase. Andi ran (*down* the stairs), (*through* the door), and (*into* the kitchen).

Conjunction – a word used to connect words and clauses in a sentence: and, but, nor, for, or, yet, etc. Andi trained Taffy, *and* Chad trained Sky. Melinda wore a dress, *but* Andi wore overalls. Levi did not want pancakes *or* eggs for breakfast.

Interjection – a word showing strong feeling: aha, no, whoa, yeah, yikes, blah, oops, etc. Often used with an exclamation mark. *Yikes!* Andi jumped back to avoid the snake.

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 1

1. What is the setting for *Thick as Thieves*? Place: _____ Time: _____
2. Andi runs inside the house, desperate for help. What are the other members of the Carter family doing this evening?
Melinda: _____ Justin: _____
Chad and Mitch: _____ Mother: _____
3. Who agrees to come out to the barn to check on Taffy? _____
4. Who is Lucinda Hawkins? _____
5. What would Andi prefer to read rather than write in a journal? _____
6. Circle the clues Taffy expresses that show Andi her mare is *truly* in trouble.
munches on hay • muscles contract but nothing happens • water gushes • nickers
bites at a fly • stands trembling • her sides heave • a little hoof appears

VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

For each underlined word below, write the part of speech (**noun**, **verb**, or **adjective**) on the given line. Then circle the best definition for how the word is used in the sentence. (See example.)

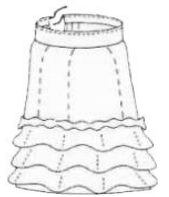
7. Mother says a proper young lady regards her feelings as a petticoat. NOUN

A. overskirt

B. slip

C. bloomers

D. dressing gown



8. Andi ran her hand along Taffy's swollen flank and tried to stay calm. _____
A. side B. rump C. chest D. stomach
9. Andi turned a withering look on her eighteen-year-old sister. _____
A. sorrowful B. confused C. sarcastic D. respectful
10. Andi had been too wrapped up fretting over Taffy to remember what she ate. _____
A. laughing B. crying C. worrying D. calming
11. Justin had quietly taken over as Andi's substitute father. _____
A. replacement B. long-term C. sympathetic D. indulgent
12. "It's customary for young ladies to record their thoughts in a journal." _____
A. highly unusual B. normal C. exceptional D. unconventional

THICK AS THIEVES: CHAPTERS 2 - 3

1. Why doesn't Andi hear her brothers when they returned from the cattlemen's meeting?
A. They return after Andi went up to bed.
B. The rain on the barn roof drowns out other noises.
C. Andi is sound asleep.
2. Circle the clothes Andi wishes she could wear: a heavy jacket • britches • overalls
3. What must Andi make Taffy do in order for Chad to figure out what is wrong with the mare?

4. What news does Chad give Andi that makes her fear for Taffy's life?

5. Name the foals and give a physical description of each.

6. After the foaling, what does Chad want Andi to do? _____
7. What does Andi want to do? _____

VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

For each underlined word, write the part of speech (**noun**, **verb**, or **adjective**) on the line. Then circle the best definition for how the word is used in the sentence.

8. Andi's journal records, "Chad bosses me; I aggravate him." _____
A. tease B. soothe C. poke D. annoy
9. Chad ran his hands down the mare's quivering flank and spoke softly. _____
A. trembling B. sweating C. throbbing D. bleeding
10. Rain ran in rivulets down the back of Andi's neck. _____
A. channels B. small streams C. a flood D. drips
11. Chad was often impulsive and quick-tempered. _____
A. cautious B. patient C. hasty D. irritated
12. Now that the immediate crisis was over, Andi felt the frigid night air creeping in.

crisis _____ A. emergency B. situation C. appointment D. event

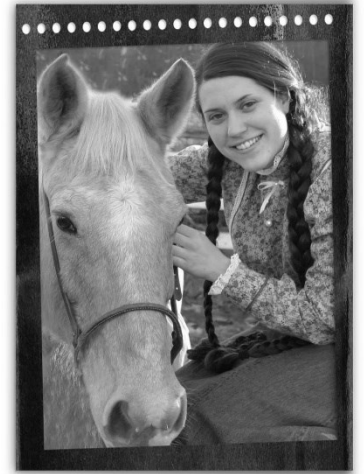
frigid _____ A. damp B. calm C. balmy D. icy



THICK AS THIEVES: CHARACTERIZATION PART 1

Characterization is the technique an author uses to acquaint readers with the story's characters—both their physical traits and their personalities. Since characters drive the story, it's important that readers get to know the main characters soon, and to like them (or not like them, as in the case of a story's antagonists).

An author can introduce the characters in different ways. One way is to simply tell the reader, "Andrea Carter was very worried about her mare, Taffy." Telling works, but it is not the best way to introduce the characters. It is much more interesting to learn about Andi and her family through dialogue, action, and the setting.



ANDI CARTER

1. List three things Andi does that *show* you she is worried about Taffy's foaling (pages 7-9).

2. Instead of telling the reader what Andi looks like, the author shows Andi doing something to her hair. From this action, we learn that Andi has _____ (length), _____ (color) hair that she wears in a _____ (page 8).

3. What hints from chapter 1 show you that Andi is impatient (pages 8-10)?

CHAD CARTER

4. Andi's brother Chad is a major character. The first three chapters give hints that point to who Chad is and what his personality is like. List two things you learn about Chad from these first few chapters.

A. _____

B. _____



THICK AS THIEVES: FOALING

For eleven months (plus or minus a month or more. Mares—especially maiden (first-time) mares—don't follow the rules), Andi has eagerly awaited Taffy's first foal. Being a rancher's daughter and well-acquainted with stallions, mares, and foals, Andi feels confident Taffy will sail through the process. Andi knows the signs of the impending birth and is on the lookout for them. She also knows that while the foal triggers the birth, the mare can delay it if she's nervous. Here are the signs that send Andi running to the house for several days in a row, irritating Melinda and making her brothers shake their heads and chuckle.

- Two weeks before foaling, Taffy's udder began to fill, and it looked shiny.
- A few days before the birth, the muscles around Taffy's back end relaxed, and a little milk dripped from Taffy's teats.
- Soon afterward, Taffy's attitude changed. She became restless, ate a few bites, paced, and had a faraway look in her eyes.
- That same evening, Taffy's tail switched. She paced, pawed the straw, and nosed her flank. She sweated and got up and down. She kicked at her side.

Andi was sure Taffy was in labor. But the most predictable thing about mares—as Andi found out when Justin checked on Taffy—is that they are unpredictable.

During early labor, Taffy was comfortable between contractions. She ate and appeared in no distress. But once the bag of waters breaks, a mare is in active labor. This stage of labor is fast. Usually only ten to thirty minutes pass before the foal arrives. When Taffy's foal did not make an appearance right away, Andi knew it was time to get help. If the foal is not delivered after thirty minutes, the chances of it being born alive plunges.

FOALING TWINS: Watch twin foals birthed from a palomino at CircleCBooks.com/milestones/



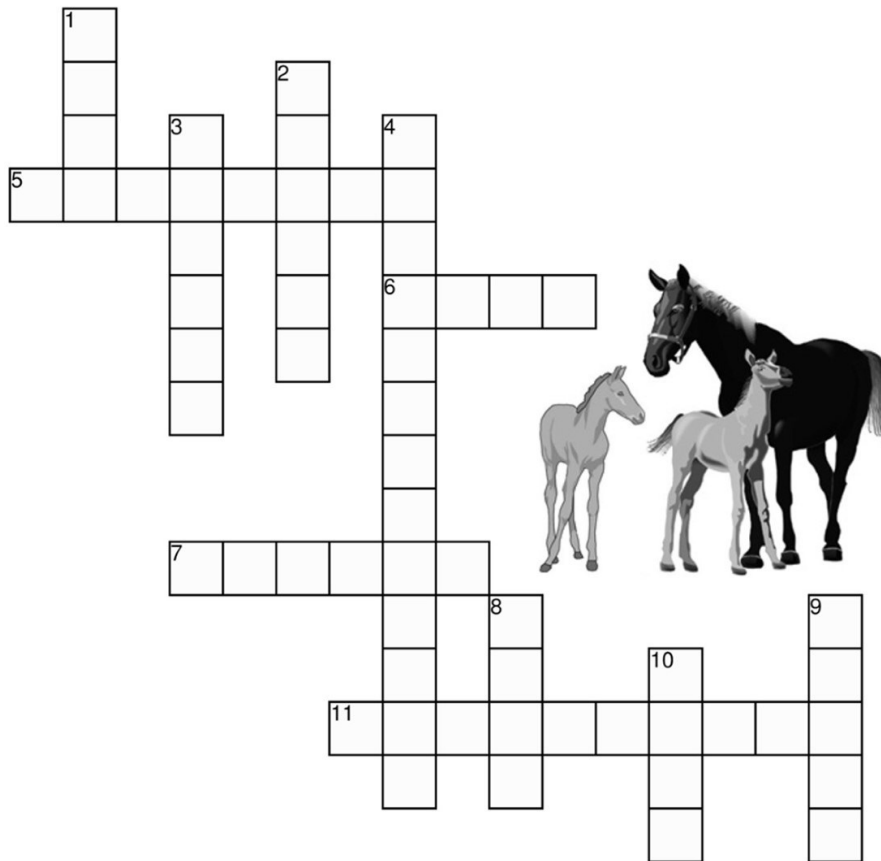
When Chad tells Andi that Taffy is carrying twin foals, her shocked response is, *This can't be happening! It's all a horrible nightmare.*

Andi is right to feel horrified. To a stockman, twin foals are never a blessing. There is a ninety-percent chance the mare will lose them before she reaches full-term. Most of the time, one or both twins die during the first weeks of pregnancy. In the 1800s, no one could tell if a mare was carrying twins or not. Modern veterinary medicine uses ultrasound in the early weeks to detect twins. If twins are discovered, the modern vet aborts one of them so the other foal can survive.

If twin foals do make it to full term, they often cause the mare foaling stress. If both are born alive, one is usually smaller (like Sunny), and both are underweight. They need careful tending for several days, especially if the mare rejects the runt (or both foals). The mare must also provide twice as much milk, which stresses her further. All in all, twin foals are no bargain.

Foaling Time Crossword Puzzle

Complete the crossword puzzle by referring to the foaling study guide on the previous page.



Created on TheTeachersCorner.net Crossword Maker

Across

5. a male horse
6. Sometimes, the mare rejects the _____.
7. _____ percent of twin foals die before before birth.
11. Today, an _____ can show twins early in the pregnancy.

Down

1. the mare's nipple
2. a foal should be born within _____ minutes after the water breaks.
3. length of a mare's pregnancy (in months)
4. a mare's foaling time is _____
8. a female horse
9. the part of the mare that fills with milk
10. a young horse under the age of one year



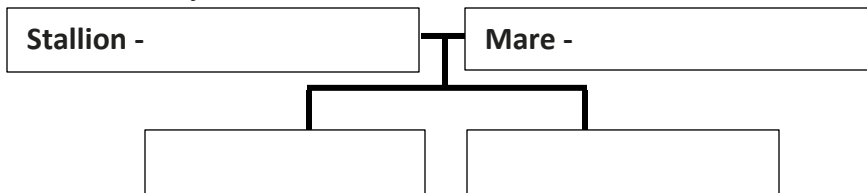
SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL

This is one of my favorite Bible verses. "The horse is prepared against the day of battle, but safety is of the Lord."

-Proverbs 21:31

THICK AS THIEVES: CHAPTER 4

1. How late does Andi sleep the next morning? _____
2. Andi's friend Cory is known for his money-making schemes. She imagines Cory proposing a peep show to exhibit the twins, but he'd want his commission for suggesting it. What is a commission (circle one)? his share of the money • his name mentioned • his advice taken
3. Most pupils in the 1880s graduated from the eighth grade and left school for good. This is not the case for Andi. She must attend school until she is how old? _____
4. Here is a mini "family tree" for the newborn colts. Fill it out.



5. What is the ranch foreman, Sid, looking for on the twins? _____
6. Andi discovers an excellent use for her journal. What is it?
A. to write poetry B. as a fire starter C. to list ways of training her foals
7. What is the "only cloud on Andi's horizon"? _____

VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

For each underlined word, write the part of speech (**noun, verb, adjective, adverb**) on the line. Then circle the best definition for how the word is used in the sentence.

8. "You know how utterly important the first few days and weeks are." _____
A. not very B. absolutely C. uncertain D. almost
9. Taffy perked up at the concoction and worked her way through it. _____
A. liquid B. mixture C. medicine D. brew
10. Shasta looked at Andi with dark, limpid eyes. _____
A. dull B. sorrowful C. clear D. opaque
11. Sunny seemed aloof and somewhat capricious. _____
A. frightened B. unhappy C. friendly D. distant
12. Sunny seemed aloof and somewhat capricious.
A. unpredictable B. mean-spirited C. easygoing D. lazy

WHAT'S UP WITH WHORLS?

Sid McCoy insists that the location and pattern of whorls on a horse's face determines the animal's personality and how it responds to training. Chad assures Andi that Sid's views are just old wives' tales (hearsay). Who is right? Is there any truth to these patterns of whorls (also called swirls)?

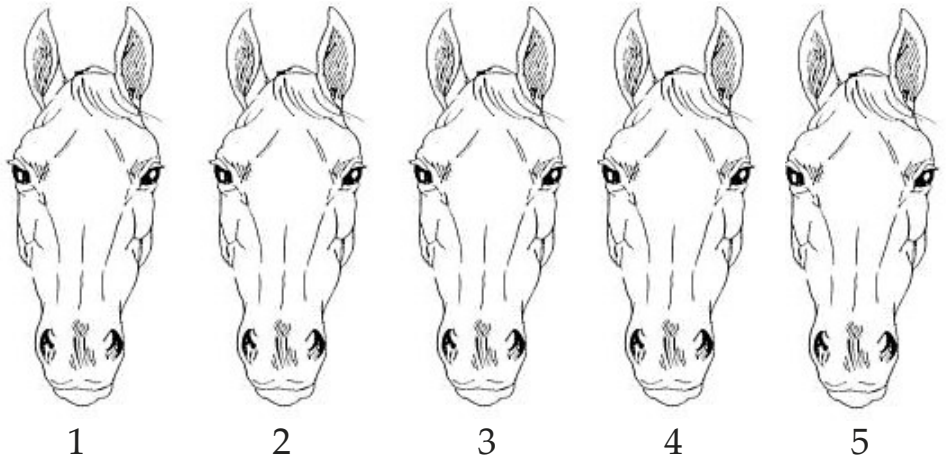


First of all, what is a whorl? It's a patch of hair growing in a different direction from the rest of the hair on a horse's forehead. It's like a cowlick, with a mind of its own. A whorl is formed during the foal's development in the womb and never changes. Whorls can swirl clockwise or counterclockwise. They are also found in various places on the horse's head. This month-old filly has one whorl right between her eyes (just below her white star).

Let's have fun with whorls. Below are whorl patterns and what some people believe they mean. Read the description then draw (or color) the whorl where it belongs on the horse's head.

1. One whorl between the eyes (like the foal above). This indicates an easygoing, uncomplicated horse.
2. A swirl higher on the head, up near the forelock (the horse's bangs), tells the owner that the horse has greater intelligence and is "reactive" in nature. This means training might prove difficult, as the horse is touchy and sensitive and more prone to startling or flying off the handle for no reason.
3. Long swirls that go from above the eyes to below the eyes indicate a friendly and agreeable horse with a sweet nature.
4. Multiple whorls can indicate multiple personalities. Side-by-side swirls between the eyes can mean the horse is focused and talented. But it could also mean the horse could be challenging in the wrong trainer's hands.

5. A bunch of swirls that form a "Z" pattern on the forehead could signal a violent and dangerous horse.



THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 5 - 6

1. Andi had a hurry-up attitude about getting a foal from Taffy. If the foals were born at the beginning of January, circle the month Taffy would have visited Sebastian (see the previous pages about foaling for a hint.): January • February • March • April

2. Andi is up to something. She begs Mitch not to tell Mother about it. What is it?

A. She skips school. B. She falls asleep in the barn. C. She spends the night in the barn.

3. Andi’s marks in arithmetic are okay, but which subject has slid to a new low? _____

4. What is your best subject? _____ Your worst? _____

5. What is the setting of Andi’s daydreaming? _____

6. Andi panics when she sees the sentence she must “parse” (break down into parts of speech). Help Andi find the subject and verb. Underline the subject once. Underline the verb twice. (Hint: “man” is not the subject.)

The stateliest building man can raise is the ivy’s food at last.

7. What is Andi’s new fear, one that is worse than having to parse a sentence on the blackboard?

VOCABULARY-SYNONYMS & ANTONYMS

Synonyms are words that have the same (or nearly the same) meaning as the original word. *Antonyms* are words that have the opposite meanings. Below each sentence are four words. Circle the correct synonym for each underlined word. One of the words is the antonym. Copy the antonym onto the blank line. (The first one has been done as an example.)

SYNONYM

ANTONYM

8. Andi found herself back in the stifling classroom.

airy unbearable stuffy noisy

_____ *airy* _____

9. Andi glanced at Chad, who gave her a sympathetic look.

teasing understanding disagreeable unfeeling

10. “Now, where did I put that pesky report?” Andi asked.

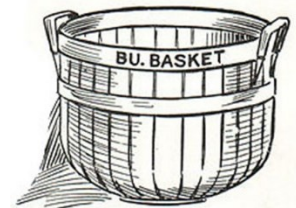
troublesome inaccurate pleasant easy

11. Mr. Foster slammed the roll book shut and smiled wanly.

brightly weakly tiredly sadly

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN AN 1880S EIGHTH GRADER?

Andi saw Cory’s math problem on the blackboard and thought, *Easy!* How about you? Can you solve the problem? As long as you know the conversion between bushels and cubic feet, the problem is easy.



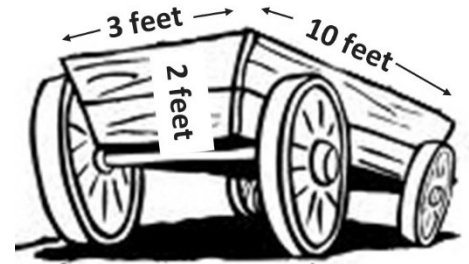
1 bushel = 8 gallons

1 bushel = 1.2 cubic feet (volume).

A wagon box is 2 feet deep, 10 feet long, and 3 feet wide.

How many bushels of wheat will it hold?

First, it is helpful to draw a picture of the volume we want to calculate. We want to know how many bushels of wheat will fill the wagon box. (To help a 21st-century reader get an idea of how big a bushel is, a bushel basket holds 8 gallons.)



Step 1: find the volume of the wagon box.

(Volume = length x width x depth)

_____ x _____ x _____ = _____ cubic feet of wagon space.

Step 2: Divide the volume (from step 1) by the conversion factor of 1 bushel = 1.2 cubic feet to find out how many bushels the wagon bed will hold: _____ / (divided by) 1.2 = _____ bushels of wheat. (You may use a calculator. Andi did it in her head. Children in the 1800s were taught how to do mental math quickly and accurately.)

Are you ready for another arithmetic problem from an 1880s eighth-grade graduation test? You may use a calculator. Hint: You will need to find out how many pounds are in one ton.

Find the cost of 6,720 pounds of coal at \$6.00 per ton

Step 1: Since the price needs to be per “ton,” you need to find out how many tons 6,720 pounds of coal is. First, look up how many pounds are in 1 ton: _____

Step 2: Divide 6,720 by _____ pounds (in 1 ton) = _____ tons

Step 3: Once you know how many tons of coal you have, you can multiply it by \$6.00 per ton to find out how much you have to pay for your coal:



A coal bucket

_____ tons x \$6.00 = _____ (price for the coal)

*Just for Fun: Download and take the entire 1800s eight-grade exam at
CircleCBooks.com/milestones/*

THICK AS THIEVES: CHARACTERIZATION PART 2

Do you remember how an author acquaints readers with the story's characters? By writing in such a way that the reader can "see" and "hear" the characters. Readers hear the dialogue in their heads and visualize the character speaking. They read how the character acts out their feelings. Pretty soon, readers know just what kind of a person the character is. Can you visualize this new character from her words and actions?

MACY WALKER



1. List three characteristics of Macy's physical appearance (p. 40).

2. From the instant Macy steps into the classroom, everybody knows what her personality is like. The reader learns this from the girl's speech and actions, not from the author writing a long paragraph of description.

What are three examples of Macy's speech that show she is defiant and rough? (pp. 40-42)

What are three things Macy does (her actions) that show she is defiant and rough? (pp. 40-42)

3. The interaction between Macy and her brother Ty, Mr. Foster, and the rest of the class in these few pages sets the stage for how the character of Macy will be expected to act. Circle the character traits you see in Macy.

bold • messy • friendly • kind • brave • humble • aggressive • impulsive

4. THINK IT THROUGH. Of the character traits you circled, which ones do you think could possibly be used in a positive way over time? _____

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 7

1. Why is there an empty seat next to Andi this spring? _____

2. Macy responds violently when Cory comes to Andi's rescue. What is the result?

3. What discovery about Macy makes the rest of the students gape at her in surprise?
A. She has lice. B. She can't read. C. She lives in the back of the saloon.
4. Andi thinks, *How can I study with such a distraction?* What distraction is Andi talking about?

5. Who teases Andi after school about "catching" Macy's stink? _____
6. Why has Andi been riding Taffy to and from school over the past few days?

VOCABULARY-SYNONYMS & ANTONYMS

Synonyms are words that have the same (or nearly the same) meaning as the original word. *Antonyms* are words that have the opposite meanings. Below each sentence are four words. Circle the correct synonym for each underlined word. One of the word or word phrases is the antonym. Copy the antonym onto the blank line.

SYNONYM

ANTONYM

7. Before Mr. Foster could intervene, Macy threw a punch. _____
rise let it go blink interfere
8. Jack looked like a frightened little boy, all because of one bold and impudent girl. _____
ugly rude respectful cute
9. "If I sit next to her, I'd swoon for sure!" Virginia said. _____
cry revive become ill faint
10. Mr. Blake grinned at Andi's fidgeting. _____
squirming looking around staying still fearfulness

LET'S WRITE!



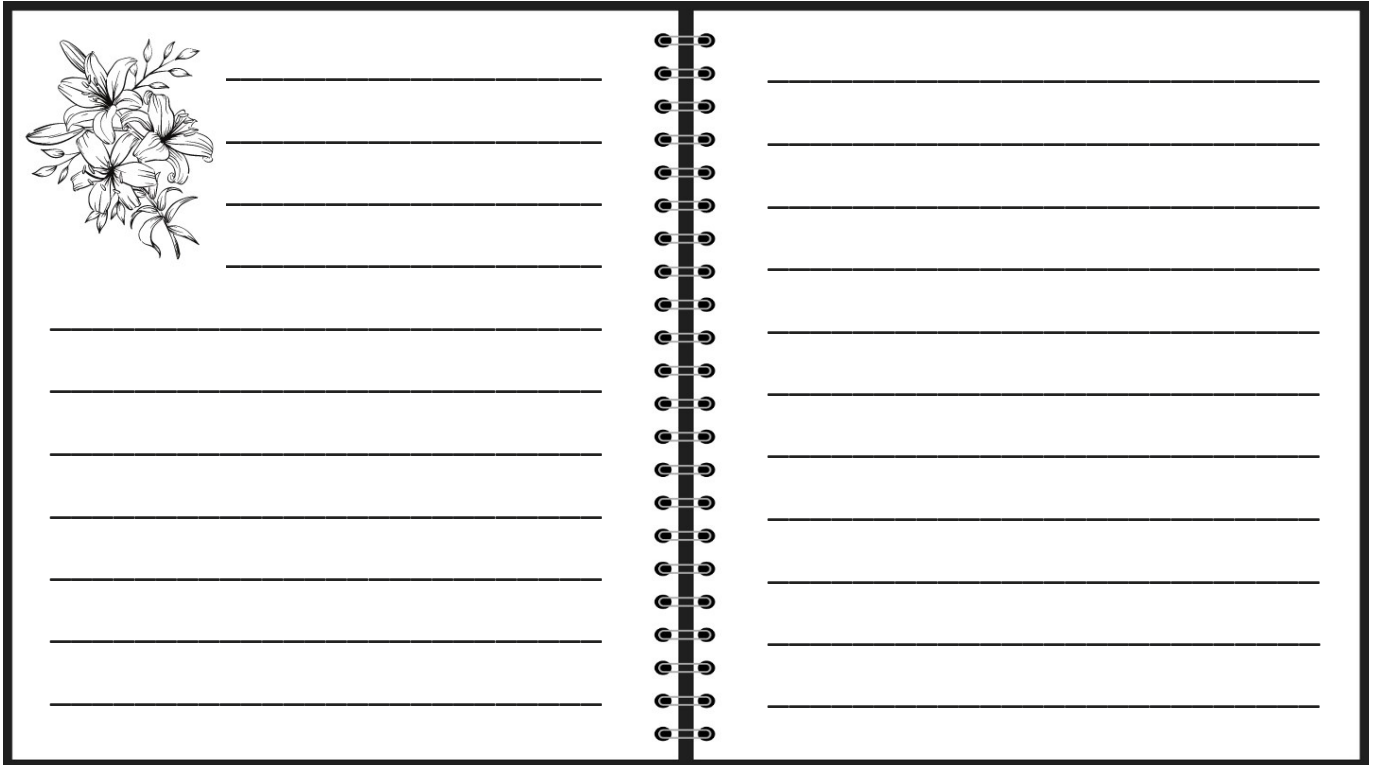
Every chapter in the Milestones series begins with a journal entry. Andi receives a journal for Christmas from her sister. At first, she doesn't want to write her thoughts down on paper. She finds it difficult to think of something to say. However, as the years progress, writing in her journal becomes easier. What about you? Do you find writing in a journal difficult? If so, like Andi you may find it's simply a writing skill you can develop. Pretty soon you might come to enjoy it as much as Andi does later on. You can create journal entries using almost anything—a spiral notebook, a composition book, or a fancy book made for journal writing.

Perhaps you are not sure about journal writing. Before you invest in a journal, give writing in a journal a try. You can use a journal several different ways. 1) Express your personal thoughts. 2) Write prayers to God. 3) Vent when you feel frustrated or angry. 4) Jot down ideas for stories. 5) Keep prayer requests. The ideas are endless. I know a young lady who started keeping journals as a teen. Now, grown up, married, and with children, she kept her journals and enjoys going back and seeing her life from years ago.

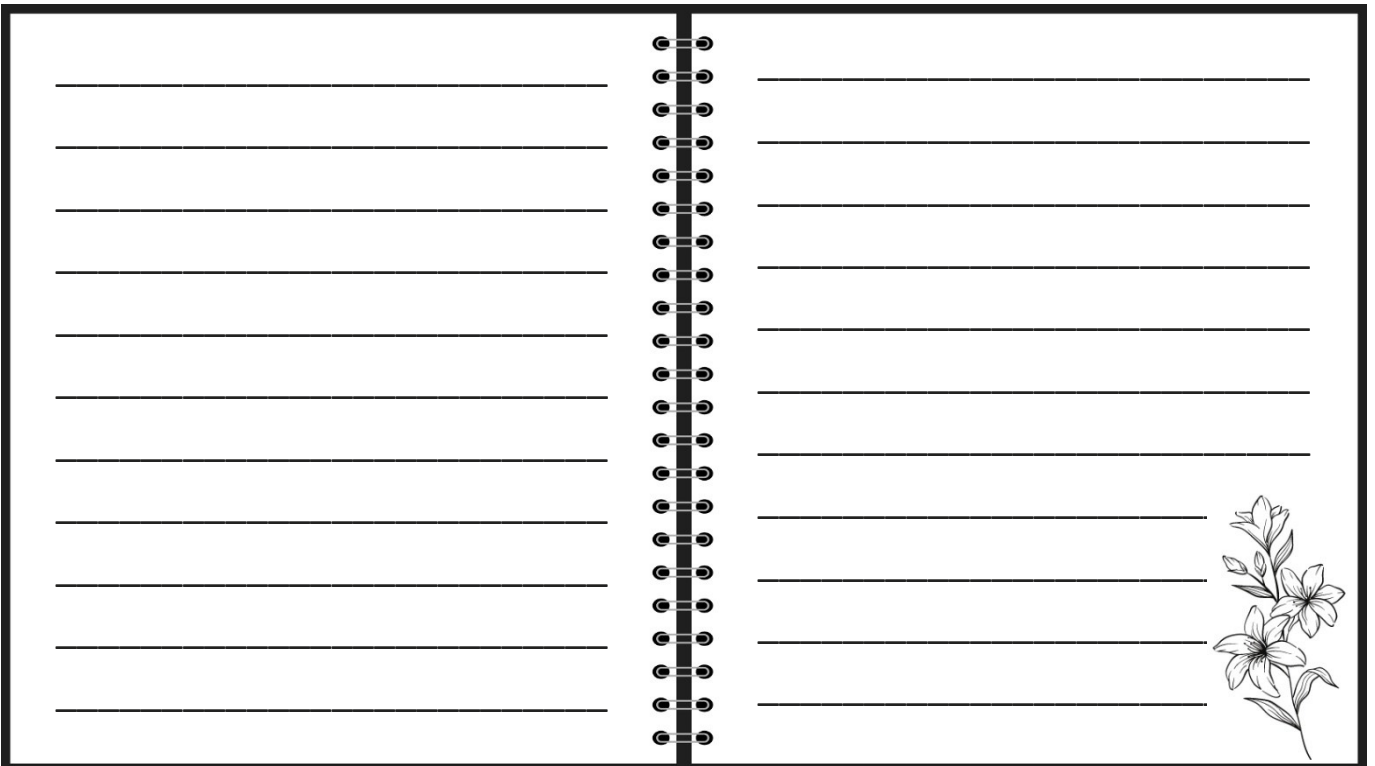
On this page and the next are sample journal pages. Try writing a few entries to see if you like it. You won't know until you give it a try. Write one entry each day for three days. They can be short.

DAY 1

DAY 2



DAY 3



THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 8 - 9

1. The Carter brothers are sitting around the supper table discussing bad times on the ranch.
What has happened to get Chad so upset?

- A. Cattle rustlers have hit the ranch. B. There's been a fire. C. Some cattle are sick.

2. How long ago was the family's last encounter with this problem? _____

3. What is the name of the future Mrs. Justin Carter? _____

4. Who joins Andi when she goes outside to spend time with her colts? _____

5. What does Andi bring to school to show Macy she's willing to try to be friends?

6. Who is the young *vaquero* (cowboy) who wants to call on Rosa? _____

7. What does Andi hope Mr. Foster will agree to do for her?

- A. allow Andi to stay home B. whip Macy into shape C. give Andi a new seat

8. True or False? Andi's humble appeal touches Mr. Foster's heart and he honors her request.

9. Mr. Foster tells Andi that Macy needs: a whipping • an education • a friend • a mother

10. DIGGING DEEPER. If you were Andi, would you be willing to sit with Macy and be her friend?
_____ Why or why not? _____

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Match the underlined word in each phrase with the correct meaning. Page numbers where the word is first used are given so you can find the meaning using the context of the sentence. The first one has been done for you.

11. D to banish your thoughts (p. 58)

12. _____ an intruder (p. 59)

13. _____ savoring the moment (p. 60)

14. _____ a memorable experience (p. 61)

15. _____ publicly scorned (p. 62)

16. _____ a rigid mask (p. 56)

A. an invader or trespasser

B. despised and rejected

C. enjoying; delighting in

D. ~~send them away; reject~~

E. stiff; not flexible

F. unforgettable

THICK AS THIEVES: CHARACTERIZATION PART 3 - USING DIALOGUE

Reminder: Have you written any journal entries yet (see pages 20-21)? If not, create an entry now. If you have discovered that you enjoy this type of writing, get hold of a composition book, a notebook, or a journal and continue keeping a journal. The Circle C website offers journals if you are interested in a Milestones theme.

You can often identify a character by their speech. In writing, this is called dialogue. Below are snippets of conversations from chapters 5-8. Match the dialogue with the speaker. (Some characters are used more than once.)

1. "Don't lasso me into this. I've caught you asleep out in the barn more than once. A little time off might be a good idea." _____
2. "Hey! Leave her alone." _____
3. "I got two slates now. Got a problem with that?" _____
4. "Get your head out of the clouds." _____
5. "*Basta ya!* I have had enough of learning." _____
6. "Your sleepy secret is safe with me." _____
7. "Look at ya'll. A bunch of toads with your mouths open." _____
8. "I'm glad *I* don't have to sit next to her. I'd swoon for sure." _____
9. "Why am I always the last to learn about anything exciting?" _____
10. "Why don't you simply ask Mr. Foster for a new seat?" _____
11. "Don't worry about the colts. I'll see to them when I can." _____
12. "I am no longer a child. I am now marriageable age." _____
13. "Look at my eye. Does it look as bad as it feels?" _____
14. "If you'll excuse me, I'm not hungry anymore." _____
15. "It would probably cause a stampede." _____

Mr. Foster



Virginia



Andi



Rosa



Chad



Cory



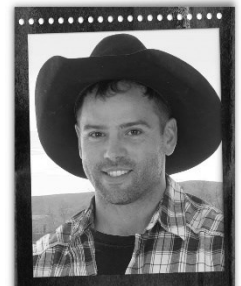
Melinda



Macy



Mitch

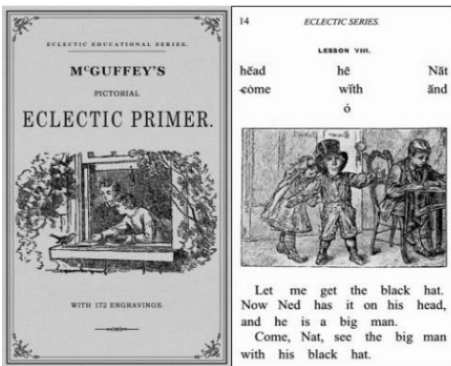


THICK AS THIEVES: DIGGING DEEPER

Andi has a serious dilemma. She took her sister Melinda's advice and asked Mr. Foster for a different seat, one far away from Macy Walker, the new classroom troublemaker. However, the schoolmaster stood firm. He believes Andi's strong, confident personality will keep her from being run over the top of by the rude and uncouth new girl. Andi does not want to agree to Mr. Foster's plea to befriend Macy and sit by her, but how can she say no (page 62)? She agrees, but inside she trembles at the idea. She has never felt less confident about anything in her life.

What do you think would have been the result if Andi continued to refuse? Put yourself in Andi's shoes and use your imagination, based on what you know about Mr. Foster and Andi. Would she beg her mother to keep her home? Would she get Justin's help? Would they help her? There is no right or wrong answer. It is a "what if?" question.

At the end of chapter 9, Andi sets the primer on the Macy's desk. She then prays that she won't be expelled today in case the girls get into a ruckus. Write a prayer Andi might have prayed.



Without looking ahead, what do you think happens when Macy comes to school and sees the primer?

Use your imagination.

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 10

1. Virginia claims to be Andi's friend and warns her about catching infestations or "vermin" from Macy. What kind of vermin do you think Virginia is talking about?

- A. fleas B. lice C. scabies D. bedbugs

2. What does Macy steal from Patricia? _____

3. THINK IT THROUGH. Why do you think Macy mutters "dratted dust"? _____

4. Macy uses the item she stole from Patricia for what purpose? _____

5. What keeps Andi's temper from spilling over when it looks like Macy might spit at her?

- A. She knows she will get expelled if she loses her temper.
B. She's afraid Macy will punch her like she punched Cory.
C. She wonders what her mother would do in a similar situation.
D. She realizes the teacher is watching her.

6. Which Bible verse comes to Andi's mind when she decides to overlook Macy's rudeness?

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Match the underlined word in each phrase with the correct meaning. Page numbers where the word is first used are given so you can find the meaning using the context of the sentence.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 7. _____ a <u>loathsome</u> possibility (p. 64) | A. bugs, rats, mice, and other pests |
| 8. _____ <u>vermin</u> (p. 65) | B. rude; bad-mannered; crude |
| 9. _____ <u>uncouth</u> (p. 65) | C. kindness; being courteous |
| 10. _____ a <u>hoity-toity</u> town (p. 61) | D. hostility; stress |
| 11. _____ <u>graciousness</u> (p. 67) | E. snooty; snobbish; self-important |
| 12. _____ <u>tension</u> (p. 67) | F. disgusting; revolting |

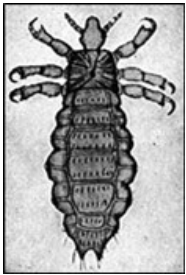
USING WORDS IN SENTENCES

Choose one of the vocabulary words from above and use it in a complete sentence.

13. _____

THICK AS THIEVES: LICE

SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL



"Vermin" is Patricia's ladylike way of saying "lice." It scares me spitless to think Macy might really be harboring crawly critters in her tangles. My head itches just thinking about it. If I do catch them, I will die of shame!

Andi is right to be worried about picking up lice from Macy. Lice are very contagious, especially if you are in close contact with a carrier. Tiny **lice** (singular **louse**) live among human hairs and feed on small amounts of blood sucked from the scalp.

Lice were not just a problem in the 1800s. They are a common problem today too. You can catch lice without even knowing it. Rich or poor, clean or dirty, a louse is no respecter of persons. Lice are annoying to deal with, but they are not dangerous, nor do they spread disease. However, the bites might make a person's head itch, and scratching *can* lead to infection.

The adult louse is smaller than a grain of rice and grayish white. The eggs (**nits**) are even smaller—like tan dots. After the louse hatches, it becomes a **nymph** (half-grown louse). In about ten days, the nymph is full grown. The old egg casings are easier to see than the lice. That's when you can tell if someone is infected. So, how does one get rid of these creepy crawlers?

If boys have lice, it's easy to get rid of them. Hair clippers take care of the problem. In the past, washing a girl's hair with kerosene killed the live lice, but this treatment had to be repeated every few days to catch the new nymphs. And it stank! Long hair was cut off to make it easier to find the lice. Using a fine-toothed comb on wet hair could yank out the sticky nits.

Doctors today prescribe medicated, lice-killing shampoo used repeatedly. The infected person's bedding must be washed in *hot* water. Brushes, combs, and hats must be soaked in alcohol. Thankfully, lice don't survive very long away from the scalp.

Using kerosene (or any old-fashioned home remedy) is dangerous and should never be used. Sadly, there are modern cases of children being badly burned using the "if it was good enough for great-grandma, it's good enough for us" remedy of kerosene or gasoline. The fumes can ignite near a source of flame. And imagine the stink! No wonder Andi was worried.

JUST FOR FUN: A "LOUSY" POEM: Fill in the blanks with lice-related words that rhyme.

One _____, two _____. Finding them is not real _____.

A half-grown _____ was once a _____. If your head starts to itch, you know you've been _____.

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 11 - 12

1. List three things Macy has done to stir up trouble in the schoolyard during recess.

2. What mischief has Macy done specifically to annoy Andi?

A. stole her slate and copybook B. put a spider down her back C. dumped water on her

3. THINK IT THROUGH. What do you think it means to “bury your head in the sand,” like Andi thinks Mr. Foster is doing? _____

4. Which little girl does Macy bully? _____ What does she do to her?

5. How does Andi stand up to Macy?

A. She sends a pupil for Mr. Foster. B. She beats Macy up. C. She doesn't stand up to her.

6. Macy thinks Mr. Foster is going to whack her palm as punishment. Mr. Foster says the time for the ruler is past. The story doesn't say, but what kind of punishment do you think Mr. Foster gives Macy? _____

7. True or False? (Circle one) Andi agrees with her classmates that standing up was a good idea. Now, Macy will not give the class any more trouble.

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Match the underlined word in each phrase with the correct meaning. Page numbers where the word is first used are given so you can find the meaning using the context of the sentence.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 8. _____ a <u>skittish</u> horse (p. 69) | A. to tattle; to blab |
| 9. _____ a <u>suspicious</u> look (p. 69) | B. jumpy; nervous |
| 10. _____ to <u>snitch</u> on someone (p. 69) | C. good name; character |
| 11. _____ a person's <u>reputation</u> (p. 70) | D. wary; disbelieving |
| 12. _____ an <u>idealistic</u> person (p. 71) | E. passion; enthusiasm |
| 13. _____ a heart full of <u>zeal</u> (p. 71) | F. having high principles |

THICK AS THIEVES: DIGGING DEEPER

The relationship between Andi and her older sister is complicated, and often stormy. In chapter 1, Melinda rolls her eyes at Andi's obsession about Taffy's wellbeing. However, in chapter 8, Melinda listens patiently to Andi's concerns about Macy and then gives good advice. Name a friend or family member with whom you have an up-and-down relationship: _____

Write about a time when you and this person got along wonderfully: _____

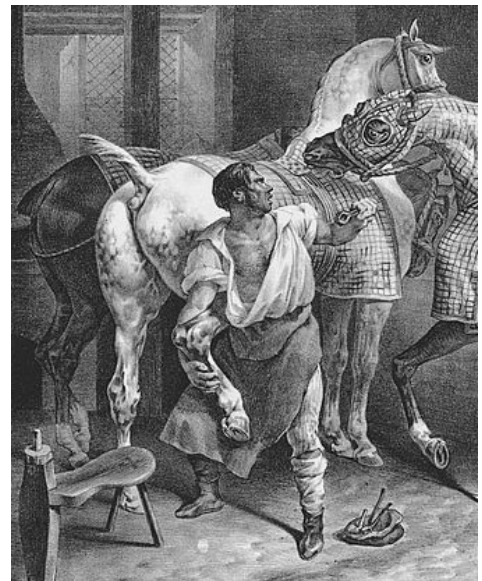
Write about a time when you and this person clashed. _____

Write how you resolved the clashing issues. Or, if there are still hard feelings, think of a way you might resolve the issue. _____

FUN FARRIER FACTS

Andi wants to train Shasta and Sunny to stand still for the Circle C farrier, Jake. What's a farrier? Glad you asked! Here are some fun facts about a farrier.

- A farrier trims horses' hooves and shoes them.
- Historically, the farrier's and blacksmith's jobs were one and the same. "Farrier" comes from the French word *ferrier* (blacksmith) and from the Latin word *ferrum*, meaning iron. So, Jake is both blacksmith and farrier on the Circle C ranch. He makes the shoes in the blacksmith forge (along with other iron-based items), and he trims and shoes the Circle C horses.
- A farrier also has veterinary skills. Jake takes care of sick or injured horses, alongside Chad and Mitch, the Circle C ranch bosses.
- The farrier's tools include hammers, nippers, rasps, and a hoof knife.



THICK AS THIEVES: TRAINING A FOAL

Some people (especially in the 1800s) began training—or breaking—horses when they were two years old or even older. This is where the “busting broncos” idea comes from. The rancher and his hands rounded up a wild herd of horses, confined them in a corral, and then—one by one—the cowboys lassoed their mounts and hung on. This was a quick (but often dangerous) way of “breaking” a horse to be ridden. Chad and his ranch hands use this method on wild horses, but they go about it differently with their good stock, like Taffy’s new colts. Andi plans to train Shasta and Sunny from the time they are foaled. So, what will Andi do to train her colts?

SNIPPETS FROM ANDI’S JOURNAL

Chad helped me write a list of training tips so I wouldn't forget what to do. I copied it down in my journal and am keeping it out in the barn for easy reference. There's just one problem—how will I manage two lively foals?

Newborn: Let the foal get used to me, sniff me, and learn that I am his friend. Sit in the corner and watch. Rub the foal all over. If he doesn’t like being rubbed in certain places, continue rubbing and talking softly. Since Taffy trusts me, Chad says this will work really well.

A few days old: I need to spend all of my time with the foal, watching him and holding him when he naps. Teach him right away who is the boss and how to stand still. Put an arm around his chest and another arm around his rump. Talk softly and hold him tight until he stands still. Then pat him and immediately let him go.

One week old: Put a halter on the foal for fifteen minutes at a time. Make sure each of the training sessions is short and fun.

Two weeks old: Teach the foal to lead with a halter and a lead rope. Use Taffy, since the foal will follow her. I’m going to use “walk on” to ask him to go. Never have a tug-of-war with the foal! Use a rope around his rump to make him go forward instead. As soon as he obeys, pat him and let him go. Teach the foal to stand tied. Brush and groom the foal every day.

One to two months old: Teach the foal the word “no.” Be firm but gentle. Give him a sharp whack on the rump, if necessary, to teach him good manners. Ride Taffy, and the foal can come along. Following his dam will help the foal learn about creeks, flapping branches, and other frightening things. If Taffy is not afraid, the foal will not be afraid.

Five or six months old: Wean the foal away from Taffy. Teach the foal to stand tied.

One year old: Teach the colt “walk,” “stop,” and “trot” on command. Start lunging the colt in a round pen, using a long rope while standing in the middle of the ring.

Two to three years old: train the colt to be ridden.

The author and Susie demonstrate some of these tips at: CircleCBooks.com/milestones/

FOAL-TRAINING TIME LINE



NEWBORN

A FEW DAYS
OLD

ONE WEEK OLD

TWO WEEKS OLD

ONE TO TWO MONTHS OLD

FIVE TO SIX MONTHS OLD

ONE YEAR OLD

TWO TO THREE YEARS OLD



FOAL-TRAINING TIMELINE

The previous page shows a timeline, with blanks for short notes on what training to do at certain ages. Cut out the foal-training instructions on this page and put them in order on the timeline.

Wean the foal away from his dam.

Rub the foal all over.

Sit in a corner and watch the foal.

Start lunging the colt in a round pen.

Teach the colt the word "no."
Whack him on the rump if needed.

Teach the colt "walk," "stop,"
and "trot" on command.

Train the colt to be ridden.

Put a halter on the foal for fifteen minutes.

Teach the foal who is boss.

Put an arm around his chest and
another arm around his rump.

Teach the colt to stand tied.
Brush and groom him daily.

Teach the colt to stand still.

Spend all your time with the colt.

Teach the colt to lead with a
halter and lead rope.

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 13

1. Andi's chapter 13 journal entry is full of plans to avoid Macy. Why do you think she adds

I think a journal can sometimes read like a work of fiction.

- A. Andi wants to write a book about everything that has happened with Macy.
- B. Andi knows there is no chance that she will follow through with her ideas.
- C. Andi likes to daydream about the possibilities she is writing about.

2. List two things you learn about Lucy Hawkins from reading chapter 13 (pages 80-81).

3. Taffy startles the instant Andi comes down on her saddle. What does Andi do?

- A. hangs on for dear life
- B. jumps off Taffy's back
- C. grabs the reins to stop Taffy

4. This is the Fresno County courthouse in the late 1800s.

What does Taffy try to do to Andi at Courthouse Park?

5. Who rescues Andi and Taffy? _____

VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

For each of the underlined words in the sentences below, write a definition in your own words.

6. Perhaps I should play hooky from school for the rest of the term.

"play hooky" means . . . _____ *to skip out; to not go*

7. Justin getting married was as inevitable as the rising sun.

"inevitable" means . . . _____

8. Andi could not find one legitimate reason for not liking Lucy Hawkins.

"legitimate" means . . . _____

9. It was better to sit mortified in the dusty street than to be scared senseless.

to be "mortified" means to be . . . _____

10. Andi hung onto Taffy's neck like a leech.

a "leech" is a kind of . . . _____



THICK AS THIEVES: LEECHES AND BLOODLETTING

a leech



When Andi loses her stirrups, she hangs onto Taffy “like a leech.” Perhaps you are not familiar with this simile. Maybe you don’t know what a leech is and why it makes a good word picture for holding on tightly.

A leech is a type of worm related to the earthworm. It has segmented body parts and can lengthen and contract. A leech is a parasite, which is an animal that lives off a host. What does this wormlike creature eat? Blood. A leech is also called a “bloodsucker.” It attaches to the host with a sucker, holds tightly to its victim, and feeds on the blood until it swells. Afterward, the leech drops off.

Most leeches live in fresh water. If you waded in a lake where leeches live, chances are one or more bloodsuckers will attach themselves to your feet or legs. It’s creepy, but leeches are easy to pull off. They do not burrow into the skin like a tick does.

A certain kind of “medical” leech was used for over 2,000 years to suck blood out of people. Many doctors (even in the 1800s) believed that their sick patients had poison in their blood, causing them to fall ill. Applying leeches (a lot of leeches) allowed the poisoned blood to escape the body. Bloodletting was used to treat almost everything: asthma, diabetes, indigestion, leprosy, plague, and hundreds of other diseases. Some believed bloodletting could cure a broken heart. Back in the day, the French imported 40 million leeches a year for medical purposes.

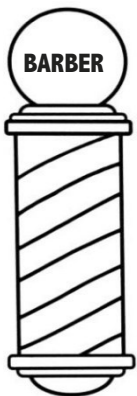
This crazy idea goes directly against God’s Word. Leviticus 17:11 says, “The life of the flesh is in the blood.” If you cut a person’s veins or allow leeches to suck out the blood, the person has a good chance of losing his life. If doctors in the past had believed and applied this Bible verse to their patients, think how many lives could have been saved throughout history!

BLOODLETTING TRIVIA

Unscramble the names of these countries and cultures where bloodletting was an accepted practice in ancient times. (Hint: The first letter of the culture or country has been capitalized.)

creeGe _____ pyEgt _____ moRe _____

barAia _____ peoEru _____



Do you recognize this pole? It’s the symbol advertising haircuts outside a barber shop. Well, in the past it was so much more! During the Middle Ages (1400-1500), the red and white stripes on the barber pole symbolized **bloodletting** (red for the blood; white for the bandages they used). The pole symbolized the instrument people gripped while their blood was drained out. In the past you not only went to the barber for a haircut, but you also went to be cured from many illnesses by bloodletting. **Color the barber pole to show the red and white stripes.**

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 14 - 15

1. THINK IT THROUGH. When Andi takes off for town, she intends to give Macy what the girl deserves for her meanness. However, a Bible verse comes to her mind: *Be angry and sin not*. Think of an example of when it might be okay to feel angry (it is an emotion), yet it's not a sin.

2. Where does Andi find Macy?

- A. on the schoolhouse porch B. in front of a saloon C. at the train depot

3. What is the name of the wild-looking man who interrupts the girls? _____

4. Who is he? A. the town drunk B. one of the cattle rustlers C. Macy's brother

5. In the twinkling of an eye, Andi sees Macy in a completely new light. Andi has no wish to get back at her. Instead, she exchanges her anger at Macy for _____

6. What does Andi do instead of fighting Macy? _____

7. Who confronts Andi and Mitch when they arrive back at the ranch? _____

8. What does Mitch drop into his brother's hand? _____

9. Andi expects cattle rustlers to steal cattle. What does she *not* expect them to do?

10. What is a "necktie" party? _____

VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

Circle the meaning closest to the underlined words.

11. Andi gave in and let Mitch coddle her a minute more.

to "coddle" means . . . to fuss over to scold to argue with to neglect

12. Cory's blue-gray eyes held remorse.

"remorse" means . . . joy regret anger contentment

13. Cory gave Andi such a pleading look that she relented.

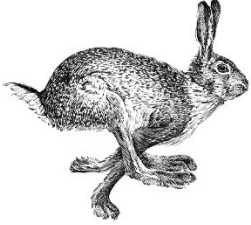
"relented" means . . . laughed argued stood firm gave in

14. Mitch had told the runaway story around the supper table last Friday to a rapt audience.

"rapt" means . . . spellbound bored upset sullen

THICK AS THIEVES: SIMILES

A simile is a writing technique that compares things using "like," "as," or "than." For example, this simile, "The sun beat down on Andi's head *like a blacksmith's forge*," compares the sun to a blacksmith's forge. It means it is very hot. This next simile, "Andi's legs *felt like jelly* when she stood up to recite," compares Andi's legs to jelly. It means Andi's legs are weak and wobbly with nervousness. When authors use similes, they are painting word pictures in your mind.



1. Find the simile in paragraph 4 on page 76 and copy it here.

2. What is this simile comparing? _____ to _____

3. What does it mean? _____

4. Find the simile in the last paragraph on page 81. Copy the entire sentence and underline the simile.

5. What is this simile comparing? _____ to _____

6. What does it mean? _____

7. Find the simile in the last paragraph on page 82. Copy the sentence and underline the simile.

8. What is this simile comparing? _____ to _____

9. What does this simile mean? _____

10. Find the simile in the fourth paragraph on page 83. Copy the sentence; underline the simile.

11. What is this simile comparing? _____ to _____

12. What does this simile mean? _____

13. Create simile word pictures by finishing these sentences.

After grooming her, Taffy's coat shone as bright as _____

Macy caught on to reading faster than _____

Standing up to the bully was as hard as _____

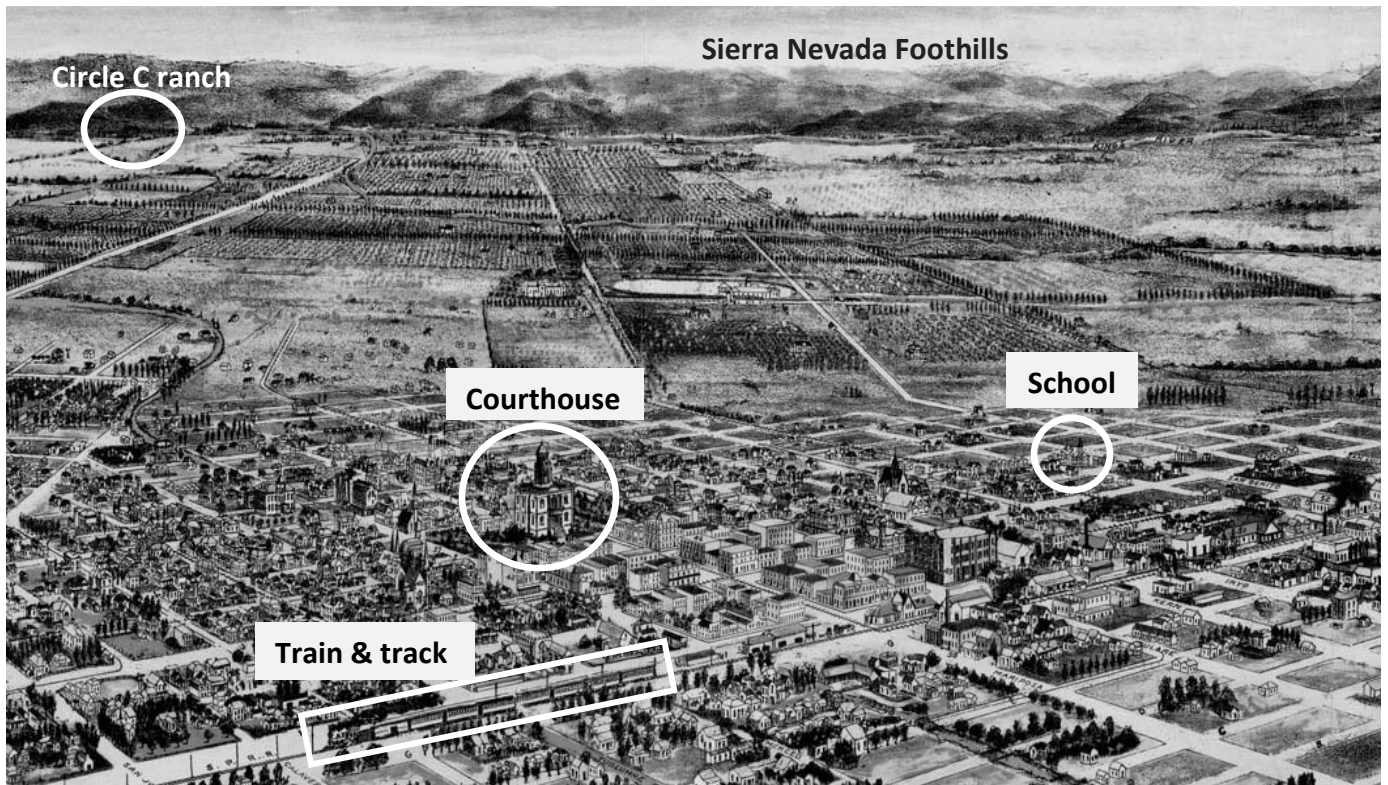
The school day passed slower than _____

THICK AS THIEVES: FRESNO, ANDI'S HOMETOWN

Originally called "Fresno Station," the town was founded in 1872 when the Central Pacific railroad laid track up and down the San Joaquin Valley. The scouting party saw a lush wheat field in the middle of nowhere and said, "Here we must build a town!" One store and the railroad depot were the original buildings. Like most railroad towns in the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno was laid out in a square. The railroad tracks ran north-south. The streets that were laid out parallel to the tracks were named alphabet letters (G, H, I, J, K, etc.). Not much imagination there. The streets that ran perpendicular to the tracks (east-west) were named after people and places (Tulare, Mariposa, Inyo, etc.). It was hard to lose your way in a town that was laid out in such an organized way, especially when it was flat.

In 1882, when Andi turned fourteen, Fresno had a population of 1,112 residents. Of these people, nine were ranchers who lived out of town (like the Carters) and twenty-one were shepherders. The town was home to eleven lawyers (but only two judges), four doctors, and one barber. Saloons were popular (thirteen), and six hotels were open for guests. There was even an ice cream parlor. Townsfolk loved to build fancy courthouses, and they built Fresno's just as fancy in 1875, with a beautiful golden dome. In 1878, they planted a good number of trees on the four-acre plot that surrounded the building (see page 33). It was known as Courthouse Park. This is the park through which Taffy ran during Andi's runaway scare.

The map below is an 1800s birds-eye view of the town of Fresno. The Circle C ranch looks close to town on this map, but it really takes over an hour of fast trotting to go from Fresno to the ranch. Hopefully, this map gives you an idea of what the town was like when Andi lived.



THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 16

1. What are the names of Macy's brothers? _____

2. Name two reasons why Macy says she never learned to read.

3. Find the simile in the last paragraph on page 101. Copy the sentence and underline the simile.

4. Where is Macy's family from originally? _____

5. What happened to Macy's mother?

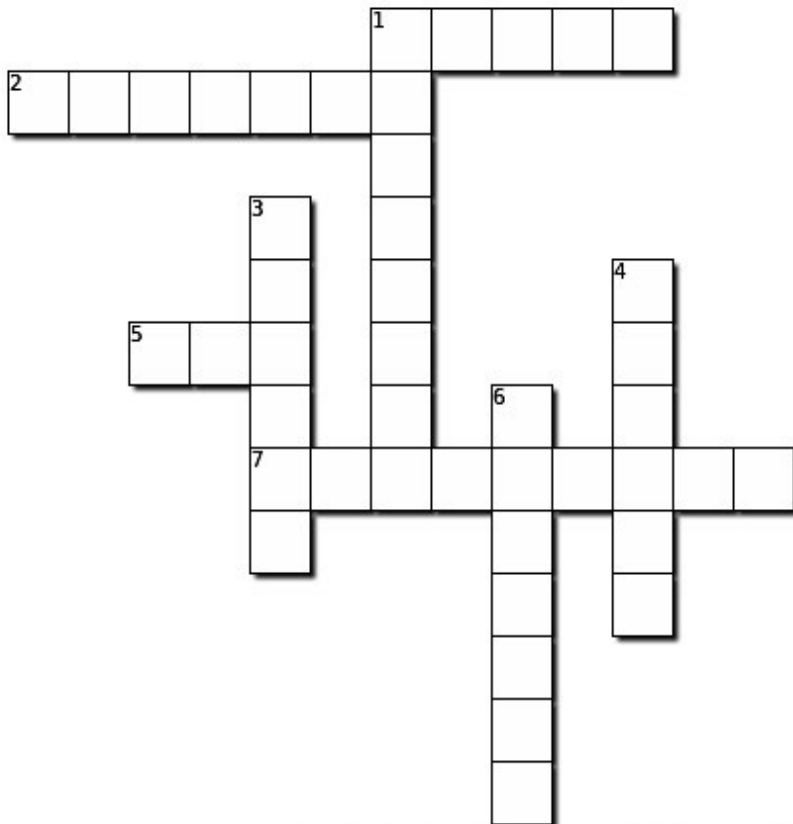
- A. She died. B. She ran off. C. She went to work in the city.

6. What happened to Macy's father?

- A. He died. B. He ran off. C. He went to work in the city.

7. Which brother interrupts Andi and Macy after school? _____

VOCABULARY: Complete the crossword puzzle by using the clues and the word box.



WORD BOX
kin uncouth bleak resonated
gambler ornery brambles hooted

ACROSS
1. not hopeful or encouraging
2. a person who plays games of chance for money
5. relatives; family
7. echoed; rang

DOWN
1. prickly bushes
3. mean
4. laughed with scorn or merriment
6. lacking good manners; unrefined

THICK AS THIEVES:

GRAMMAR REVIEW

Grammar is Andi Carter's worse subject. What about you? Can you identify the different parts of speech in sentences? First of all, go back and review page 8, which gives you examples of the different parts of speech and how they are used.



The eight parts of speech are used in different ways in a sentence. For example, a noun can be used as the subject, the direct object, the indirect object, or the object of the preposition. If you are not sure what those are, it's okay. This page deals only with finding the different parts of speech. You do not have to explain *how* they are being used. Ready? Let's begin. All sentences are taken from chapter 16. For each underlined word in the sentence, write which part of speech it is.

1. Macy let out a long, lonely sigh.

Macy: _____ long: _____ lonely: _____ sigh: _____

2. "My father's dead, but I have the world's best mother," Andi said.

but: _____ I: _____ have: _____ best: _____

3. Andi gasped. "What?"

Andi: _____ gasped: _____ What? _____

4. "Jase just told me to rent a horse and get out there."

told: _____ me: _____ and: _____ there: _____

5. Andi tightened the cinch and let the stirrup fall into place.

tightened: _____ cinch: _____ fall: _____ into: _____

6. Macy nodded glumly. "I'll feel Ty's belt if I don't."

nodded: _____ glumly: _____ belt: _____ I: _____

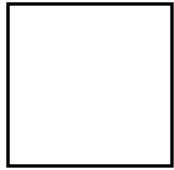
7. Andi saw a tall man with a rough-shaven face and dark hair that hung to his shoulders.

tall: _____ man: _____ with: _____

rough-shaven _____ dark: _____ to: _____ shoulders: _____

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 17 - 18

1. What causes Macy to sleep through the entire day of school? _____



2. Draw the brandmark Macy sees on Taffy's rump.

3. When Macy sees the brand, what does she want to do?

- A. She wants to brush and groom Taffy until she shines.
- B. She wants to leave right away.
- C. She wants to know how brands are created.

4. What makes Andi's feet slip out from under her and cause her to crash to the floor?

5. Macy asks, "Why would you bother with the likes of me? Especially when I've been so mean and spiteful?" Good question. What is Andi's answer? _____

6. With which of Andi's colts has Macy fallen in love? _____

7. Give one clue that shows this colt loves Macy too. _____

8. True or False? Macy is over-the-moon excited when she learns she can spend the night.

VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

For each underlined word, circle the closest definition. Then use the word in a sentence of your own. (See example.)

9. Asleep, Macy looked young and vulnerable. invincible helpless sad battered

A newborn kitten is very vulnerable.

10. A swift reprimand always fell on a dozing student.

scolding accounting justification whacking

11. The colts nuzzled her and whinnied, imploring Andi to come in and play.

hoping telling prodding begging

THICK AS THIEVES: CATTLE RUSTLING THEN AND NOW

Andi's family is embroiled in their worst nightmare—cattle rustling. How could rustlers get away with stealing so many cattle from the ranchers? For one thing, the rangeland covered thousands of square acres—too many to patrol with a couple dozen ranch hands on horseback. How did the rustlers go about nabbing somebody else's property? What did they do with the cattle once they had them in their grip?



Movies and TV often portray cattle rustlers as a couple of mischievous cowboys sneaking up on a herd of cattle and running off with a few head. True, there were small-scale operations, but most quickly developed into a large-scale industry. In the mid- to-late 1800s, cattle rustling gangs were stealing thousands of head at a time—and often killing the cowhands that got in their way. Many gangs worked together. One gang would steal a herd of cattle and sell it to another gang, who sold it to yet *another* gang—all of them making a nice profit along the way. With cattle changing hands so many times so quickly, it was hard for the law to track them down.

Gangs often sold rustled cows to “ghost ranchers,” who were a little like Macy's brothers—they kept the cattle in remote places. Their herds grew fast, with no evidence of breeding or calving. Altering the ranchers' brands was a common practice among rustlers. Some rustlers even used a piece of heavy wire they could bend into any shape and carry around in their pockets.

Many cattle rustlers—if caught—met their fate at the hands of angry ranchers, who arranged a “necktie party.” Hanging those guilty of rustling was illegal without a trial . . . but it was effective.

What about today? Has cattle rustling died out in these modern times? Not at all. As long as ranchers raise cattle and unscrupulous outlaws want them, cattle rustling will thrive. In fact, cattle rustling is worse now out West than it was in Andi's time. Just like back then, the cattle herd grazes miles away from the rancher's home in the middle of remote rangeland. The cattle are counted twice a year—at calving and at selling time (like on the Circle C)—so it's hard to know if missing cows have died from lightning strikes, predators, disease, or have been stolen.

Rustlers stole cattle on horseback in 1880. Today, they use a truck and trailer. They back it up to a small herd in the middle of the night and load up the cattle, with no one around to watch. Many cattle today are not branded. Some states don't even require it. A cattle seller needs only a bill of sale, which is easy to write up and show at the livestock sale. Some modern rustlers get away with hundreds of thousands of dollars of stolen beef. Cattle rustling in the 21st century is big business.

Cattle (and horse) rustling in the 19th century was a hanging offense. Today, the fine is \$20,000 and twenty years in prison.

CATTLE RUSTLING THEN AND NOW

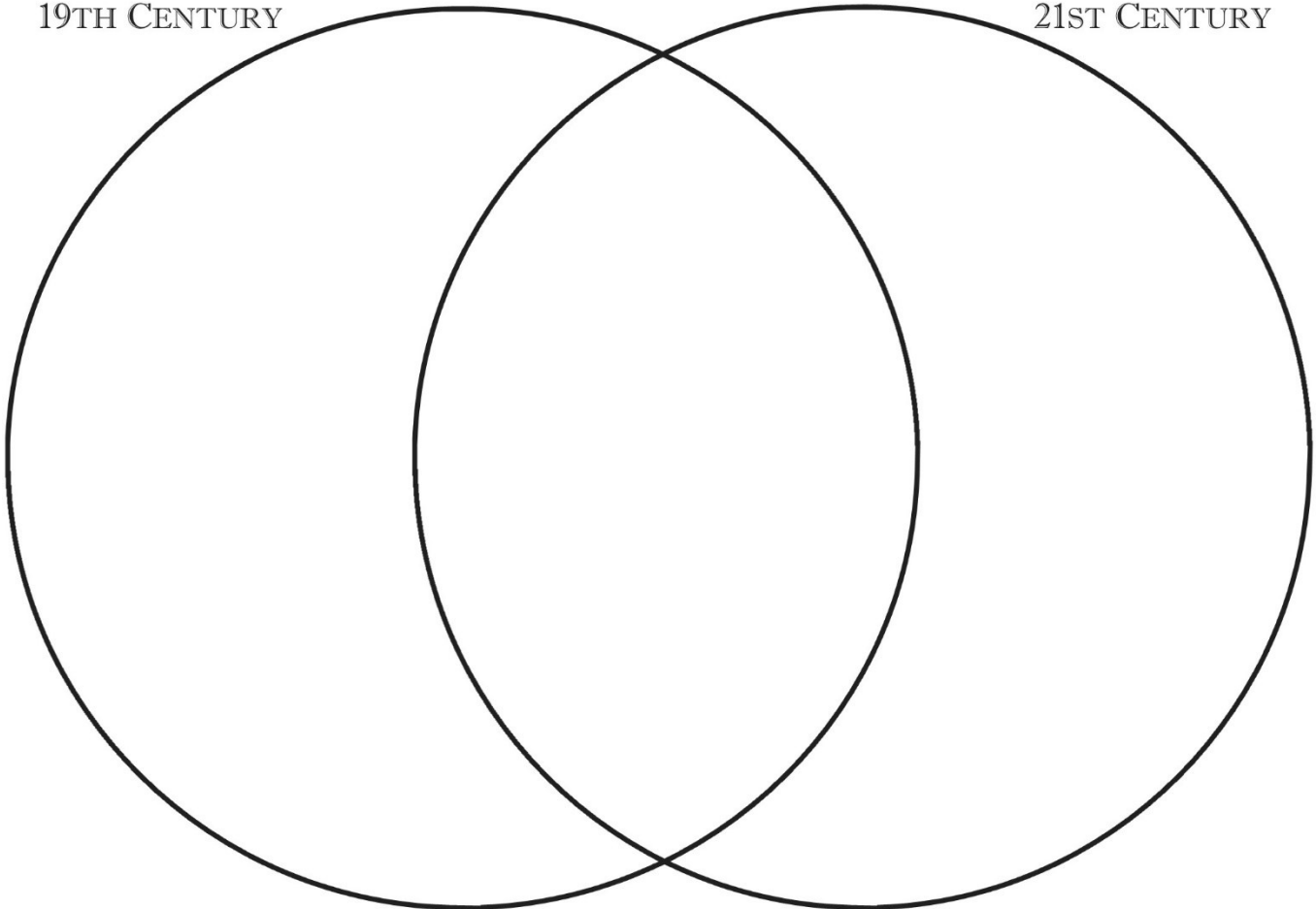
Using the study guide on the previous page and the Venn diagram below, compare and contrast cattle rustling in the 19th century with cattle rustling in the 21st century. List how the two are alike where the circles intersect.

WORD BANK

20 years in prison hang rustlers "ghost" riders large industry \$20,000 fine
change brands fake bill of sale trucks & trailers on horseback hard to track down
thousands of cattle stolen

19TH CENTURY

21ST CENTURY

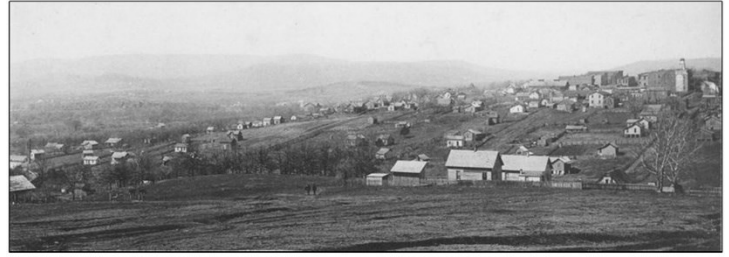


SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL

Cattle rustlers are just like wasps. They sneak up and sting you when you least expect it, then they dart away before you can smash them. And just like a bee sting, the hurt doesn't go away. It just gets worse and worse. I guess I should be more patient with Justin, Chad, and Mitch, who are doing their best to clean out this nasty nest of cattle-rustling "wasps."

THICK AS THIEVES: GEOGRAPHY

Marcella (Macy) Walker was born just outside of Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 1869. She is a year younger than Andi. In 1869, the War Between the States had been over for four years. Arkansas had been part of the



Fayetteville around 1890

Confederate States of America (the South). California stayed with the Union (the North). So, Andi's parents and Macy's parents supported opposite sides of the struggle. The South lost the war, and there were bad feelings between the North and the South for a long time afterward. During the setting of *Thick as Thieves*, Fresno and Fayetteville both had populations of about 1,200. Fill in the outline map and answer the questions. You will need a physical or online atlas of Arkansas and the United States.

1. Fayetteville is located in the northwest corner of Arkansas. Label Fayetteville.
2. The town is surrounded by the beautiful Ozark Mountains. Shade the Ozarks light green.
3. Label the river that forms the eastern border. Label the river that cuts through Arkansas.
4. Label the capital city of Arkansas (the star).
5. Label the six states that border Arkansas.



ARKANSAS FUN FACTS

Use a reference book or the Internet to find these fun facts.

6. State Bird of Arkansas

7. Arkansas State Flower

8. Year of Arkansas Statehood

9. Arkansas State Tree

10. State Gem



THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 19

1. What jerks Andi awake in the middle of the night?

- A. a bad dream B. a gunshot C. yelling about rustling D. Macy crying out

2. Macy has vanished. Name three places Andi looks for her friend. Circle the place where Andi finds her. _____

3. Why has Macy slipped away? _____

4. True or False? Andi agrees to let Macy borrow a horse.

5. What happens that prevents Macy from leaving? _____

6. True or False? Mitch also agrees to let Macy borrow a horse.

DIGGING DEEPER – WHAT IF?

An author uses “what if?” to decide how the story plot will go. “What if a horse kicks Andi?” “What if Macy steals a Circle C horse?” “What if the girls are caught before she steals the horse?”

In the story, Andi tells Macy, “Stay here. Don’t go back to your brothers at all. You can hide in our barn or stay in my room. They would never find you. My brother’s a lawyer. He could help.” I chose to have Macy go back to her brothers.

Now, consider this “what if”: **What if Macy decides to stay with Andi?** Write what you think would happen in the story. Use your imagination. Have fun! (Use a computer if you prefer.)

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 20 - 21

1. Andi has big plans now that school is finally out. What are they?
A. helping Chad catch the rustlers B. training her colts C. furthering Macy's education

2. When Macy doesn't show up to help her, whom does Andi try to recruit to help?

Circle all that apply. Mother • Justin • Chad • Mitch • Melinda • Wyatt

3. Andi shrugs off her family's lack of response to her cheerful appeal for help. She thinks they're all just bone-tired from rustling concerns. What is the real reason everybody is so quiet at breakfast? _____

4. What promise does Andi try to get out of Chad? _____

5. Where have the rustlers stashed the Carter colts? _____

6. Knowing where her colts are being kept horrifies Andi. Why? _____

7. What has Andi done that makes her feel caught between a rock and a hard place?

A. lied to Macy B. promised to keep a dangerous secret C. lied to her family

8. Macy expects Andi to rescue Shasta and Sunny from the Walker brothers. What does Andi plan to do that Macy does *not* expect? _____

VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

9. If Macy did not come by this morning, Andi would have to recruit someone else's help.

to recruit means (verb) . . . ignore tease enlist reject

10. Andi wasted no time heading for the paddock.

a paddock is (noun) . . . an enclosure a stable an outbuilding a livery

11. The whole day had turned into one colossal misery.

colossal means (adjective) . . . gigantic heart-wrenching upside down scary

12. Macy swept a wary glance around the yard.

wary means (adjective) . . . careless happy frightened cautious

13. "Why are you so jittery?" Andi demanded. "What are you afraid of?"

jittery means (adjective) . . . angry frightened nervous quiet

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTER 22

1. Why does Andi put her journal in full view just before she leaves the ranch?

2. "Straight ahead, the canyon's cliffs rose like sentries, marking the entrance." What two things is this simile comparing? _____

3. What are "sentries"? _____

4. What is Andi's best ranch skill? A. cutting out calves B. rounding up strays C. lassoing

5. True or False? Andi breathes easier when she remembers Macy and her brothers will be leaving the valley the next day.

6. Why does Andi regret trying to rescue all the Circle C colts? _____

7. What unexpected event surprises Andi?

A. Macy and her brother show up. B. Andi falls off her horse. C. Cattle block Andi's escape.

DIGGING DEEPER

The setting of a story is the time and the place of each scene. Settings are often described using the five senses of sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste. This helps draw the reader into the scene.

List some of the things Andi sees, hears, and smells on her way to (and once inside) Rock Canyon that contribute to her anxiety. For example, for the sense of "touch," Andi feels the warm, July night as she's riding (see pp. 141–145).

SIGHTS: _____

SOUNDS: _____

SMELLS: _____

FEELS: _____

THICK AS THIEVES: CANYONS

Rock Canyon, where Andi's beloved colts are being held, is a particularly dangerous place with its narrow, unstable entrance and steep sides. It is a **box canyon**, which means the back of the canyon is blocked with steep walls. A traveler cannot simply enter one end of the canyon and leave through the other. Box canyons were often used as corrals for livestock, with the one entrance fenced. They were also used as kill sites for wild game. Native Americans would drive bison or other animals into the confined space of a box canyon. Once trapped, the animals were easier to kill.



A narrow entrance to a canyon, similar to what Andi had to pass through

What is the definition of a *canyon*? It is a deep valley with steep sides. A stream or river often (but not always) runs through it. A canyon has other names in other parts of the United States like *gorge* or *ravine*.

Canyons are usually formed by erosion, which is the process of water running over the land and gouging into the softer soil. The canyon's cliffs form because harder rock layers that are resistant to erosion and weathering remain exposed on the canyon's walls. Erosion can take place over a long period of time, but more often a canyon is formed by some kind of cataclysmic (tragic) event, like the runoff from the global flood of Noah. Examples of the power of such an overwhelming rush of water are visible at the Grand Canyon in Arizona, and at the Grand Coulee (the name for a deep, dry channel) in Washington State.



The Grand Coulee in Washington State

Canyons have been discovered on other bodies in our solar system: Ithaca Chasma on Saturn's moon Tethys, and Valles Marineris on Mars. Compare the size of this canyon with the United States—over 2,500 miles long! Some scientists believe this canyon is a crack in the Martian crust. Others say it is from water erosion. (This is hard to believe on a planet that has never shown any signs of surface water). Another theory states it could have formed from lava flows. No one really knows, but the possibilities are exciting to consider.

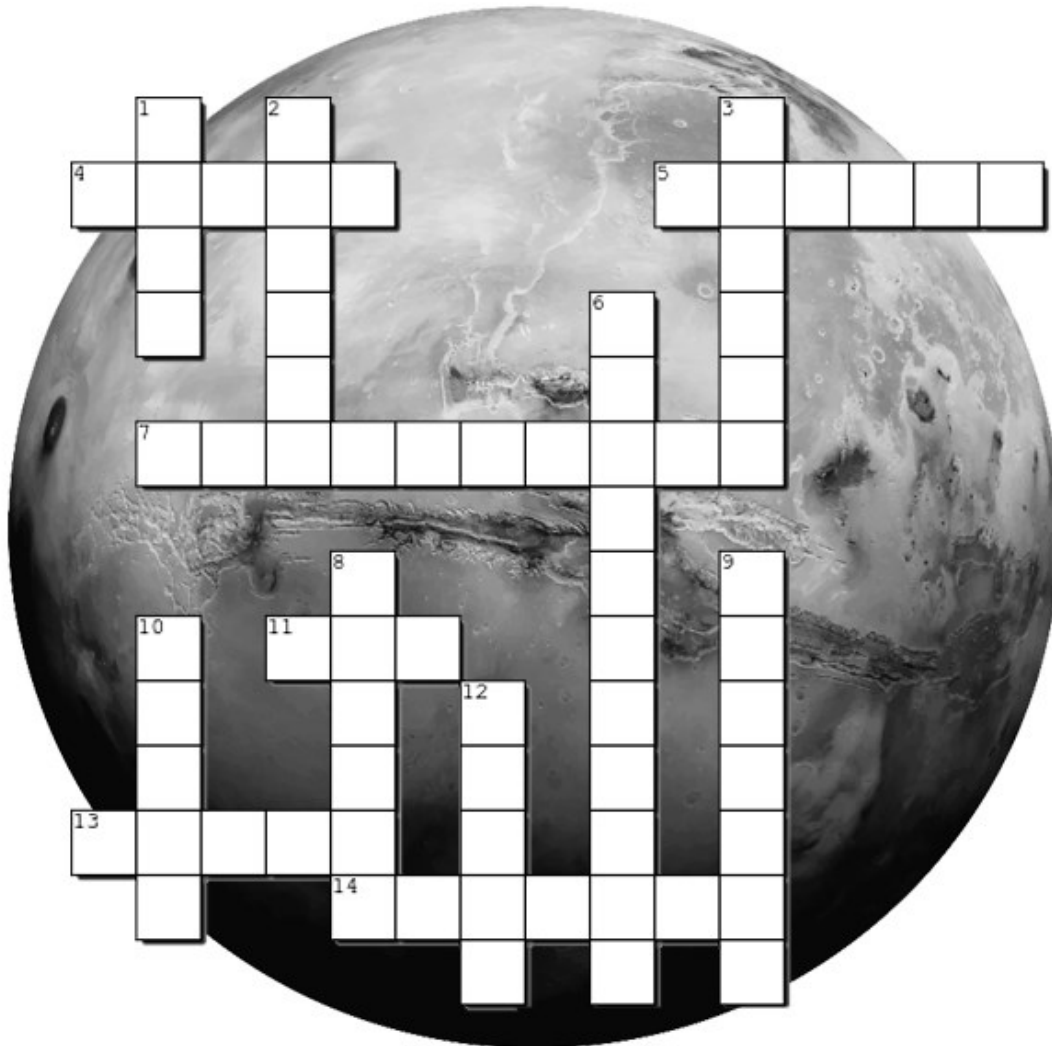


Valles Marineris on Mars

CANYON CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use the crossword clues and the study guide from the previous page to complete the puzzle.

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net



ACROSS

4. Some scientists believe this type of erosion formed a gigantic canyon on Mars.
5. another name for a canyon
7. the Grand Coulee is found in this state
11. a canyon with only one way in or out
13. and yet other name for a canyon
14. the process of water running over the land and gouging into the softer soil

DOWN

1. The canyon on this planet is as long as the United States is wide.
2. This moon of Saturn boasts a huge canyon
3. a deep valley with steep sides
6. a tragic, sometimes sudden, event
8. a deep, dry channel
9. The Grand Canyon is found in this state.
10. These animals were easily killed in a box canyon
12. a global event in the past that formed many large canyons

THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 23-24

1. What prevents Andi from taking her rescued colts back to the ranch?

2. Who takes Shasta and Sunny back to the ranch instead? Macy • Taffy • Walker brothers

3. "Covered in grit and dust, she [Andi] looked like a small boulder." Which two things is this simile comparing? _____

4. Which brother discovers Andi cowering on the ground? Ty • Jase • Rudy

5. How does Macy convince her brothers to spare Andi's life? _____

6. Describe what Andi sees and hears when she is in the shack (pp. 153-154).

Sights: _____

Sounds: _____



7. What proof do the Walker brothers include in the ransom note that shows they have Andi?

8. Write out the ransom note Macy wrote for her brothers on the sheet of paper from her copybook. To make it more realistic, spell the words as you think Macy might have spelled them—how they sound and not how they are really spelled. Have fun! (Page 157)



THICK AS THIEVES CHAPTERS 25–26

1. Andi wakes up, and new senses slam into her mind. What does she . . .

Feel? _____

Smell? _____

2. DIGGING DEEPER What do you think Macy means when she says, “Ty lies a lot”?

3. What hard choice does Macy make when she helps Andi hide in the swamp?

- A. to run away from her brothers
- B. to stay behind with Andi and her family
- C. to give Andi back to her brothers

4. What has Macy brought along to protect Andi and herself? _____

5. Which brother catches the girls in their hiding place? Ty • Jase • Rudy

6. What does the Carter family offer Macy? _____

7. What does Macy choose? _____

8. What is Andi’s final gift of gratitude to her new friend? _____

VOCABULARY MATCHING

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 9. <u>B</u> to shrink away from; to cringe | A. secluded |
| 10. _____ to be disbelieving or unconvinced | B. cower |
| 11. _____ a nagging or irritating thought | C. tendril |
| 12. _____ a sofa or couch | D. settee |
| 13. _____ a lock of hair | E. bloated |
| 14. _____ gruesome; hideous | F. grisly |
| 15. _____ rendered speechless with astonishment | G. hummocks |
| 16. _____ hidden; out of the way | H. dumbstruck |
| 17. _____ swollen | I. niggling |
| 18. _____ small hills; mounds | J. skeptical |

THICK AS THIEVES: JUST FOR FUN THE PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO

The wedding and reception for Andi's brother Justin and his bride, Lucy, take place at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The hotel was nearly new in 1882, having opened its doors on October 2, 1875. Seven stories high, it was the tallest building in San Francisco. With 755 guest rooms, it was the largest hotel on the West coast, and the most elegant. One rich man, Andrew Carnegie, remarked, "A palace truly! Where shall we find its equal? . . . The court of the Grand [Hotel] in Paris [France] is poor compared to this."

Mr. Carnegie was correct. The Palace cost \$5 million to build, and that was a *lot* of money in 1875. One of the astonishing features of the hotel was the skylight overlooking the Grand Court, where horse-drawn carriages delivered wealthy guests right inside the hotel. White-columned balconies surrounded the Grand Court, where guests could watch the comings and goings.



The Palace Hotel boasted four hydraulic elevators (called "rising rooms"), and each room had an electric call button to summon the hotel's staff. Rooms also had their own private bathrooms. The guest rooms could be joined together and opened up into suites for large groups (with a parlor that overlooked the street) or turned into long-term apartments for the many people who used the Palace as their permanent residence.

The hotel survived the initial damage from the great San Francisco earthquake of April 1906, but by late afternoon of that day, it had been consumed by the fires that followed the quake. Seven months after the earthquake, the "Baby Palace" rose, a modest, two-story structure. Then in 1909, the Palace Hotel was completely rebuilt from the ground up and took its place once again as the elegant, prestigious hotel it had once been. It still operates today.

SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL

There's nothing like the Palace! Our suite was on the fourth floor. I could lean over the balcony and see the Grand Court below. It made me dizzy. And the elevator! It was a moving box that took me up and down on a cable, so I didn't have to climb all those stairs. I went up and down the elevator once too often, and Mother scolded me. This is one place where I decided it might be best to act like a lady.

MORE JUST FOR FUN: DIME NOVELS-1800S ADVENTURE NOVELS



To help ease Andi's impatience with her recovery, Mitch lends her a stack of dime novels. Two weeks later, she's enjoying *Buckskin Sam, the Scalp Taker*. Other outrageous titles in her pile include *Ralph, the Slasher*, *Crack Skull Bob*, *A Trip to the Center of the Earth*, and *King of the Swordsmen*, along with Indian stories of captivity and warriors going on the warpath.

Dime novels were published by the thousands in the mid-to-late 1800s. Most people lived simple but busy lives, working hard from sunrise to sunset. There were no movies, Internet, or TV. Entertainment revolved around the home and church. Rodeos and roundups (with competitions and trick riding) were fun but limited to certain times of the year.

In 1860, the Beadle brothers published a small paper book called *Maleaska, the Indian Wife of the White Hunter*. It was an immediate hit, selling over 65,000 copies in the first few months. The Beadles named their cheap paperbacks "dime novels," and they cost only ten cents each. Their series eventually included 312 books. Soon, other publishers were getting in on these hot sellers.

Dime novels back then were similar to today's paperback novels, comic books, and TV episodes, all rolled up into farfetched tales of heroes, adventure, and danger. Sound familiar? *Star Wars* comes to mind. Instead of battling aliens in outer space, however, dime-novel heroes fought Indians and pirates, found gold, and battled stagecoach robbers. Some went on incredible journeys inside the earth. Real men like Kit Carson became larger than life in dime novel stories.



SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL

If Mr. Foster catches anybody with a dime novel, he yanks it away and tears it up in front of the entire class. Cory and Jack have lost many books this way. I keep Mitch's dime novels far away from schoolmasters and preachers. They don't like them and don't think children should put such worthless ideas in their heads. Mitch says dime novels are all in good fun. Thankfully, Mother agrees.

Most everybody liked dime novels—from boys (and girls like Andi) to cowboys (like Mitch) to presidents (Abraham Lincoln). There were, however, many people who did not like the books for the reasons expressed in Andi's journal entry above. Like today, there were probably some stories best left unread. However, the majority of stories were good, clean fun and cheap entertainment for thousands of people. Later, the price was dropped to a nickel ("Half-dime novels") so the books would be easier for children to buy. Dime novels never lost their popularity. They turned into today's paperback novels, but they don't cost ten cents any longer!

A DIME NOVEL SAMPLE: *CALIFORNIA JOE, THE MYSTERIOUS PLAINSMAN*

Book Summary: *The Strange Adventures of an Unknown Man, whose real identity, like that of the "Man of the Iron Mask," is still unsolved.*

Read this entire dime novel at:
CircleCBooks.com/milestones/

CHAPTER I—THE FOREST PHANTOM

"Who was California Joe?"

Kind reader, that question I cannot answer more than can I the queries: "Who was the Man of the Iron Mask?"

But from the time he entered upon the eventful career of a border boy, when he was in his seventeenth year, I can write of him, and many a thrilling tale of his adventures can be told.

But go beyond that night when he first appeared to a wagon-train of emigrants and became their guide, and all is a mystery, as though a veil had been drawn between him and the years that had gone before, for of himself this strange man would never speak.

One night nearly half a century ago a [wagon] train, westward bound, was encamped just where the prairie met the woodland and hills. It consisted of a score of white-tilted wagons, drawn by oxen, half as many stoutly built carryalls, to which were hitched serviceable horses, and the stock of the emigrants, comprising horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs.

Perhaps half a hundred souls were in the train, half of them being hardy, fearless men, and the remainder their wives and children, seeking homes in the border land.

When the camp had been pitched for the night, an hour before sunset—for the train traveled slowly, retarded as it was with their stock—a few of the younger men took their rifles for a stroll through the woodland above, hoping to knock over a few wild turkeys and squirrels for the evening meal. They were quite successful, and lured on by the sport, they penetrated the hills for a couple of miles and only thought of returning when the evening shadows warned them that night was at hand.

"Heaven above! Look there!"

The cry came from the lips of one of the party and all were thrilled with the sudden exclamation, which told of something more worthy of attention than a wild turkey or even a bear.

All glanced in the direction in which the one who had made some startling discovery was gazing, and every eye became riveted at once in a manner that proved the thrilling cry of their comrade had not been uncalled for. There, some hundred paces distant from where they stood, was what appeared to be a horse and rider. The animal was snow-white and stood as motionless as though carved from marble. The rider was dressed in deep black from boots to hat . . .



Answer Key: Thick as Thieves - 1

Page 7: Story Synopsis

1. 2015
2. Kregel Publications
3. Christian/Historical; Young Adult
4. Answers will vary.
5. full of kindness

Page 11: Characters Part 1

1. Sample Answers:
Andi is jumpy when Taffy is pacing and pawing; she dashes up the stairs; runs into the house for help; yells for Chad; snaps at Melinda
2. long (thick), dark braid.
3. Sample Answers:
Andi wants Chad “right now!” tells Justin to hurry; argues; runs back to the stall
4. Sample Answers:
best stockman in the valley yells when he’s annoyed or upset he and Andi are a lot alike impulsive and quick-tempered calm in an emergency; honest

Page 16: Chapters 5-6

1. February
2. B
3. grammar
4. Answers will vary.
5. CA state fair/summer
6. building is
7. having to sit with Macy
8. stuffy – airy
9. understanding – unfeeling
10. troublesome – pleasant
11. weakly – brightly

Page 9: Chapter 1

1. California; San Joaquin Valley; winter, 1882
2. Melinda making a bonnet; Justin paperwork; Chad/Mitch at a cattleman’s meeting in town; Mother went to bed
3. Justin
4. Justin’s fiancée
5. a dime novel
6. muscles contract but nothing happens; stands trembling; her sides heave
7. B noun
8. A noun
9. C adjective
10. C verb
11. A adjective
12. B adjective

Page 13: Foal Crossword Puzzle

- | <u>Across</u> | <u>Down</u> |
|----------------|------------------|
| 5. stallion | 1. teat |
| 6. runt | 2. thirty |
| 7. ninety | 3. eleven |
| 11. ultrasound | 4. unpredictable |
| | 8. mare |
| | 9. udder |
| | 10. foal |

Page 17: School Math

1. $2 \text{ ft} \times 10 \text{ ft} \times 3 \text{ ft} = 60$ cubic feet;
 60 divided by $1.2 = 50$ bushels of wheat
2. $2,000$ pounds = 1 ton; $6,720$ pounds divided by $2,000 = 3.36$ tons; $3.36 \times \$6.00 = \20.16 for the coal.

Page 18: Characters Part 2

1. Sample Answers: straggly, thin, dirty-blond hair, barefoot, cut-off overalls
2. What Macy says: “I ain’t goin’ to school!” “hoity-toity” “I ain’t gonna be caught dead in it.” “You can’t make me learn nothin’.”
What Macy does: plants her feet against the floor; twists away; hollers and folds her arms across her chest.
3. bold, messy, brave, aggressive, impulsive
4. Being “bold” or “brave” could be used in a positive way to stand for right.

Page 10: Chapter 2-3

1. C
2. overalls
3. make Taffy stand up
4. She’s foaling twins.
5. **SHASTA**- chocolate body/light mane
SUNNY- cream-colored; smaller
6. go up to bed
7. stay with her foals
8. D verb
9. A adjective
10. B noun
11. C adjective
12. A noun
D adjective

Page 14: Chapter 4

1. noon
2. his share of the money
3. 16 years old
4. Sebastian – Taffy
Shasta – Sunny
5. whorls
6. C
7. school starts soon
8. B adverb
9. B. noun
10. C adjective
11. D adjective
12. A adjective

Answer Key: Thick as Thieves - 2

Page 19: Chapter 7

1. Rosa decided not to return to school.
2. Cory gets a black eye.
3. B
4. Macy stinks!
5. Jack
6. The twin colts are being weaned.
7. interfere – let it go
8. rude – respectful
9. faint – revive
10. squirming – staying still

Page 22: Chapters 8-9

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1. A | 11. D |
| 2. four years ago | 12. A |
| 3. Lucinda (Lucy) Hawkins | 13. C |
| 4. Melinda | 14. F |
| 5. a reading primer | 15. B |
| 6. Hector (Flores) | 16. E |
| 7. C | |
| 8. false | |
| 9. a friend | |
| 10. Answers will vary. | |

Page 23: Dialogue

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Chad | 11. Chad |
| 2. Cory | 12. Rosa |
| 3. Macy | 13. Cory |
| 4. Mr. Foster | 14. Andi |
| 5. Rosa | 15. Melinda |
| 6. Mitch | |
| 7. Macy | |
| 8. Virginia | |
| 9. Andi | |
| 10. Melinda | |

Page 25: Chapter 10

1. B
2. handkerchief
3. Answers will vary.
4. cleans her slate (or blows her nose)
5. C
6. I can do all things through Christ.
7. F 10. E
8. A 11. C
9. B 12. D

Page 26: A “Lousy” Poem

One LOUSE, two LICE.
 Finding them is not real
NICE.
 A half-grown NYMPH was
 once a NIT.
 If your heads starts to itch,
 you know you’ve been BIT.

Page 27: Chapters 11-12

1. Any 3 of these:
 Cory gets another black eye.
 She steals the baseball bat.
 She grabs the ante-over ball.
 She cuts the jump rope.
 She steals the marbles.
2. C
3. ignore the situation and let it go.
4. Cindy; She steals her doll.
5. A
6. thrashes her? the corner?
7. false
8. B 11. C
9. D 12. F
10. A 13. E

Page 30: Foal-training Timeline

NEWBORN: Rub the foal all over; sit in a corner and watch the foal

A FEW DAYS OLD: Teach the foal who is boss; spend all your time with the foal; teach the colt to stand still; put an arm around his chest and another arm around his rump.

ONE WEEK OLD: Put a halter on the foal for 15 minutes.

TWO WEEKS OLD: Teach the colt to stand tied; teach the colt to lead with a halter and lead rope

ONE TO TWO MONTHS: Teach the colt the word “no.”

FIVE TO SIX MONTHS: Wean the foal from his dam.

ONE YEAR OLD: Start lunging the colt in a round pen; teach the colt to “walk,” “stop,” and “trot” on command.

TWO TO THREE YEARS: Train the colt to be ridden.

Page 33: Chapter 13

1. B
 2. Any 2 of these:
 from the city (San Francisco)
 lives in Fresno
 keeps house for her brother
 dark-brown hair and dimples
 3. A
 4. scrape Andi off under trees
 5. Mitch on Chase
- Sample definitions:
6. skip out; not go
 7. something that will happen, no matter what
 8. genuine; reasonable
 9. embarrassed beyond belief
 10. a bloodsucking worm

Page 34: Leeches

Greece, Egypt, Rome, Arabia, Europe

Page 35: Chapters 14-15

1. Answers will vary.
2. B
3. Rudy
4. C
5. compassion (kindness)
6. offers Macy a ride on Taffy
7. Chad
8. a tack
9. steal horses
10. a hanging (lynching)
11. to fuss over
12. regret
13. gave in
14. spellbound

Answer Key: Thick as Thieves - 3

Page 36: Similes

1. Sarah ran off **quicker than a jackrabbit**.
2. It compares Sarah to a jackrabbit.
3. It means Sarah can run very fast.
4. She bolted—streaking down K Street **like a shot out of last summer's Fourth of July cannon**.
5. It compares Taffy's speed to a cannon shot.
6. Taffy took off fast.
7. Taffy could run **like the wind**.
8. It compares Taffy's speed to the wind.
9. Another simile showing how fast Taffy can run.
10. Andi stayed in the saddle by clinging to Taffy's neck **like a leech**.
11. It compares Andi's grip to a leech.
12. Andi was holding on very tightly!
13. Answers will vary. Check to see the student has used a simile with "like," "as," or "than."

Page 38: Chapter 16

1. Ty, Jase, Rudy
2. too busy causing trouble (a ruckus); never stayed long enough in one place; nobody took the time to teach
3. They got worse manners **than a weasel in a henhouse**.
4. Fayetteville, Arkansas
5. B
6. A
7. Jase

Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. bleak
2. gambler
5. kin
7. resonated

DOWN

1. brambles
3. ornery
4. hooted
6. uncouth

Page 39: Grammar Review

1. noun, adjective, adjective, noun
2. conjunction, pronoun, verb, adjective
3. noun, verb, interjection
4. verb, pronoun, conjunction, adverb
5. verb, noun, verb, preposition
6. verb, adverb, noun, pronoun
7. adjective, noun, preposition, adjective, adjective, preposition, noun

Page 40: Chapters 17-18

1. because she's been working so hard
2. ©
3. B
4. seeing the marks on Macy's back
5. Andi decided (made a choice) to care.
6. Sunny
7. Any one of these: Sunny nuzzles her; Sunny follows her around; nudges her; nickers softly
8. false
9. helpless (sentences will vary)
10. scolding
11. begging

Page 43: Geography



6. mockingbird
7. apple blossom
8. 1836
9. Loblolly pine
10. diamond

Page 44: Chapter 19

1. A
2. washroom, kitchen, **barn**
3. Macy needs to return to her brothers.
4. true
5. The girls get caught by Wyatt and Mitch.
6. false

Digging Deeper

Answers will vary.

Page 42: Cattle Rustling

Then: horseback, "ghost" riders, changed brands, hanged rustlers.

Now: trucks and trailers, fake bills of sale, \$20,000 fine; 20 years in prison

Both: large industry; thousands of cattle stolen; hard to track down

Answer Key: Thick as Thieves - 4

Page 45: Chapters 20-21

1. B
2. Justin, Chad, Mitch, Melinda
3. Andi's colts are gone (stolen).
4. to find her colts
5. Rock Canyon
6. It's such a dangerous canyon.
7. B
8. Andi is going to rescue ALL the colts.
9. enlist 12. cautious
10. an enclosure 13. nervous
11. gigantic

Page 48: Canyon Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

4. water
5. ravine
7. Washington
11. box
13. gorge
14. erosion

DOWN

1. Mars
2. Tethys
3. canyon
6. cataclysmic
8. coulee
9. Arizona
10. bison
11. flood

Page 50: Chapters 25-26

1. Sample answers:
Feelings: tongue like cotton;
throbbing ankle; headache
Smells: stale whiskey
2. He is probably lying about leaving Andi behind (alive and well) since he's lied about other things.
3. B
4. a pistol
5. Jase
6. They offer Macy a home with them.
7. She chooses to go back to Arkansas.
8. Andi gives Macy Sunny.
9. B 14. F
10. J 15. H
11. I 16. A
12. D 17. F

Page 46: Chapter 22

1. She wants to let her family know where she is without breaking her promise to Macy.
2. The simile compares CLIFFS to SENTRIES.
3. guards
4. C
5. true
6. There are too many colts trying to escape at the same time and they panic, causing a noisy ruckus and a dangerous situation for Andi.
7. B.

Digging Deeper Sample Answers:

Sights: jagged rocks, oaks, manzanita, pines, churned-up grass, moon, boulders, debris, yellow light, black square (shack), dead cattle

Sounds: "handful of marbles," Taffy's snorting/whinnying, cursing, crickets, frogs, lowing cattle, falling rubble

Smells: dead, bloated, decaying cattle

Feelings: sharp rocks, nausea, chapped lips

Page 49: Chapters 23-24

1. She sprained her ankle and can't move.
2. Taffy
3. The simile compares ANDI with a BOULDER.
4. Rudy
5. Macy tells her brothers Andi is worth a lot of money to her family.
6. Sample answers:
Sights: darkness, two doors, blowing dust, fireplace, ashes, lantern, table, straight-back chairs, bedrolls, boxes, whiskey bottles, broken glass on the floor
Sounds: cabin shakes, men kicking the door shut, squeaking door, bottle clunking
7. a lock of Andi's hair
8. Sample spelling for the ransom note:
"If u want yer girl back, put \$2,000 in saddel bags and leeve it in the old claim shanty at Watts Springs. Wen we git the munny, we'll tell u where to find the girl."