

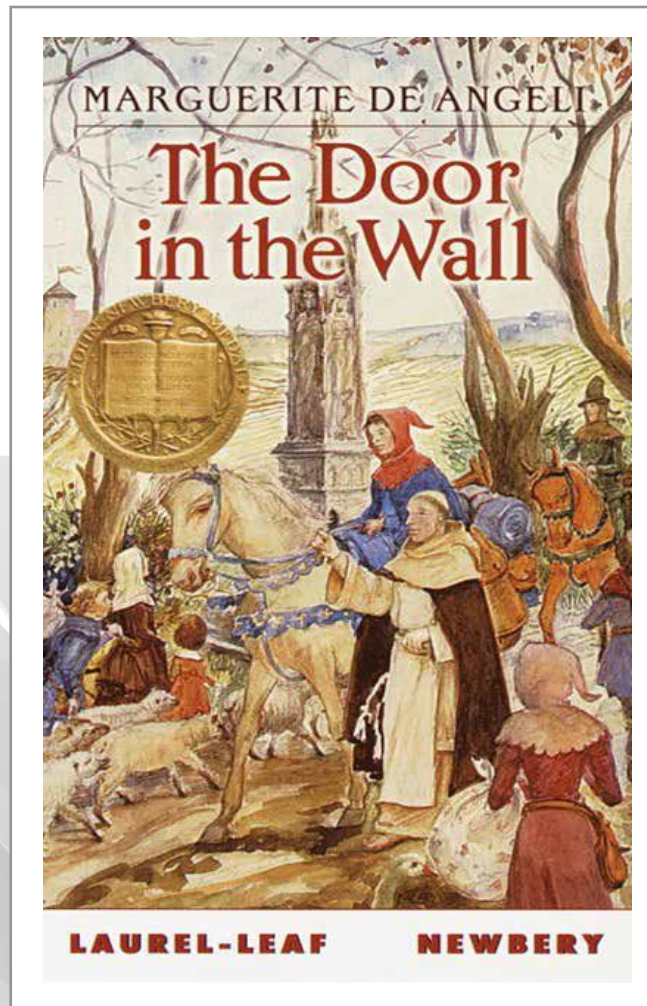


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 6-8

The Door in the Wall

Marguerite De Angeli



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

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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!

ISBN 978-1-50204-542-3

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Name _____

The Door in the Wall
Activity #3 • Literary Genre
Use After Reading

Directions: *The Door in the Wall* is an example of a **genre**, or type of literature, called *historical fiction*. Everything in the story *could* have happened—and some of it did—but the story’s main characters are made up. After a class discussion of what historical fiction is, fill in the chart below. Briefly describe the settings, characters, action, and problems of realistic fiction, and how they differ from those in historical fiction.

	REALISTIC FICTION	HISTORICAL FICTION
Setting:		
Characters:		
Action:		
Problem:		
Some titles:		

Chapter 9

1. How does Robin pass the time while both sides watch and wait?
2. Why does the castle's supply of food and water get so low so fast?
3. What is Robin's plan for getting help? Who knows about it?
4. How does Robin avoid getting caught by the Welsh guard who stops him?
5. What happens when Robin gets to the cottage of John-go-in-the-Wynd's mother?
 - * Excitement keeps Robin wakeful as he goes over all the things he has to remember. Have you ever lain awake doing this?
 - ** What problems will Robin run into? Will Sir Fitzhugh be willing to help?

Chapter 10

1. Why do John and Robin go to the church?
2. How can John tell when it is time to ring the bell?
3. How do John and Robin know the attack is successful?
4. How is John rewarded for his part in saving the castle?
5. What is Robin working on, now that the harp is finished?
6. Who comes to the castle on Christmas Eve?
7. What do Robin's parents do when they first see him with his crutches?
8. How does the King honor Robin and how does Robin thank him?
9. Where will Robin go after the Feast of Christmas is over and who else will go along?
10. Why does the friar tell Robin at the end, "...thou has found the door in thy wall."

Name _____

The Door in the Wall
Activity #15 • Characterization
Use During and After Reading

Directions: You judge what a character is like in much the same way as you judge what a person is like in real life—by how he acts, by what he says, by what others say about him, and by what he seems to think and feel. Begin an attribute web for Robin as you start to judge what he is like at the beginning of the novel. Add to the web as you read further in the book.

