



## THE Bookworm Teacher Study Guide

### **Purpose – children will:**

1. Get excited about reading and going to the library.
2. Be encouraged toward self directed learning.
3. Be challenged to seek out and read more books by the authors presented.
4. Learn about proper book care.
5. Be encouraged to participate in the summer reading program.

### **Preshow activities:**

Read the stories to the children or have them read the stories to themselves that THE Bookworm will be telling. The stories will then be reinforced when they hear them. Stories: Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig, Kat Kong by Dave Pilkey, Mean Soup by Betsy Everitt. If a separate PK show is scheduled, PK and Kindergarten will hear The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn in place of Kat Kong.

Libraries should have on hand for display ALL titles by the above authors in your collection. THE Bookworm will refer to these titles during the program and challenge children to read EVERY book by these authors.

### **Post show activities:**

#### **Discuss how to take care of books**

What did the talking book and THE Bookworm say about how to take care of books?

1. Use a bookmark instead of:
  - A. Opening books up and putting them on a table page side down. This breaks the spine and can cause pages to fall out.
  - B. Turning over pages or corners, makes the book "dog eared".
  - C. Putting something like pens, pencils, or crayons inside of a book. These can all mark on the pages.
2. What is the spine of the book? What happens if you break it?  
*It is the "backbone" of the book. When the spine breaks, pages can fall out. If you break the spine it is difficult and sometimes very costly to repair. Often*

*it cannot be repaired at all!*

3. Never write in books with pencils, pens, or crayons. Write on paper!  
Some places that are OK to write in: Journals, workbooks, coloring books, diaries.
4. Books are valuable and expensive to replace. We must take good care of them as a valuable resource! Discuss why.
5. Have children make their own bookmarks to use to hold their places in books.
6. Look up the word "ventriloquism" in the dictionary or encyclopedia. This will tell the children the "secret" to how Webster the dictionary talked!

THE Bookworm told the children about dictionaries and what kind of books they are. Discuss with the children where the dictionaries may be found in the library (reference section). Discuss some words that they may find in the dictionary.

Stories the Bookworm told:

### **Sylvester and the Magic Pebble - the value of family**

1. What was Sylvester's hobby? *Collecting pebbles.*
2. Where did he go to look for pebbles? *Strawberry Hill.*
3. What did Sylvester find that was red? *A magic pebble.*
4. What kind of animal frightened Sylvester? *A lion.*
5. What did Sylvester turn himself into with his wish? *A rock.*
6. What did Mr. And Mrs. Duncan decide to do to try to cheer themselves up? *Have a picnic.*
7. Where did Mr. And Mrs. Duncan go to have their picnic? *To Strawberry Hill.*
8. Where did Mr. And Mrs. Duncan have their lunch? *On top of Sylvester.*
9. Where did Mr. Duncan put the magic pebble after Sylvester gave it to him? *In an iron safe.*
10. Sylvester and his mom and dad had everything that they could wish for, as long as they had their family. What did this mean? Have children discuss the importance of family over material wealth.

### **Kat Kong - concepts of pun and parody**

1. Explain what a parody is. *A parody is a comical retelling of a story.*
2. What story was "Kat Kong" a parody of? *King Kong.*
3. What kind of animals were the explorers? *Mice.*
4. What did Kat Kong trip over? *A can of tuna fish.*
5. What did they put Kat Kong into to travel on the ship back to Mouseopolis? *A bag.*
6. Talk about the puns in the story like: "Don't let the cat out of the bag, the cat got your tongue, curiosity killed the cat. A pun is a play on words. It is a type of joke.
7. When Kat Kong got loose, whom did he kidnap? *Rosie the Rodent.*
8. Where did Kat Kong take his victim? *To the top of the Ramono Inn.*
9. Who came to save the day in an airplane? *Captain Charles Limburger.*
10. What did Captain Limburger have with him to get Kat Kong's attention?

*A red package or present.*

11. How did Kat Kong die? *He reached for the package and fell from the top of the Ramono Inn.*
12. At the end of the story there were several silly things that were said. Can you remember any of them? *He's fallen and he can't get up, Beauty has killed the beast, curiosity killed the cat. Discuss that these are also puns.*

Have the children take a simple story (like 3 little pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, etc.) and write or tell their own parody.

### **Mean Soup - a positive way to channel anger**

1. What was the little boys name in the story? *Horace.*
2. Why was he angry? Can you name one reason? *Zelda gave him a love note, Lulu the show and tell cow stepped on his foot, and Miss Pearl took him home from school.*
3. What did his mother make? *Soup.*
4. What was the first thing his mother put into the pot? *Water.*
5. What did she put in the pot that was unusual? *She screamed into the pot, she stuck out her tongue, she blew raspberries into the pot.*
6. Why would making "Mean Soup" be a good thing to do when you are angry or upset over something? *It is a positive way to express your feelings without hurting anyone. Making "mean soup" would be a better thing to do than hitting someone, calling names, or being mean.*

THE Bookworm told stories from the following authors: William Steig, Dave Pilkey (or Audrey Penn for PK), and Betsy Everitt. Can you find more books in your school library to read by these authors?

Here are a few!

**William Steig**: Shrek, Dominic, The Amazing Bone, Abel's Island (Newberry award!), Gorky Rises, Amos and Boris, Brave Irene, The Real Thief, Doctor DeSoto

**Dave Pilkey**: Dogzilla, Captain Underpants, Dog Breath, Dumb Bunnies, Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot Collection, Dragon's Fat Cat, The Adventures of Super Diaper Baby, The Hallo-Wiener, Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving

**Betsy Everitt**: Up the Ladder – Down the Slide, Popcorn, Frieda the Wondercat, The Happy Hippopotami

**Audrey Penn**: A Kiss Goodbye, Chester Raccoon and the Big Bad Bully, A Pocket Full of Kisses, Feathers and Fur, The Whistling Tree, Blackbeard and the Gift of Silence \*Bookworm substitutes The Kissing Hand for Kat Kong if she is telling to a PK audience.

### **Wrap up question:**

What was the most valuable card to have in your hand? *A library card!*

Discuss the public library. Library cards are **free**! Encourage all children to get a public library card. Talk about using the public library, especially when they cannot use the school library such as evenings, weekends, and summertime. Discuss rules for using the library, ie. Returning books on time, taking care of books, being quiet in the library.

*Discuss the summer reading club and encourage children to get involved. Note: Many children think that library cards COST money, especially children from families outside the US.*

**Vocabulary words from the stories:**

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble:

collection    collect    pebbles    allergic    magic    worried  
hind            fetlock    invisible    suddenly    scary    search

Kat Kong:

terrifying  
menace  
sacrificial  
gasp  
glowing  
doom  
despair  
curiosity  
horizon

Mean Soup:

swerved  
screeched  
growl  
hiss  
boil  
recipe

The Kissing Hand:

stood            toasty  
nuzzled        teased  
scary            grin  
cozy            thoughtful  
secret            unfolded  
spread          familiar  
palm            scamper  
silky            pressed  
mask

TEKS

**110.2 - English Language Arts and Reading, Kindergarten.**

110.2.K.1.A,B,C,D,E,F  
110.2.K.5.A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  
110.2.K.7.A,B,C  
110.2.K.8.A,B,C  
110.2.K.9.A,B,C  
110.2.K.10.A,B,C,D

**117.4 - Theatre, Kindergarten.**

117.4.K.5.A,B,D

**110.3 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 1.**

110.3.1.1.A,B,C,D,E,F  
110.3.1.5.A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K  
110.3.1.7.A,B,C,D,E,F,G  
110.3.1.8.A,B,C,D,E,F,G  
110.3.1.12.A,B,C,D,E,F,G  
110.3.1.13.A,B,C,D,E

**117.7 - Theatre, Grade 1.**

117.7.1.1.C  
117.7.1.2.C  
117.7.1.5.A,D

**110.4 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 2.**

110.4.2.1.A,B,C,D,E,F  
110.4.2.5.A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  
110.4.2.6.A,B,C,D,E  
110.4.2.8.A,B,C,D  
110.4.2.9.A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I  
110.4.2.10.A,B,C,D

**117.10 - Theatre, Grade 2.**

117.10.2.5.A,D

**110.5 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 3.**

110.5.3.1.A,B,C,D,E,F  
110.5.3.7  
110.5.3.9.A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K  
110.5.3.10.A,B,C,D

**117.13 - Theatre, Grade 3.**

117.13.3.1.A  
117.13.3.5.A,D

**110.6 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 4.**

110.6.4.1.A  
110.6.4.2.A,D  
110.6.4.23

**117.16 - Theatre, Grade 4.**

117.16.4.1.A,C  
117.16.4.5.A

**110.7 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 5.**

110.7.5.3.A  
110.7.5.4.C  
110.7.5.7  
110.7.5.11.A,C

**117.19 - Theatre, Grade 5.**

117.19.5.5.A

*Courtesy of Margaret Clauder Aka THE Bookworm  
Visit Margaret's website at: [www.mcpshows.com](http://www.mcpshows.com)*