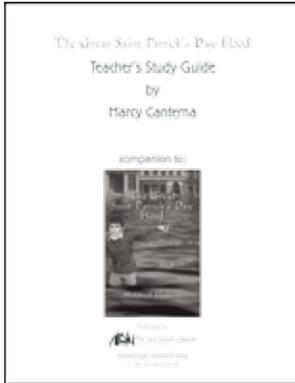


Teacher's Study Guides by Marcy Canterna



Sample Study Guide cover

- Guides are available as companions for book titles specifically geared to younger readers as well as for adult titles that contain material of interest to children.
- Guides can be used flexibly for children of varying ages and ability levels.
- Each guide is customized for its companion book. For example, the guide for *The Great Saint Patrick's Day Flood* has a section on vocabulary while the guide for *The Great Allegheny Passage Companion* does not, since that book's author, Bill Metzger, gives careful definitions throughout his text.
- The guides are spiral bound to open flat such that exercises and work pages may be photocopied for classroom or home school use.

Description:

Several Teacher's Study Guides are available for books published by both The Local History Company and Towers Maguire Publishing, and new guides are added regularly. The guides by teacher and author Marcy Canterna are available directly from the publisher.

All guides are 8.5 by 11 inches, and spiral bound to open flat such that exercises and work pages may be photocopied for classroom or home school use.

10 per carton.

Sample Study Guide pages

Name _____

Final Test

The Great St. Patrick's Day Flood

Make sure you read the directions for each section and follow them carefully. You may use the novel, a dictionary, check your work for capital letters, punctuation, and spelling. Make sure you give good reasons for your answers.

Name _____

Comprehension Questions

I. Read over the question and everything we had question. This should the topic sentence in Main idea: _____

1. (chapter 1) Mr. and Why didn't they wait listen to the news of _____

II. Think about your m Remember: support are words or phrases give reasons for why _____

(1) _____

(2) (chapter 1) Billy's fa work does Billy's father _____

(3) _____

Use of Vocabulary in the Story
(pages in parentheses)

Chapter 1: accumulated = The accumulated snow is now beginning to melt due to heavy rains and warmer temperatures. (1)

Chapter 2: lavatory = _____

Comparison and Contrast

A Venn diagram can be used to organize notes comparing two related topics. The circles are drawn, as in the sample below. The separate sections of the circles can be used in order to show unrelated facts and characteristics. The shared section can be used in order to show facts and characteristics that the topics have in common.

Use the information from the book to list facts and characteristics about the following topics. Use reference materials from the library to help you find more information about the topics.

1. Compare and contrast the Johnstown Flood of 1889 with the St. Patrick's Day Flood of 1936.

2. Compare and contrast the value and importance of learning about current events by listening to the radio or by watching TV.

3. Think about a main character from another book you have read who helped out when there was a problem. Compare and contrast the two characters: what they were like, what they did to help, and how successful they were in helping with the situation.

4. Think about a character from another book you have read who was a bully. Compare and contrast the two characters: what they were like, how they treated others, and the things they did to bully other characters in the stories.

5. Compare and contrast your mother with Mrs. Flynn, or your father with Mr. Flynn.

After you complete the Venn diagram, write a paper showing the comparison of the two topics. Your paper should include an introductory paragraph, followed by one paragraph showing the similar characteristics, and one paragraph showing the differences. There should be a final paragraph to summarize your work. Check your work for correct capital letters, punctuation, spelling, and complete sentences. Be sure to include supporting details for the information you give.

Study Guide: *The Great Saint Patrick's Day Flood* 23

About The Guides' Author: Marcy Canterna has been an elementary teacher in the Franklin Regional School District in Western Pennsylvania since 1978. An avid reader, she claims to read children's books from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Then, throughout the summer, she reads "Big People Books"! Just about any book, she says, can be adapted for use in any grade level.

The most important aspect of teaching, according to Canterna, is to help the students develop a love of reading through discussion and discovery.

Marcy has used all of these guides with her fourth grade students.



Teacher's Study Guide for Lavi The Lion Finds His Pride (ISBN 0-9770429-4-4, 8.5x11, 36 pages, \$7.95US); accompanies *Lavi The Lion Finds His Pride* by Linda Dickerson (ISBN 0-9744715-2-6; illustrated children's picture book). The book's story line introduces young readers to adventure and exploration; the longing for home, friends and family; and the need to belong. Taking a cue from these themes, the *Guide's* activities include vocabulary, English usage/writing, science, social studies, and fine arts; they are adaptable for students at a mix of ability and grade levels.

Teacher's Study Guide for The Great Saint Patrick's Day Flood (ISBN 0-9744715-8-5, 8.5x11, 35 pages, \$5.95US); accompanies *The Great Saint Patrick's Day Flood* by Mildred Flaherty (ISBN 0-9711835-8-9; readers 7 and up). *Guide* exercises cover vocabulary, characters and characterization, sequential order, comprehension, comparison and contrast, timeline and bar graph, a final test and extra activities. This book and guide provide opportunities for inter-generational communication and understanding as well as for exploring the 1930s Depression and its impact on working class families. It is also an opportunity to discuss how families and neighbors in a community support each other during times of crisis.

Teacher's Study Guide for Tyrconnel, An Antebellum Adventure along the C&O Canal (ISBN 0-9744715-7-7, 8.5x11, 62 pages, \$7.95US); accompanies *Tyrconnel, An Antebellum Adventure along the C&O Canal* by Charles S. Furtney (ISBN 0-9711835-3-8; readers 10 and up). *Guide* exercises include vocabulary, use of vocabulary in the story, vocabulary definitions, sequential order, cause-effect-predictions, a final test and final questions. Children will enjoy learning about the importance of the canal and how it works. Geographic features in the area and historical figures who appear in the book are also excellent discussion subjects.

Teacher's Study Guide for The Steps of Pittsburgh: Portrait of a City (ISBN 0-9744715-9-3, 8.5x11, 28 pages, \$7.95US); accompanies *The Steps of Pittsburgh: Portrait of a City* by Robert Regan with photographs by Tim Fabian (ISBN 0-9711835-6-2; written for adults, but topic is of great interest to children of all ages). *Guide* exercises include vocabulary, comprehension activities, walking tours of the steps with related activities, and creative writing. This guide is especially helpful for the teacher or parent who wants to introduce children to neighborhoods, transportation and urban identity. Kids will enjoy the unusual topic and how residents use as well as cope with the steps.

Teacher's Study Guide for Pittsburgh: a place in time (ISBN 0-9770429-0-1, 19, 8.5x11, 19 pages, \$5.95US); accompanies *Pittsburgh: a place in time* by Abby Mendelson (ISBN 0-9711835-7-0; written for adults but with many topics and activities of interest to children). The *Guide* includes activities adaptable for a mix of student ability and grade levels. Exercises explore neighborhoods and characters; activities include mapping, essays, poetry, storytelling, and a final project delving into a neighborhood and involving map creation, a visual display, creating marketing materials for the neighborhood, compiling a written report and preparing a presentation.

Teacher's Study Guide for The Great Allegheny Passage Companion (ISBN 0-9744715-1-8, 8.5x11, 28 pages, \$7.95US); accompanies *The Great Allegheny Passage Companion, Guide To History And Heritage Along The Trail* by Bill Metzger (ISBN 0-9711835-2-X; written for adults but with many topics and activities of interest to children). *Guide* exercises cover history, geography, towns/communities, business/industry, coal mining, steel manufacturing, bridges, railroads, other historical transportation systems, science, Native Americans, and creative writing.



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