



**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 6-8**

# So Far from the Bamboo Grove

Yoko Kawashima Watkins



**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!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

12. Who visits Yoko at her school? What is their meeting like?
13. What has happened to Corporal Matsumura since he last saw Yoko?
14. What gift does he leave for her?
15. What promise does he make before he leaves?

**Predict:** How will Corporal Matsumura help Yoko and Ko in the future?

## Chapter 11

1. Who are Mr. and Mrs. Kim?
2. What does Mr. Kim think is at his door? What is really there?
3. How does the Kim family treat Hideyo?
4. Why is it dangerous for them to keep Hideyo in their home?
5. What kind of relationship do the Kims and Hideyo have?
6. What is the thirty-eighth parallel? Why is it important to Hideyo?
7. What happens to Hideyo as he swims across the river?
8. What are Hideyo's feelings once he reaches the other side of the river?
9. How does he begin to look for his family?
10. How does he learn where his family is?
11. How does Corporal Matsumura help Yoko and Ko?
12. Why doesn't Yoko want to go with her class to see the cherry blossoms?
13. Where is Yoko when she first sees Hideyo?
14. What are her feelings when she recognizes him?

**Predict:** What will happen to Yoko, Ko, and Hideyo since they are reunited?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Using the chart below, sort the following vocabulary words into categories (e.g., nouns: munitions, cubicle, stench, comrades). Label each category. Be ready to discuss and defend your word categories.

munitions (52)

instinctively (53)

cubicle (55)

stealthily (55)

ransacking (57)

cursive (58)

ominous (50)

stench (60)

devoured (61)

precaution (62)

comrade (65)

reminiscing (67)

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thick top line and six horizontal lines below it, intended for sorting words.

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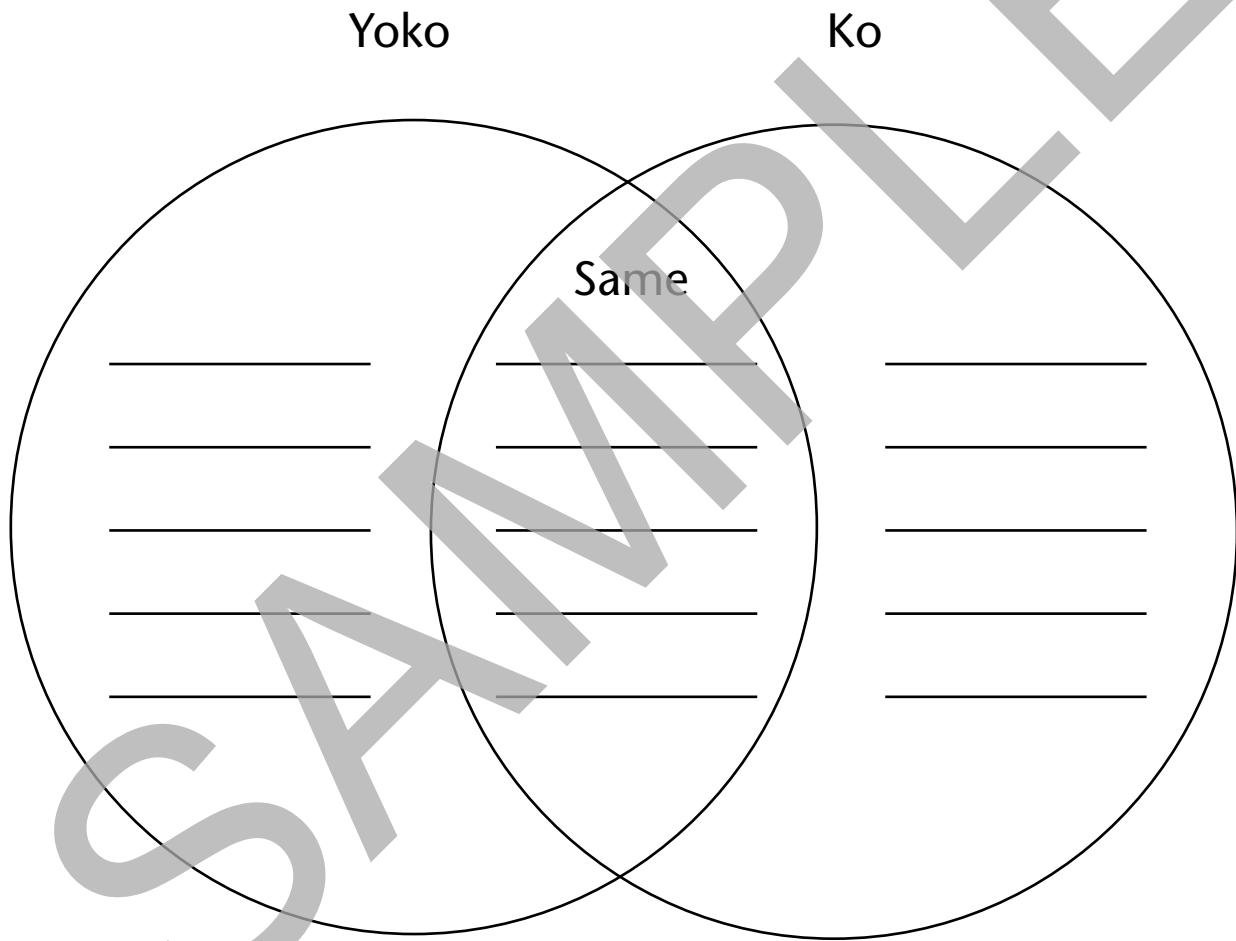
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Although Ko and Yoko are sisters, they differ greatly. In a small group, review and discuss what you learned about the two sisters as you read the book. (Look at the notes you made about each sister on attribute webs.) Act out some short scenes that show how Ko and Yoko are different. Then complete the compare/contrast graphic organizer about the two sisters.



On a separate sheet of paper, write an essay that explains the most important ways in which Ko and Yoko differed.