

Teacher Guide

Grades 7–8

Flipped

Wendelin Van Draanen

NOVEL UNITS[®]



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FLIPPED

by
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Teacher Guide

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Note

The 2003 Knopf paperback edition of the novel, © 2001 by Wendelin Van Draanen Parsons, was used to prepare this guide. The page references may vary in other editions. Novel ISBN: 0-375-82544-4

Please note: Please assess the appropriateness of this book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with them.

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Skills and Strategies

Critical Thinking

Main idea and supporting details, sequencing, questioning, classifying, summarizing

Literary Analysis

Character analysis, story mapping, author's purpose, theme

Comprehension

Compare and contrast, problem solving, inferring, drawing conclusions, cause and effect

Vocabulary

Context clues, dictionary work, word maps

Writing

Creative writing, persuasive writing

Across the Curriculum

Science—trees, raising chickens; Art—illustrations

Diving Under–Flipped

Bryce Loski moves in across the street from Julianna Baker the summer before second grade. Juli develops a crush on Bryce, and he does everything he can to avoid her for four years. In fifth grade he asks out another girl, but even that does not deter Juli. Told from each character’s point of view, these chapters launch the story of a lopsided relationship.

Vocabulary
strategic
avoidance
implication
sabotage
antagonize
corrupted
dissertations
indebted
recruit
morie
competed
radically
calisthenics
dilemmas

Discussion Questions

1. What does the first chapter of this novel suggest? (The narrator [Bryce] does not like Juli Baker.)
2. What is a “ditch plan”? (*a plan or excuse to get rid of someone you do not want to deal with*)
3. How do Bryce and Juli feel about Juli’s respect for others? (*She has no sense of privacy or personal space, and this annoys Bryce.*)
4. How does Bryce deal with people who annoy him or boss him around? (*He ignores them and does not take the bait.*)
5. How do Bryce’s parents feel about Juli? (*His father thinks she’s a pest; his mother likes her.*)
6. What plan does Bryce make in the fifth grade to show Juli that he is not this type? (*He asks out Shelly, a girl Juli dislikes.*)
What does “optimizing positional latitude and longitude” (p. 9) mean? (*Mr. Mertins is charting the seating arrangement.*)
8. Why does Bryce tell his “class” Juli? (*She gives him answers in class.*)
9. Describe the differences in the ways Bryce and Juli tell the story. (*Answers will vary.*)
10. Why does Juli hate Shelly? (*She is a nerd. She got out of P.E. She had to punch her.*)
11. Why does Juli fight with Shelly? (*She thinks Bryce needs her help when he is holding Shelly’s hand.*)
12. How do you think the principal feels about Juli’s side of the story? Do you think Juli’s assessment of her opponent is accurate? (*Answers will vary.*)
13. Why does Juli sniff Bryce? (*His hair smells like watermelon.*)
14. What reason does Juli give for helping Bryce during the spelling test? (*She does not want him to have detention.*)

Supplementary Activities

1. Letter Writing: Write a letter from Juli welcoming Bryce to the neighborhood.
2. Creative Thinking: How can new students make the transition to a new school easier? How can other students help the new classmate find out of school? Design a brochure that gives this information to new students and their classmates.
3. Writing: Describe the author’s organization of chapters with alternating viewpoints. Using a fairy tale such as *Cinderella*, rewrite the story in alternating points of view. Choose a partner to read the passages aloud with you to the class. Discuss the effectiveness of this technique.
4. Prediction: Begin the Prediction Chart on page 22 of this guide. Continue the chart as you read.

Word Map

Directions: Complete the word map below for the vocabulary word assigned by your teacher.

<p>Synonyms</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Magazine cut-out, drawing, or symbol that shows what the word means</p>
<p>Word</p> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>Definition in your own words</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Word used in a sentence</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Thematic Analysis

Directions: Choose a theme from the book to be the focus of your word web. Complete the web, and then answer the question in each starred box.

★ What is the author's main message?

★ What did you learn from the book?