



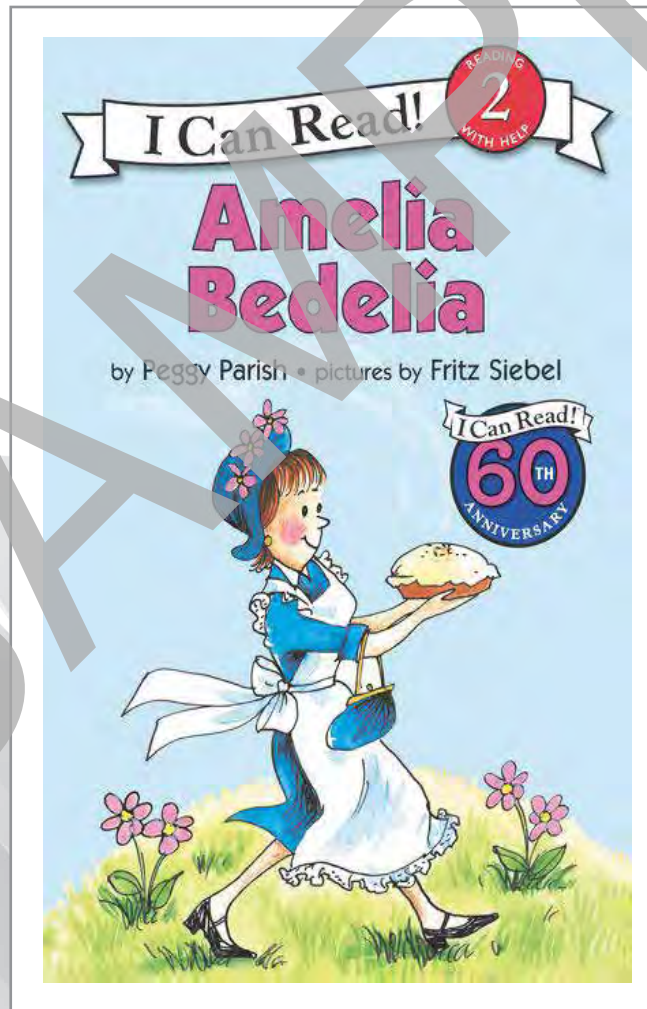
TEACHER GUIDE

GRADES K-3

COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM BASED LESSON PLANS

Amelia Bedelia

Peggy Parish



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Amelia Bedelia

Peggy Parish

TEACHER GUIDE

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Skills and Strategies

Vocabulary

Multiple meanings, word mapping, synonyms, homonyms, homophones

Thinking

Brainstorming, research

Comprehension

Predicting

Writing

Reports

Listening/Speaking

Discussion, dramatization

Literary Elements

Story elements, characterization

Summary

Amelia Bedelia is the first in a series of popular humorous Amelia books. Amelia is a likable, funny maid. She starts to work for Mr. and Mrs. Rogers with no instructions except a list. Mrs. Rogers confidently says, “You do just what the list says.” Amelia complies and her wonderfully precise and incorrect interpretation of the things on the list is hilarious. When asked to “draw the drapes when the sun comes in,” Amelia sets about working with her pencil and artist’s pad. Happily, Amelia does have one redeeming virtue—baking a wonderful lemon meringue pie.

About the Author

Peggy Parish was born July 14, 1927, in Manning, South Carolina. She died of a ruptured abdominal aneurysm on November 19, 1988, in Manning. Parish was the author of more than 30 children’s books and the creator of the popular “Amelia Bedelia” series.

After graduating from the University of South Carolina in 1948, Parish taught English and creative dancing in the Oklahoma panhandle country and third grade in Kentucky before moving to New York City where she taught third grade at the Dalton School. It was while teaching at the Dalton School that she had her first book published in 1962, *My Golden Book of Manners*.

“Children have always been my life,” said Parish, “so writing stories for children came naturally. I do have special feelings about writing for children. I don’t try to teach anything in my stories. I write for fun...”

Introductory Information and Activities

Note:

When using this study guide, please be selective and use the suggestions and activities that would be most appropriate for your use and group of students. It is not intended that you do everything that is included in this guide, but that discretionary choices be made.

Initiating Activity:

In the English language, many words have multiple meanings. The story of *Amelia Bedelia* illustrates what may happen when words are literally interpreted by one individual. The results are amusing and thoughtful.

Decorate the room with illustrations of situations that may convey different meanings, such as those encountered in *Amelia Bedelia*. (See Bulletin Board Idea.) Some things to consider:

- strike the match
- lift the lid
- scratch the horse
- eat chipped beef
- put the hose on the grass
- throw a bean ball

Cut out colored paper representations that show a hand with a rag cleaning a diamond ring, a baseball pitcher cleaning a Mounds candy bar, and a row of bushes, with prunes hanging from bushes two, four, six, etc.

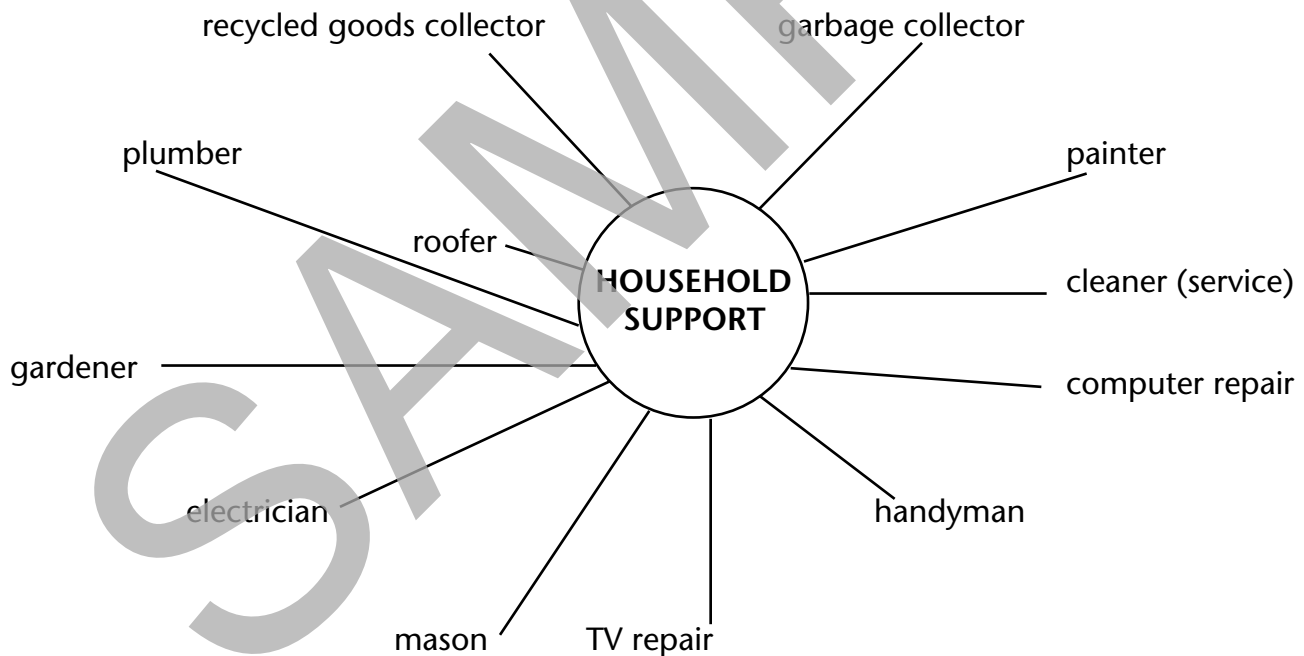
List on the board several words with multiple meanings, such as draw, match and pitcher. Add to the list of words as the story is read, and as group members think of them. Encourage students to make illustrations to put on the board.

Previewing the Book:

Look at the title of the book. What is interesting about it? Why do you think that the author uses the rhyme in the title? What can you tell about the story from the picture on the cover? Make some predictions about the book from the title and the picture shown. Verify your predictions as the story is read.

Prereading Activity:

Discuss those people who help to maintain the health, safety, etc. of households. Record the suggestions given by the students. A cluster circle is one method that may be used for this activity. For example:



Prereading Discussion:

Peggy Parish wrote *Amelia Bedelia* in 1963. At that time, as the story indicates, if one needed help to maintain order and cleanliness in a home, someone was hired to do the job. This person gave domestic help. Look at the picture on the cover of the book. What is Amelia Bedelia wearing that might indicate to others that she is employed as a domestic helper?

RECIPE FIVE—STEWART

Lemon Filling

1 $\frac{1}{4}$ C. granulated sugar
 $\frac{2}{3}$ C. sifted cake flour
Pinch of salt
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ C. water
5 egg yolks
 $\frac{1}{2}$ C. fresh lemon juice
2 T. grated lemon rind
4 T. ($\frac{1}{2}$ stick) unsalted butter

Meringue

8 to 12 egg whites
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. cream of tartar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla extract
Pinch of salt
6 T. granulated sugar

Pie Shell

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ C. all-purpose flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. granulated sugar (optional)
1 C. (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter
 $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ C. ice water

Listening Activities

1. Make a list of directions for Amelia Bedelia to do something. Here is an example:
 - a) Walk to the book table.
 - b) Pick up the book titled *Amelia Bedelia*.
 - c) Carry the book in your hands while you walk to your chair. Stop.
 - d) Put the book *Amelia Bedelia* on the seat of your chair.

When you have finished, read the directions to a partner and have the partner follow them. Is your partner doing what you thought that the directions said? Talk things over with your partner. Help one another make clear directions that are easy to follow.

2. Make a list of things that you think go together. Here is an example:
 - a) table and chairs
 - b) flag and pole
 - c) cream and sugar
 - d) peanut butter and jelly
 - e) salt and pepper
 - f) milk and cookies
 - g) apple pie and ice cream
 - h) tea and coffee
 - i) soup and crackers
 - j) ham and eggs

With a partner, take turns reading from your list, giving just the first item + **and**. Is your partner able to supply the missing item? Does your partner have something different to go with the item you mentioned? Compare lists. How many of the pairs are the same? How many are different?

3. Make up a class poem. Have the students identify the word pattern(s), and think of additional words that would fit the pattern(s). Ask for volunteers to read favorite poems to the group. Identify the word patterns in the poems.
4. Take a five minute listening time. Make a list of all of the sounds that are heard during that five minutes. Place the sounds into categories of your choice. See the following page for an example:

SOUNDS THAT, TO ME, ARE

Pleasant	Distracting	Annoying	Tolerable	Hurtful

Developing Individual Readers:

1. Introduce *Amelia Bedelia* as part of a series of books. Visit the library to review the various titles in the series. Start an Amelia Bedelia fan club. Those who read a book will earn a feather for a large class-size feather duster posted on the bulletin board. The title and the name of the reader would be put on the feather before it is affixed to the duster.



Attribute Web

The attribute web below is designed to help you gather clues the author provides about what a character is like. Fill in the blanks with words and phrases which tell how the character acts and looks, as well as what the character says and what others say about him or her.

