

The following is a sampling of the lesson plans/materials for 1st year Law Enforcement students using the novel, A Child Called "It".

If you'd like the entire unit plans and materials, please contact Megan Zapalowski at mzapalowski@vbisd.org

Courage to Survive unit will be, then use one of the calendars provided to plan out your entire lesson.

Chapter Abstracts

Chapter abstracts are short descriptions of events that occur in each chapter. They highlight major plot events and detail the important relationships and characteristics of important characters. The Chapter Abstracts can be used to review what the students have read, or to prepare the students for what they will read. Hand the abstracts out in class as a study guide, or use them as a "key" for a class discussion. They are relatively brief, but can serve to be an excellent refresher of the text for either a student or teacher.

Character and Object Descriptions

Character and Object Descriptions provide descriptions of the significant characters and objects/places in the book. These can be printed out and used as an individual study guide for students, a "key" for leading a class discussion, a summary review prior to exams, or a refresher for an educator. The character and object descriptions are also used in some of the quizzes and tests in this lesson plan. The longest descriptions run about 200 words. They become shorter as the importance of the character or object declines.

Multiple Choice Questions

The 180 Multiple Choice Questions in this lesson plan will test a student's recall and understanding of the text. Use these questions for quizzes, homework assignments or tests. The questions are broken out into sections, so they focus on specific chapters or acts within a book or play. This allows you to test and review the book as you proceed through the unit. Typically, there are 5-15 questions per chapter, act or section.

Short Essay Questions

The 60 Short Essay Questions listed in this section require a one to two sentence answer. They ask students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of the text by describing what they've read, rather than just recalling it. The short essay questions evaluate not only whether students have read the material, but also how well they understand and can apply it. They require more thought than a multiple choice question, but are shorter than the essay questions.

Essay Questions/Writing Assignments

These 20 Essay Questions/Writing Assignments can be used as essay questions on a test, or as stand-alone essay topics for a take-home or in-class writing assignment. Students should have a full understanding of the unit material in order to answer these questions. They often include multiple parts of the work and ask for a thorough analysis of the overall text. They nearly always require a substantial response. Essay responses are typically expected to be one (or more) page(s) and consist of multiple paragraphs, although it is possible to write answers more briefly. These essays are designed to challenge a student's understanding of the broad points in a work, interactions among the characters, and main points and themes of the text. But, they also cover many of the other issues specific to the work and to the world today.

Daily Lessons

This section of the lesson plan contains 30 Daily Lessons. Daily Lessons each have a specific objective and offer at least three (often more) ways to teach that objective. Lessons include classroom discussions, group and partner activities, in-class handouts, individual writing assignments, at least one homework assignment, class participation exercises and other ways to teach students about the text in a classroom setting. You can combine daily lessons or use the ideas within them to create your own unique curriculum. They vary greatly from day to day and offer an array of creative ideas that provide many options for an educator.

Fun Classroom Activities

Fun Classroom Activities differ from Daily Lessons because they make "fun" a priority. The 20 enjoyable, interactive classroom activities that are included will help students understand the text in fun and entertaining ways. Fun Classroom Activities include group projects, games, critical thinking activities, brainstorming sessions, writing poems, drawing or sketching, and countless other creative exercises. Many of the activities encourage students to interact with each other, be creative and think "outside of the box," and ultimately grasp key concepts from the text by "doing" rather than simply studying. Fun activities are a great way to keep students interested and engaged while still providing a deeper understanding of the work and its themes.

Quizzes/Homework Assignments

The Quizzes/Homework Assignments are worksheets that can be used in a variety of ways. They pull questions from the multiple choice and short essay sections, the character and object descriptions, and the chapter abstracts to create worksheets that can be used for pop quizzes, in-class assignments and homework. Periodic homework assignments and quizzes are a great way to encourage students to stay on top of their assigned reading. They can also help you determine which concepts and ideas your class grasps and which they need more guidance on. By pulling from the different sections of the lesson plan, quizzes and homework assignments offer a comprehensive review of the text in manageable increments that are less substantial than a full blown test.

Tests

Use the Test Summary page to determine which pre-made test is most relevant to your students' learning styles. This lesson plan provides both full unit tests and mid-unit tests. You can choose from several tests that include differing combinations of multiple choice questions, vocabulary questions, short answer questions, short essay questions, full essay questions, character and object matching, etc. Some of the tests are designed to be more difficult than others. Some have essay questions, while others are limited to short-response questions, like multiple choice, matching and short answer questions. If you don't find the combination of questions that best suits your class, you can also create your own test.

Create Your Own Quiz or Test

You have the option to Create Your Own Quiz or Test. If you want to integrate questions you've developed for your curriculum with the questions in this lesson plan, or you simply want to create a unique test or quiz from the questions this lesson plan offers, it's easy to do. Cut and paste the information from the Create Your Own Quiz or Test page into a Word document to get started. Scroll through the

sections of the lesson plan that most interest you and cut and paste the exact questions you want to use into your new, personalized lesson plan.

Evaluation Forms

Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form when students are reading aloud in class. Pass the forms out before you assign reading, so students will know what to expect. You can use the forms to provide general feedback on audibility, pronunciation, articulation, expression and rate of speech. You can use this form to grade students, or simply comment on their progress.

Use the Writing Evaluation Form when you're grading student essays. This will help you establish uniform criteria for grading essays even though students may be writing about different aspects of the material. By following this form you will be able to evaluate the thesis, organization, supporting arguments, paragraph transitions, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. of each student's essay.

Lesson Plan Calendar

Lesson plan calendars give you daily suggestions about what to teach. Determine how long your **A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive** unit will be, then use one of the following calendars to plan out your entire lesson. In some cases, you may want to assign some of the reading over the weekend preceding the unit. This will give students some context for the start of the unit.

Definitions:

- * **Review Chapter Abstracts** - Chapter abstracts are synopses of each chapter that you can use to review the reading assignments with your students.
- * **Daily Lessons** - There are 30 daily lessons detailed in this lesson plan. Select a new daily lesson each day.
- * **Fun Activities** - There are 20 fun activities in this lesson plan. They serve as a way for students to interact with the material in an enjoyable, educational way.
- * **Read Aloud in Class** - Ask students to take turns reading aloud from where they left off in their most recent reading assignment. Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form in this lesson plan to evaluate their reading skills.
- * **In-Class Handout** - An in-class handout can be one of the quizzes/homework assignments, vocabulary games, worksheets, or an essay/writing assignment. It's something the students can complete and turn in during class, or begin in-class and take home to finish as a homework assignment.

One Week Lesson Calendar

Before the Unit Begins

Homework: Read through **Chapter 2, Good Times of A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive.**

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Quiz	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2, Good Times 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-8 1 Fun Activity from Fun	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 4, The Fight for Food 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 7-16 1 In-Class Handout	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6, While Father is Away Quiz 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 17-23	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Epilogue, Sonoma County, California 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 24-30 1 In-Class Handout	Test

Activities 1-10 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 4, The Fight for Food	Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6, While Father is Away and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	1 In-Class Handout 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 2-10 Homework Assignment: Read through Epilogue, Sonoma County, California and assign an essay, due the week following the test	Homework Assignment: Study for the test	
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Two Week Lesson Calendar

Before the Unit Begins

Homework: Read through **Chapter 1, The Rescue of A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive.**

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 1, The Rescue 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-3 Students Read Aloud in Class	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 4-6 1 Activity from Fun Activities 1-5 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 2, Good Times	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2, Good Times 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 7-9 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3, Bad Boy	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3, Bad Boy 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 10-12 1 Activity from Fun Activities 6-10 Review for Quiz Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 4, The Fight for Food and study for quiz	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 4, The Fight for Food Quiz Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 5, The Accident and assign an Essay, due the week following the final test
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 5, The Accident 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 13-16 1 Activity from Fun Activities 11-15 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6, While Father is Away and choose a homework assignment from one of the a Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6, While Father is Away 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 17-20 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer and choose a homework assignment from one of the a Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 21-25 1 In-Class Handout 1 Activity from Fun Activities 16-20 Homework Assignment: Read through Epilogue, Sonoma County, California	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Epilogue, Sonoma County, California 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 26-30 1 In-Class Handout Review for Test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test

Four Week Lesson Calendar

Before the Unit Begins

Homework: Read through **Chapter 1, The Rescue of A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive.**

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Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 1, The Rescue Students Read Aloud in Class	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-2 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 3-4 1 Activity from Fun Activities 1-3 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 2, Good Times and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2, Good Times Review Homework Daily Lesson 5 1 Activity from Fun Activities 4-6 In-Class Handout	Quiz 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 6-7 Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3, Bad Boy and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Mid Unit Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3, Bad Boy Review Homework Daily Lesson 8 1 Activity from Fun Activities 7-8 Homework Assignment: Choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 9-10 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 11 1 Activity from Fun Activities 9-10 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 4, The Fight for Food and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 4, The Fight for Food Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 12-13 1 In-Class Handout Review for Test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 5, The Accident and assign an Essay, due the week following the final test

Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Review Unit	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 5, The Accident Review Test 1 Daily Lesson from Daily Lessons 14-15 Students Read Aloud in Class	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 16-17 1 Activity from Fun Activities 12-13 Homework Assignment: Choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 18 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6, While Father is Away and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6, While Father is Away Review Homework 1 Daily Lesson from Daily Lessons 19-20 1 Activity from Fun Activities 13-14 Homework Assignment: Choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Quiz 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 21-22 Read Aloud in Class 1 Activity from Fun Activities 15-6 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons
Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 23-24 1 Activity from Fun Activities 17-18 Homework Assignment: Choose a homework	Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 25-26 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Epilogue, Sonoma County, California and choose a homework assignment	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Epilogue, Sonoma County, California Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 27-28 1 In-Class Handout 1 Activity from Fun Activities 19-20	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 29-30 1 In-Class Handout Review for Test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test

assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	from one of the Daily Lessons			
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Eight Week Lesson Calendar

Before the Unit Begins

Homework: Read through **Chapter 1, The Rescue of A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive.**

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 1, The Rescue Students Read Aloud in Class	Daily Lesson 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lessons 2 Fun Activity 1 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 3 In-Class Handout	Quiz Fun Activity 2 Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 2, Good Times
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Quiz	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Review Unit
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2, Good Times Daily Lesson 4 Fun Activity 3 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 5 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Quiz Review Homework Daily Lesson 6 Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 7 Fun Activity 4 1 In-Class Handout	Fun Activity 5 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3, Bad Boy
Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Quiz	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3, Bad Boy Daily Lesson 8 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Study for quiz	Quiz Daily Lesson 9 Fun Activity 6 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 10 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 11 Fun Activity 7 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Quiz Read Aloud in Class Fun Activity 8 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 4, The Fight for Food and complete the Daily Lesson

Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Mid-Unit Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 4, The Fight for Food Daily Lesson 12 Fun Activity 9 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 13 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class	Review Homework Daily Lesson 14 1 In-Class Handout Fun Activity 10 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework 1 In-Class Handout Review for Test Homework Assignment: Study for test	Test on first half of A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive Homework Assignment: Assign an Essay, due on Day 38

Day 21 - Review Unit	Day 22 - Review Unit	Day 23 - Review Unit	Day 24 - Review Unit	Day 25 - Quiz
Daily Lesson 15 Review the Test	Daily Lesson 16 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 5, The Accident and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 5, The Accident Review Homework Daily Lesson 17 Fun Activity 11 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Fun Activity 12	Quiz Daily Lesson 18 Fun Activity 13 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 26 - Review Unit	Day 27 - Review Unit	Day 28 - Review Unit	Day 29 - Review Unit	Day 30 - Mid-Unit Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 19 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 20 1 In-Class Handout Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6, While Father is Away and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6, While Father is Away Review Homework Daily Lesson 2 Fun Activity 14 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 22 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Study for quiz	Quiz Fun Activity 15

Day 31 - Review Unit	Day 32 - Review Unit	Day 33 - Review Unit	Day 34 - Review Unit	Day 35 - Quiz
Daily Lesson 23 Read Aloud in Class	Daily Lesson 24 Fun Activity 16 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer Review Homework Daily Lesson 25 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 26 Fun Activity 17	Quiz Read Aloud in Class Daily Lesson 27 Fun Activity 18 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 36 - Review Unit	Day 37 - Review Unit	Day 38 - Review Unit	Day 39 - Review Unit	Day 40 - Final Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 28 Fun Activity 19 Homework Assignment: Read through Epilogue, Sonoma County, California and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Epilogue, Sonoma County, California 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Finish Essay assignment	Collect Essay Assignments Daily Lesson 29 Fun Activity 20 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 30 1 In-Class Handout Review for Test	Final Test

Chapter Abstracts

Chapter abstracts are short descriptions of events that occur in each chapter. They highlight major plot events and detail the important

relationships and characteristics of characters and objects. The Chapter Abstracts can be used to review what the students have read, or to prepare the students for what they will read. Hand the abstracts out in class as a study guide, or use them as a "key" for a class discussion. They are relatively brief, but can serve to be an excellent refresher of the text for either a student or teacher.

Chapter 1, The Rescue Abstract

- * Dave hurries to finish the dishes so he can have his brother's leftover breakfast.
- * Dave does not mind running to school because it gives him time to steal food from his classmates.
- * Dave brings two peanut butter sandwiches and carrot sticks for lunch every day for three years.

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Chapter 2, Good Times Abstract

- * The school nurse checks Dave for injuries every day before school.
- * Dave tells the school nurse he ran into a door when she sees his bruises.

Chapter 3, Bad Boy Abstract

- * A policeman, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Zeigler, and Miss Woods are in the principal's office waiting for Dave.
- * The policeman asks to see the scar on Dave's chest.
- * Dave is taken to the police station after the meeting in the principal's office.

Chapter 4, The Fight for Food Abstract

- * Dave is afraid of what his mother will do if she finds out.
- * Dave's mother is told he is in the custody of the juvenile department.
- * The policeman tells Dave not to worry and that he is free.

Chapter 5, The Accident Abstract

- * Dave compares his family to the Brady Bunch.
- * Dave's father, Stephen, is a fireman.
- * Dave's family lives in Daly City, outside San Francisco.

Chapter 6, While Father is Away Abstract

- * Dave's mother, Catherine, is a determined woman.
- * Dave's mother loves to cook exotic meals for the family.
- * Holidays are very important for Dave and his family.

Chapter 7, The Lord's Prayer Abstract

- * In the spring, the whole family goes on picnics.
- * They all vacation at the Russian River, Dave's favorite place.

Epilogue, Sonoma County, California Abstract

- * Mother is in charge of all family matters.

Abstract

- * Dave's relationship with his mother changes from discipline to punishment.
- * Mother lies on the couch all day, watching television in her bathrobe.

- * Mother has Dave stand with his face pushed into the mirror, repeating over and over that he is a bad boy.
- * Dave's mother often has him search the house for hours for something she has lost.

- * Dave's father becomes his protector.
- * Dave's mother comes after him as he sits in his chair in the bedroom and dislocates his shoulder.
- * She brings him to the hospital the next day, telling the doctor that Dave fell out of bed.

- * Dave is not allowed to talk unless he is told to.
- * Dave's mother burns his arm on the gas stove.
- * Dave vows to use any tactic in order to survive.

- * Dave steals food from his classmates before school starts.
- * Mother does not feed Dave all weekend when she finds out he is stealing food.

- * Dave's brothers do not acknowledge him.
- * Mother refers to Dave as 'the boy'.
- * When Dave finishes his chores, he has to go to the basement.

- * Dave's father tries to convince Mother that the punishments are too harsh.
- * Dave's teacher, Miss Moss, questions him about his condition.
- * Dave's mother tells the principal that he is hurting himself and makes up stories.

- * Dave's mother pushes a soiled diaper in his face, telling him to eat it.
- * Dave starts to leave school to steal food from stores.
- * Mother gives Dave ammonia to drink, burning the flesh from his mouth.

- * Dave's morale is low.
- * Dave never receives lunch.
- * Dave gets to eat dinner every three days.
- * Dave is forced to sit on his hands at the bottom of the stairs while the rest of the family eats.

- * Russell reports everything Dave does to Mother.
- * Mother threatens Dave with a kitchen knife.
- * Mother says that she is going to kill him.

- * Mother falls, stabbing Dave by accident.
- * Mother props Dave on the toilet and bandages his wound.
- * When he regains consciousness, she tells him to finish the dishes.

- * Dave asks father for help but is told to do the dishes.
- * Dave's wound becomes infected after three days.
- * Dave takes care of the wound himself.

- * Dave's father helps him with the dishes each night until Mother tells him to stop.
- * Dave's father promises to take him away from there someday.

- * Dave calls his mother's house 'the Madhouse'.
- * Dave goes without food for ten days.
- * When mother gives Dave a plate of food, she grabs it away before he can eat it.

- * Dave wants respect even more than food.
- * Dave's mother forces him to stay in the bathroom with a bucket of Clorox and ammonia.
- * Dave's mother forces him to lie in a tub of cold water, forcing his head underwater.

- * The substitute teacher reports her suspicions about Dave's condition.
- * The school nurse starts examining Dave daily.
- * Dave's mother is suddenly nice to him because social services is coming to visit.

- * Dave believes there is no God for him as he enters fifth grade.
- * Dave is disconnected from the physical pain at this point.
- * Dave no longer dreams when he sleeps.

- * Dave hates everyone and everything.
- * Dave hates himself more than anyone else.

- * Dave's classmates tell him to jump from the clipper ship.
- * Dave's mother tells him that she wishes he were dead.
- * Dave believes his mother will kill him now that his father is gone.

- * Dave feels alive as he stares at the Pacific Ocean.
- * A piece of driftwood reminds him of his past life.

- * Dave promises himself to be the best that he can be.
- * Dave manages to let go of his past.
- * Dave keeps a positive attitude and feels his past made him stronger.

- * Dave joins the Air Force.
- * Dave believes that in America, anyone can become a winner.
- * Dave brings his son to the Russian River.
- * Dave's final thought in the book is that he is free.

Character Descriptions

This section provides a short description of all the major characters in the book. This can be printed out as a study guide for students, used as a "key" for leading a class discussion, or you can jump to the quiz/homework section to find worksheets that incorporate these descriptions into a variety of question formats.

Characters

David Pelzer - This individual is a happy four-year-old, until his mother takes up drinking and begins abusing him. He grows up to be a respectable leader in his community and a loving father.

Mother, Catherine Roerva - This person is kind, gentle, energetic and an excellent cook. She becomes depressed and tyrannical as time progresses.

Father, Stephen Joseph - This man is a fireman in San Francisco who works twenty-four hour shifts. He is rarely at home and avoids the problems of his wife and son.

Brothers - Stan and Ronald - These two boys are involved in the abuse of the author as a child. They often invite their friends over to participate in the abuse.

Brothers - Russell and Kevin - These individuals are born during the childhood of the author. The younger of the two is the only person who makes the author happy as a child.

The School Nurse - This person is the first to keep a documented account of the author's wounds and instances of abuse. She is instrumental in putting a stop to the abuse.

Mr. Zelgler - This man is the author's homeroom teacher in the fifth grade. He takes a special interest in the boy from the first day of school.

Mr. Hansen and Miss Woods - The principal and one of the teachers from the author's school. They refuse to let the abuse continue.

The Bullies - These school children tease the author because he wears the same clothes to school every day for months on end.

Neighbors - The author stops her on his way to school to beg for food. Some of them would offer to make him a lunch or would give him some other scrap of food.

Object Descriptions

This section provides a short description of all the major objects in the book. This can be printed out as a study guide for students, used as a "key" for leading a class discussion, or you can jump to the quiz/homework section to find worksheets that incorporate these descriptions into a variety of question formats.

Objects

Russian River - This is a place in California where Dave and his family vacation when Dave is a child.

School - This is Dave's refuge away from his mother, and the only place where he can find food when his mother refuses to feed him.

Grocery Store - For a short time, Dave leaves school during lunch recess to steal food from this place.

Lunch Bags - These belong to other children and Dave often steals food from them.

Frozen Food Trays - Dave steals these from the school cafeteria while his mother is starving him.

Basement/Garage - Dave is forced to sleep here and has to wait here to receive his chore assignments.

Bathroom/ Clorox & ammonia pail - Dave's mother often forces him to lay in freezing cold baths for long periods of time in this place. She also locks him in here with a pail of Clorox and ammonia mixed together to expose him to toxic fumes.

Kitchen - This place is the scene of the worst moments in Dave's life. It is the place where he is stabbed.

Golden Gate Park - Before Dave's mother becomes sick and angry, she would often take Dave and his brothers here on outings.

Daly City - This is the community where Dave and his family live.

San Francisco - Dave's father works in this city.

Multiple Choice Questions

This section contains 180 multiple choice questions about *A Child Called It: One Child's Courage to Survive*. Multiple choice questions test a student's recall and understanding of the text. Use these questions for chapter quizzes, homework assignments or tests. Jump to the quiz/homework section for the multiple choice worksheets.

Multiple Choice - Chapter 1, The Rescue

1. Why does Dave want to finish washing the dishes as quickly as possible in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) So he can finish his homework.
- b) So he can play ball before school.
- c) So he can have his brother's leftover breakfast.
- d) So he can make his bed.

2. Why does Dave's mother push his face into the counter in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) She catches him with his hands out of the dish water.
- b) She hears him using foul language.

- c) He sasses her.
- d) She sees him hurting his brother.

3. What is Dave's mother's favorite weapon against him?

- a) Kicks to the thighs.
- b) Withholding food.
- c) Open handed slaps.
- d) Slaps with a leather belt.

4. How does Dave's mother surprise him after he finishes washing the dishes in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) She allows him to eat the milk and cereal leftover in his brother's bowl.
- b) She tells him she is proud of him.
- c) She gives him a kiss on the forehead.
- d) She tells him he did a good job with the dishes.

5. Why does Dave not mind running to school in the morning?

- a) He likes to stay in shape for the track team.
- b) He can get there early enough to steal food from other children's lunch bags.
- c) He likes to get to school early and talk to the teachers
- d) He can play tag with the other children in the schoolyard.

6. What is the rare thing Dave's mother does when he finishes eating in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) She gives him a hug.
- b) She drives him to school.
- c) She combs his hair.
- d) She makes him a lunch.

7. What are the contents of the lunch Dave's mother has been making him every day for three years?

- a) Two peanut butter sandwiches and carrot sticks.
- b) Two tuna sandwiches and an apple.
- c) Two jelly sandwiches and an apple.
- d) Two bologna sandwiches and carrot sticks.

8. What does Dave's mother tell him in Chapter 1, The Rescue to say happened to his face?

- a) He ran into a door.
- b) He fell down the stairs.
- c) His brother hit him.
- d) The dog jumped on him.

9. How does Dave's mother look on a typical day?

- a) Soft curly hair, thin, and lovely.
- b) Swollen red eyes, frazzled hair, no makeup, and overweight.
- c) Long shiny hair, shining teeth, and stylish.
- d) Short wavy hair, glowing smile, and well-groomed.

10. What is the first thing Dave does when he gets to school in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) He goes to the auditorium for assembly.
- b) He goes to the lunch room for milk.

- c) He goes to his homeroom.
- d) He goes to the school office and is then sent to the nurse.

11. Who checks for new injuries on Dave every morning before school starts?

- a) Mr. Zeigler.
- b) The principal.
- c) Miss Woods.
- d) The school nurse.

12. What does Dave say happened to his face when he is questioned about the bruises in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) He says that he tripped and fell.
- b) He says that he bumped into the cabinet.
- c) He says that he fell down the stairs.
- d) He says that he was playing baseball and got hit with the bat.

13. What piece of clothing has Dave's mother made him wear to school every day for the past two years in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) A shirt that hangs down to his knees.
- b) A ripped t-shirt.
- c) A shirt that is too small for him.
- d) A long-sleeved shirt full of holes.

14. What do all the students in Dave's class do when he returns to the classroom in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) They hold their noses and hiss at him because he smells.
- b) They snicker at him behind their notebooks.
- c) They yell insults at him.
- d) They smile at him.

15. When Dave is called back to the office from his classroom in Chapter 1, The Rescue, who is there to see him?

- a) A policeman, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Zeigler, and Miss Woods.
- b) His mother and father.
- c) His mother and Mr. Hansen.
- d) His mother and brothers.

16. For what reason does Dave think he has been called into the principal's office in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) Because he forgot his homework.
- b) Because he was talking in class.
- c) To be arrested for stealing.
- d) To be given a detention for being late.

17. Who does Dave show the scar on his chest to while he is in the principal's office?

- a) The teachers.
- b) The nurse.
- c) A policeman.
- d) The principal.

18. What does Dave make sure that everyone knows about the scar on his chest?

- a) That his brother stabbed him.

- b) That his mother meant to hurt him.
- c) That his father stabbed him.
- d) That is was an accident.

19. How does Dave feel about telling the story of his injuries in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) He wants to get his mother arrested.
- b) He is reluctant to talk.
- c) He wants to tell everyone what happened.
- d) He is afraid that he will be blamed.

20. What does the principal give to Dave after the meeting in his office?

- a) A suspension.
- b) A tray of food.
- c) A letter for his mother .
- d) A detention.

21. Where is Dave taken after the meeting in Mr. Hansen's office?

- a) Back to his classroom.
- b) The police station.
- c) To his father's workplace.
- d) Home.

22. Why is Dave afraid to give his mother's phone number to the authorities?

- a) He is afraid of what she will do to him.
- b) He doesn't want to disturb her.
- c) He doesn't want her to get in trouble.
- d) He is afraid his brothers will punish him.

23. When Dave's mother receives the phone call from the authorities in Chapter 1, The Rescue, what is she told?

- a) That Dave is in the custody of the juvenile department.
- b) That Dave got a detention.
- c) That she should pick up Dave from school.
- d) That Dave will be late getting home.

24. What is Dave told after the phone call to his mother in Chapter 1, The Rescue?

- a) Dave is going back to his mother.
- b) Dave is free.
- c) Dave is to blame for everything.
- d) Dave should not make his mother angry.

Multiple Choice - Chapter 2, Good Times

1. Who does Dave compare his family to before the abuse started?

- a) The Partridge family.
- b) The Cleaver family.
- c) The Brady Bunch.
- d) The Ingalls family.

2. What is the name of Dave's father?

- a) David Joseph.
- b) Stephen David.
- c) Joseph Stephen.
- d) Stephen Joseph.

3. What is the occupation of Dave's father?

- a) Fireman.
- b) Baker.
- c) Bank clerk.
- d) Policeman.

4. What nickname does Dave's father use for him?

- a) Beanpole.
- b) Big Guy.
- c) Tiger.
- d) Sonny.

5. Where does Dave's family live in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) In a two-bedroom house in Daly City, outside of San Francisco.
- b) In a three-bedroom house in El Paso.
- c) In a three-bedroom house in San Francisco.
- d) In a two-bedroom house in Los Angeles.

6. What is Dave's mother's name?

- a) Catherine Josephs.
- b) Catherine Roberts.
- c) Catherine Stephens.
- d) Catherine Roerva.

7. What is Dave's mother's biggest asset?

- a) Her determination.
- b) Her love for her family.
- c) Her intelligence.
- d) Her beauty.

8. Chapter 2, Good Times, who is in command of all family matters in Dave's household?

- a) His mother and father make decisions together.
- b) They all make decisions as a family.
- c) His mother.
- d) His father.

9. What kind of a housekeeper is Dave's mother during the good times?

- a) She is a clean fiend.
- b) She is untidy and doesn't care about the house.
- c) She cleans enough to get by.
- d) She rarely cleans the house.

10. Chapter 2, Good Times, what does Dave's mother tell Dave and his brothers they should always do?

- a) They should always do the best they can in everything.
- b) They should go to college.
- c) They should always say their prayers.
- d) They should always go to church.

11. What is the favorite thing Dave's mother does for her family Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) Singing to them at bedtime.
- b) Creating new and exotic meals.
- c) Washing and ironing their clothes.
- d) Praying with them before bed.

12. What kind of pets does Dave's family have Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) Fish, dogs, cats, and a tortoise.
- b) White mice.
- c) Fiddler crabs.
- d) Hamsters.

13. What does Dave's mother explain to her children while their cat is having kittens?

- a) Not to touch the kittens.
- b) To keep away from the mother cat.
- c) How cats mate.
- d) The miracle of birth.

14. What does Dave's mother proceed to do after she announces to her children that she is sick Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) She paints the steps leading to the garage red, placing mats over them before the paint is dry.
- b) She calls her husband and tells him to come home.
- c) She goes to her bedroom to lie down.
- d) She lies on the couch and falls asleep.

15. During the good years, when do the holidays begin for Dave's family?

- a) New Year's Day.
- b) Christmas.
- c) Thanksgiving.
- d) Halloween.

16. When does Dave's mother start decorating for the Christmas holidays in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) Christmas Eve.
- b) The day after Thanksgiving.
- c) Right after Halloween.
- d) The week before Christmas.

17. What are Dave and his brothers allowed to do on Christmas Eve in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) Open one present.
- b) Make cookies.
- c) Wait for Santa until they fall asleep.
- d) Stay up late.

18. Why does Dave's mother start to cry on Christmas Day in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) She is sad that Christmas is almost over.
- b) She is so happy to have a real family.
- c) She burned her hand on the oven.
- d) She misses her mother.

19. What is Dave's favorite place in Golden Gate Park?

- a) The carousel.
- b) The Steinhart Aquarium.
- c) The beautiful flower gardens.
- d) The reflecting pool.

20. What do Dave and his family like to do in the springtime in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) Go on picnics.
- b) Plant the vegetable garden.
- c) Visit the zoo.
- d) Wash the windows.

21. Where do Dave and his family usually go for summer vacations in Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) San Francisco.
- b) Portola or Memorial Park.
- c) The Sierras.
- d) Los Angeles.

22. What is Dave's favorite place in the world to go during vacation, according to Chapter 2, Good Times?

- a) To the city.
- b) Camping in the Sierras.
- c) The Russian River.
- d) To the sea.

23. What does Dave's mother teach him in a small trenched hole at the Russian River?

- a) How to catch crayfish.
- b) How to fish.
- c) How to swim.
- d) How to catch minnows.

24. In Chapter 2, Good Times, when does Dave's mom hug him, giving him a feeling of warmth and safety?

- a) When she tucks him into bed.
- b) When she wakes him up in the morning.
- c) Watching the sunset on the Russian River.
- d) When she listens to his bedtime prayers.

Multiple Choice - Chapter 3, Bad Boy

1. How does Dave's relationship with his mother change in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) From discipline to indifference.
- b) From discipline to punishment.

- c) From punishment to leniency.
- d) From indifference to punishment.

2. In the beginning, how does Dave find out if he can come out of his room to play?

- a) His brothers ask Father.
- b) His mother comes into the room to tell him.
- c) His brothers ask Mother.
- d) His brothers tell him it's okay.

3. Beginning in Chapter 3, Bad Boy, what does Dave's mother do on the days his father is away at work?

- a) She lies on the couch all day, watching television in her bathrobe.
- b) She volunteers at the school.
- c) She volunteers at the hospital.
- d) She goes on shopping sprees all day.

4. What form of punishment does Dave get after his mother decides sitting in the corner is no longer effective?

- a) He has to write a hundred times that he is a bad boy.
- b) He has to remain silent for the entire day.
- c) He has to stand with his face pushed into the mirror, repeating over and over that he is a bad boy.
- d) He has to stand on a chair in the corner.

5. What does Dave's mother make him and his brothers to do for hours at a time in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) Wash the floors.
- b) Wash every piece of silverware over and over.
- c) Clean the basement.
- d) Search the entire house for things she has lost.

6. What happens to Dave when he forgets what his mother sent him to do in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) He gets sent to his room.
- b) He is sent to bed without supper.
- c) She slaps him in the face, giving him a bloody nose.
- d) He gets banned from the house.

7. Beginning in Chapter 3, Bad Boy, who becomes Dave's protector?

- a) His uncle.
- b) The neighbor.
- c) His brother.
- d) His father.

8. In Chapter 3, Bad Boy, what do Dave's parents do from 3 p.m. until bedtime when his father is not working?

- a) They drink and dance in the kitchen.
- b) They read the Bible.
- c) They argue.
- d) They go out.

9. Dave's mother comes after him as he sits in his chair in the bedroom in Chapter 3, Bad Boy. What does she do to him?

- a) She tells him she is sorry.
- b) She hits him over and over and dislocates his shoulder.

- c) She gives him a hug.
- d) She brushes his hair.

10. Where does Dave's mother have him sleep on the night of the chair incident?

- a) In the bottom bunk.
- b) On the floor.
- c) In the top bunk.
- d) In her bed.

11. After the chair incident, what does Dave's mother tell the doctor and Dave's father happened to Dave?

- a) He fell out of a tree.
- b) He fell down the stairs.
- c) He fell off his bike.
- d) He fell out of bed.

12. How does Dave feel about school in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) It is his haven away from mother.
- b) He hates it.
- c) He is indifferent to it.
- d) It is torture for him.

13. How does Dave do with his school work in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) He leaves his papers blank.
- b) He gets bad grades on all his papers.
- c) He never finishes his school work.
- d) He gets more happy faces than everyone else in the class.

14. When Dave gets home from school one day in Chapter 3, Bad Boy, what does his mother tell him?

- a) She is proud of him.
- b) He is the best in the class.
- c) He shamed his family.
- d) He needs to work harder.

15. What new punishment does Dave's mother invent for him in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) No more television ever.
- b) No bike riding.
- c) No more pets.
- d) No more snacks.

16. Where does Dave have to go while the rest of the family goes camping?

- a) To his grandmother's house.
- b) To his Aunt Josie's house.
- c) To his uncle's house.
- d) To stay with a neighbor.

17. How does Dave feel when he is not allowed to go camping?

- a) He is happier than he has been in a long time.
- b) He is glad to be away from his mother.

- c) Like a free man.
- d) Like an outcast.

18. What is Dave's punishment after the camping trip is over?

- a) He has to do the dishes every night.
- b) He has to do his brother's chores.
- c) He has to mow the lawn.
- d) He is never to speak again unless he is told to.

19. Who is Dave's best friend when he repeats first grade?

- a) His brother Stan.
- b) The girl who lives next door.
- c) His cousin.
- d) A boy from his neighborhood.

20. What does Dave's father do when his mother decides Santa would not be coming to Dave?

- a) He agrees with Dave's mother.
- b) He buys Dave a huge pile of toys.
- c) He buys Dave two paint-by-numbers kits.
- d) He leaves the house.

21. How does Dave's mother treat the other children who come to the house for Cub Scout meetings?

- a) Like kings.
- b) She doesn't speak to them.
- c) She tolerates them.
- d) She is impatient with them.

22. Why does Dave's mother burn his arm on the gas stove?

- a) She is angry that he didn't brush his teeth.
- b) She is angry that he got home late.
- c) She says that he played on the grass at school.
- d) She finds out he told a lie.

23. How does Dave save himself from being forced to lie across the stove?

- a) He begs for forgiveness.
- b) He promises to be good.
- c) He tells his mother that he loves her.
- d) He stalls for time until his brother gets home.

24. What does Dave decide to do when he realizes that he finally beat his mother in Chapter 3, Bad Boy?

- a) He will ask his father to take him away.
- b) He will run away.
- c) He will use any tactic to survive.
- d) He will beg his mother to leave him alone.

Multiple Choice - Chapter 4, The Fight for Food

1. What does Dave say when people at school ask him the cause of his bruises?

- a) He always says that he is clumsy and falls a lot.
- b) He uses ready-made excuses his mother told him.
- c) He makes up lies on the spot.
- d) He mumbles incoherently.

2. Once school starts again in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food, what is Dave's mother feeding him?

- a) Stale bread.
- b) Leftover cereal for breakfast and a regular dinner.
- c) Leftover cereal from his brothers and no dinner.
- d) No breakfast and a full dinner.

3. What does Dave fantasize about as he lies in bed at night in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) A huge cheeseburger with all the fixings.
- b) A huge chocolate cake.
- c) Running away.
- d) A way out of the house.

4. How does Dave manage to steal food from his classmates?

- a) He sneaks into the lockers before lunch.
- b) Before school while his classmates are outside playing.
- c) He grabs the lunch bags of the smaller children.
- d) He grabs food right off the lunch tables.

5. What is Dave's mother's reaction when she finds out he has been stealing lunches at school?

- a) She makes him eat his food off the floor.
- b) She tapes his mouth shut.
- c) She doesn't feed him all weekend.
- d) She makes him eat until he is sick.

6. By in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food, how is Dave treated by the rest of the family?

- a) They feel sorry for him.
- b) They sneak food to him.
- c) They do not acknowledge him.
- d) They visit him when mother isn't looking.

7. How does Dave's mother refer to him by in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) Davie.
- b) The boy.
- c) The brat.
- d) David.

8. Where does Dave go when he finishes his chores after school?

- a) To stand in the basement.
- b) To the neighbor's house.
- c) Out in the yard.
- d) To bed.

9. What is Dave's father's reaction to Dave's punishments?

- a) He doesn't do anything.
- b) He forces Dave's mother to feed him.
- c) He tries to convince Dave's mother that she is too harsh.
- d) He holds Dave and comforts him.

10. What are most of Dave's parent's arguments about?

- a) Drinking.
- b) Dave's brothers.
- c) Dave.
- d) Money problems.

11. What does Dave's father eventually do when he keeps losing the arguments with his wife?

- a) He packs a bag and goes to work.
- b) He sits and cries.
- c) He hides in the garage.
- d) He goes to bed.

12. What does Dave's teacher, Miss Moss, start questioning him about?

- a) Why he doesn't take the bus.
- b) His mother's pregnancy.
- c) Why he is tired, the condition of his clothes, and his bruises.
- d) Why he doesn't do his homework.

13. What is Dave's mother's reaction when she receives a call from the principal about Dave's condition in in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) She ties Dave to a chair for the night.
- b) She resists the urge to beat Dave.
- c) She puts Dave in the basement all night.
- d) She gives Dave two bloody noses and knocks out a tooth.

14. What does Dave's mother tell the principal in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) Dave hurts himself and makes up wild stories.
- b) Dave is always falling down.
- c) Dave's brothers hurt him.
- d) Dave gets into fights in the neighborhood.

15. What is the disgusting punishment Dave's mother invents for him when the family is vacationing at the Russian River in in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) She forces him to eat worms from the garden.
- b) She forces him to clean Russell's diaper with his bare hands.
- c) She pushes a soiled diaper in his face, telling him to eat it.
- d) She forces him to eat rotten food.

16. Why isn't Dave allowed to get a ride to school with his brothers?

- a) He gets car sick.
- b) He is too smelly.
- c) There is no room for him.

d) He is no longer considered a member of the family.

17. What is Dave's plan when he cannot steal food from school anymore?

- a) He breaks into the snack machine.
- b) He leaves the school and steals from stores.
- c) He gets food out of the dumpster.
- d) He steals it from stores on the way to school.

18. How does Dave eventually get food at home in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) He takes it out of the garbage.
- b) He begs his brothers for food.
- c) He begs his mother for scraps.
- d) He gets up at night and sneaks it out of the refrigerator.

19. Dave's mother pushes her finger down his throat, forcing him to vomit up the frozen food he stole at school. What does she do then?

- a) She makes him stand in the corner.
- b) She forces him to eat the vomited food.
- c) She forces him to eat rotten garbage.
- d) She forces him to kneel on the kitchen floor all night.

20. What is the new bed assigned to Dave by his mother in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) He sleeps in the garage.
- b) He sleeps under the kitchen table with newspapers for covers.
- c) He sleeps in the basement.
- d) He sleeps in the doghouse in the back yard.

21. Why does Dave grow to hate his father more than his mother?

- a) His father is more abusive than his mother.
- b) His father does nothing to help him anymore.
- c) His father helps his mother torture him.
- d) His father leaves the house.

22. How does Dave get caught asking for food on the way to school?

- a) His brothers see him going up to houses.
- b) His mother sees him as she drives his brother's to school.
- c) He accidentally goes to a house where a woman knows his mother.
- d) His father catches him at a neighbor's house.

23. What does Dave's mother force him to drink that burns the flesh from his mouth?

- a) Lye.
- b) Dish Soap.
- c) Ammonia.
- d) Clorox.

24. How does Dave find food after being confined in the garage for hours in Chapter 4, The Fight for Food?

- a) He eats food that he hid in his pocket.
- b) He eats food out of the garbage can.