

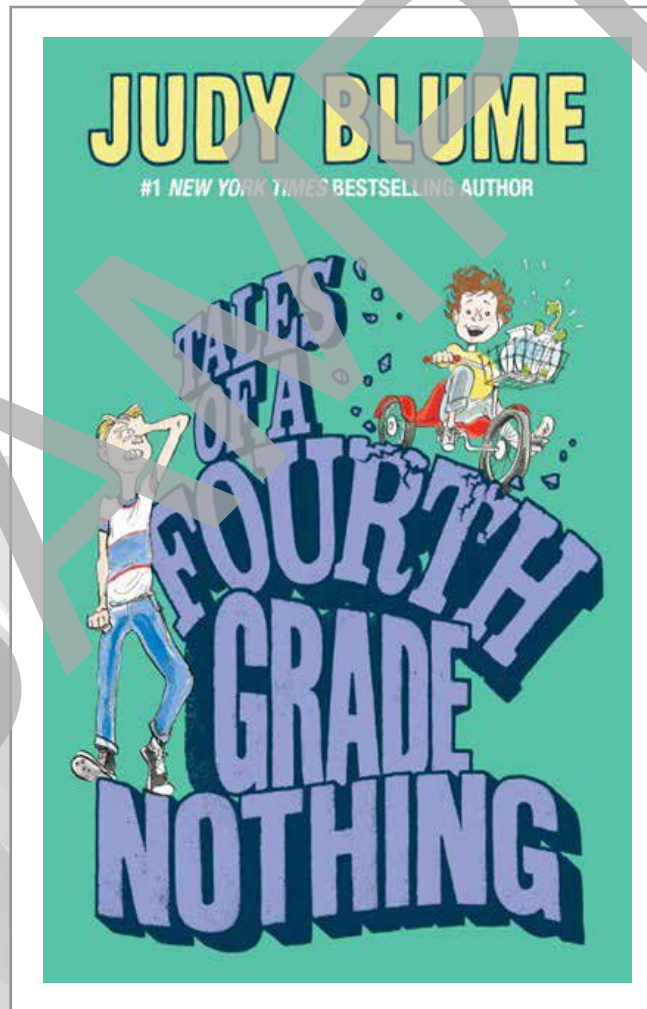


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 3-5

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

Judy Blume



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

Judy Blume

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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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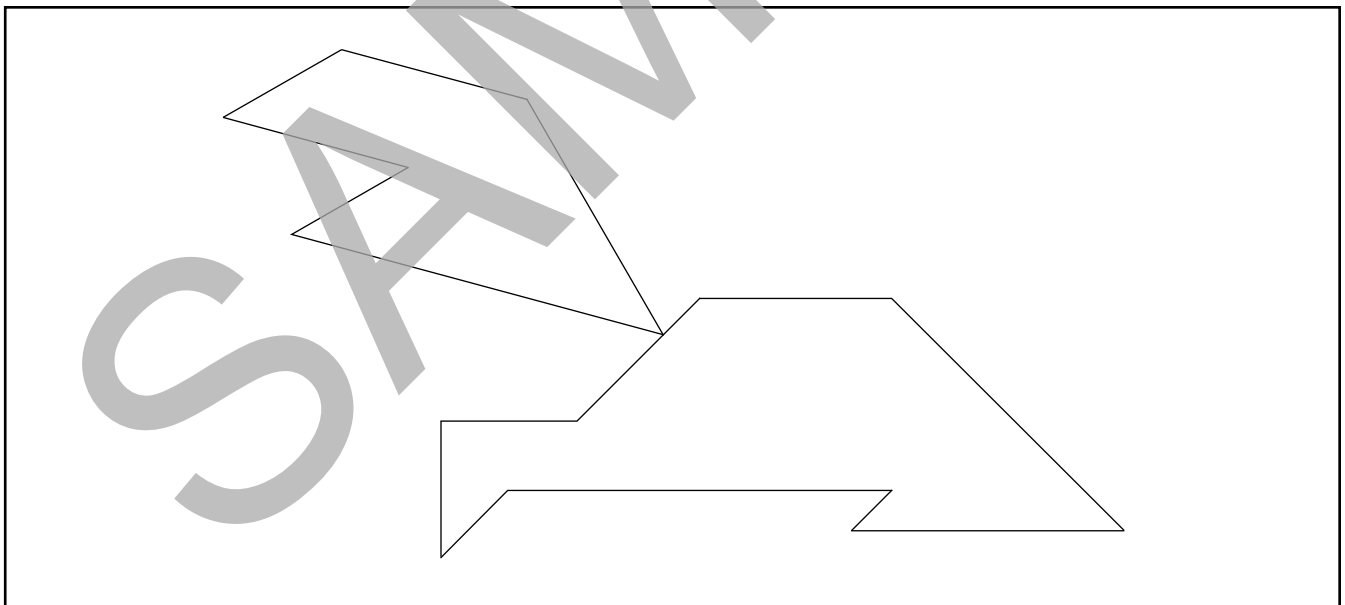
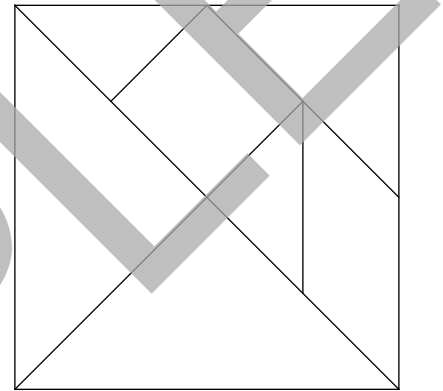
Name _____

Activity: To use visual perceptual skills

Tangram Turtle

"Then Jimmy handed me a glass bowl. Inside there was some water and three rocks. A tiny green turtle was sleeping on the biggest rock." (page 1)

Use the seven pieces of the tangram square to make this turtle. When completed, remove the seven pieces of the tangram square and decorate the turtle. Make something for the turtle out of the tangram pieces. Paste the pieces on another sheet of paper.



Name _____

Activity: To read for information

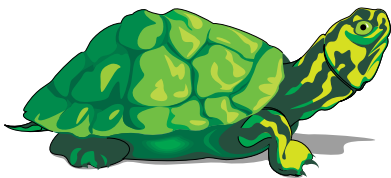
Turtles

Turtles are the only reptiles with shells. Most kinds of turtles can pull their heads, legs and tails into their shells, which serve as suits of armor. Few other animals have such excellent natural protection.

Turtles, like all reptiles, are cold-blooded. That means that their body temperatures stay about the same as the temperature of the surrounding air or water.

Turtles cannot be warm and active in cold weather, and so they cannot live in regions that are cold throughout the year. Turtles live in the deserts, forests, grasslands, lakes, marshes, ponds, rivers and seas of the world.

There are approximately 250 species of turtles, about 50 of which live in North America. Turtles vary greatly in size. The largest turtle, the Leatherback Turtle, grows to be from 4 to 8 feet long. In contrast, the common bog turtle measures only about 4 inches in length.



At one time, pet shops throughout the United States sold thousands of painted turtles and red-eared turtles each year. However, medical researchers discovered that many of these turtles carried bacteria that causes salmonella poisoning, a serious illness in human beings. In 1975, the United States Food and Drug Administration banned the sale of most pet turtles.

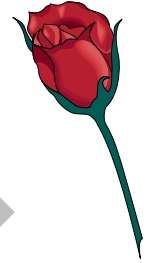
Directions: Read the following statements. Mark each either [T] True or [F] False.

1. Turtles are the only reptiles with shells. _____
2. Turtles, like all reptiles, are warm-blooded. _____
3. Turtles cannot live in regions that are cold throughout the year. _____
4. Some turtles live in the sea. _____
5. There are approximately 250 species of turtles. _____
6. All turtles are about the same size. _____
7. The sale of most turtles as pets is banned in the United States. _____
8. Some turtles carry a bacteria that is harmful to human beings. _____

Name _____

Activity: To do research; to make a poster

No More Flowers!



"My mother picked [Fudge] up and forced his mouth open. She fished out a rose petal." (page 8)

Mrs. Hatcher immediately calls the doctor. She is aware that some plants are harmful.

Warning! Some plants are poisonous or can harm you in other ways.

Most often the symptoms caused by a "bad" plant are: burning pain in the mouth and throat, blistering, intense thirst, abdominal pain, colic and diarrhea.

Several injurious plants are often used as decorative plants in gardens, homes and offices. Some of the plants the American Medical Association includes on their list of *Plants Producing Systemic Poisoning* are:

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| Amaryllis | Caladium | Philodendron | Iris |
| Aloe | Anemone | Hydrangea | Digitalis |
| Narcissus | Dieffenbachia | Rhododendron | Wisteria |

Choose one plant that you are familiar with, or that you want to know more about. Do some research. **Find out why** the plant of your choice is harmful. Make a poster that warns others of the particular consequences of eating some of that plant. **List below the titles, authors, publishers, and copyright dates** of the reference materials you used to find out more about your plant. (Use at least two references.)

Author	Title	Publisher	© date

Name _____

Activity: To make choices and recommendations

Nice Books

"A nice book would have been a good idea, but a picture dictionary!"
(page 11)

Peter is given a big picture dictionary by Mrs. Yarby. This is the kind of book that he liked when he was four years old. What books do you think would be good choices for Peter? Give the titles, authors, and brief summaries of three books you would recommend that Mrs. Yarby consider as a gift for Peter.

Title: _____
Author: _____
Summary: _____

Title: _____
Author: _____
Summary: _____

Title: _____
Author: _____
Summary: _____

