

Stargirl Literature Guide

When I grow up, what shall I be? This exuberant book offers up everything from a paper plane folder to a puppy dog holder, from a silly joke teller to a snowball smoother. Newbery-Award winning author Jerry Spinelli's simple and charming rhymes are accompanied by internationally-renowned illustrator Jimmy Liao's vibrant and fantastical illustrations. This book is an imaginative joyride about hopes and dreams, and a reminder of all the possibilities life has to offer. So, what do you want to be? Remember--you can be anything!

Fourth-graders Hank, Ashley, and Frankie are excitedly preparing for a magic show at the Rock 'N Bowl when Hank's creative alternative to an English essay lands him in detention and grounded the week of the show.

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Stargirl Ember

Novel Study

A Rose for Emily

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

Song for a Whale

"Transcendent." —New York Times Book Review "Magnificent." —Village Voice "Sparkling." —Publishers Weekly Francesca Lia Block's dazzling debut novel, Weetzie Bat, is not only a genre-shattering, critically acclaimed gem, it's also widely recognized as a classic of young adult literature, having captivated readers for generations. This coming-of-age novel follows the eponymous Weetzie Bat and her best friend Dirk as they navigate life and love in a timeless, dreamlike version of Los Angeles. When Weetzie is granted three wishes by a genie, she discovers that there are unexpected ramifications.... Winner of the prestigious Phoenix Award, Weetzie Bat is a beautiful, poetic work of magical realism that is perfect for fans of Laura Ruby, Neil Gaiman, and Kelly Link.

Nine-year-old David has recently lost his mother to a freak accident, his salesman father is constantly on the road, and he is letting his anger out on his grandmother. Sarcastic and bossy 13-year-old Primrose lives with her childlike, fortuneteller mother, and a framed picture is the only evidence of the father she never knew. Despite their differences, David and Primrose forge a tight yet tumultuous friendship, eventually helping each other deal with what is missing in their lives. This powerful, quirky novel about two very complicated, damaged children has much to say about friendship, loss, and recovery.

The popular book club program uses student-led book discussions to introduce children to the world of books and helps teachers engage all students with age-appropriate literature and numerous literary activities.

Now a seventh grader, Jason finds out the hard way just how different things are where ninth graders are the kings.

Love, Stargirl

Study Guide and Student Workbook (Enhanced Ebook)

A Study Guide for Jerry Spinelli's "Stargirl"

Wringer

A Literature-based Curriculum

A Study Guide for Jerry Spinelli's "Stargirl," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs.

Newbery medalist Jerry Spinelli has penned his early autobiography with all the warmth, humor, and drama of his best-selling fiction. And don't miss the author's highly anticipated new novel, Dead Wednesday! "A master of those embarrassing, gloppy, painful, and suddenly wonderful things that happen on the razor's edge between childhood and full-fledged adolescence" --The Washington Post From first memories through high school, including first kiss, first punch, first trip to the principal's office, and first humiliating sports experience, this is not merely an account of a highly unusual childhood. Rather, like Spinelli's fiction, its appeal lies in the accessibility and universality of his life. Entertaining and fast-paced, this is a highly readable memoir-- a must-have for Spinelli fans of all ages.

Eleven-year-old Clay must find a home on the streets of New York City in this award-winning, heartbreakingly honest novel. He was eleven years old, and he had never felt so alone in his life. Clay Garrity lived a normal life until his father lost his job and abandoned the family. Now his pregnant mother has deserted him too, leaving Clay alone in a welfare hotel with a jar of peanut butter and half a loaf of bread. Fearing being placed in foster care, Clay runs away. Alone in the city, Clay wanders down streets with boarded-up buildings and through dark alleys, until he comes to a small triangular park that looks like an island in a stream. In the light of a street lamp, he sees cardboard boxes, blankets, bundles—and people. Some are lying on benches, others inside boxes. Two of the men, Calvin and Buddy, offer to share their shelter, and Clay is grateful to have a place to stay during the bitter November cold. Before long, Calvin, Buddy, and Clay form a family amid the threatening dangers and despair of the streets. Clay knows that leaving the streets and going into foster care means that he may never see his parents again. But if he stays, he may not survive at all. An ALA Best Book for Young Adults, this acclaimed novel offers an intensely moving and candid look at the all-too-real lives of homeless teens.

The beloved bestseller from Newbery Medalist and National Book Award winner Louis Sachar (Holes), with a brand-new cover! "Give me a dollar or I'll spit on you." That's Bradley Chalkers for you. He's the oldest kid in the fifth grade. He tells enormous lies. He picks fights with girls, and the teachers say he has serious behavior

problems. No one likes him—except Carla, the new school counselor. She thinks Bradley is sensitive and generous, and she even enjoys his far-fetched stories. Carla knows that Bradley could change, if only he weren't afraid to try. But when you feel like the most hated kid in the whole school, believing in yourself can be the hardest thing in the world. . . .

Book Club

To Kill a Mockingbird

Adam Canfield of the Slash

Niagara Falls, Or Does It?

Stargirl by Geoff Johns

Can playing dead bring you back to life? Maybe on Dead Wednesday... On this day the worlds of a shy boy and a gone girl collide, and the connection they make will change them both forever. A brilliant new novel from the Newbery Medal winner and author of the New York Times bestseller Stargirl. "Jerry Spinelli has created another middle grade masterpiece." —BookPage, starred review On Dead Wednesday, every eighth grader in Amber Springs is assigned the name and identity of a teenager who died a preventable death in the past year. The kids don black shirts and for the whole day everyone in town pretends they're invisible—as if they weren't even there. The adults think it will make them contemplate their mortality. The kids know it's a free pass to get away with anything. Worm Tarnauer feels invisible every day. He's perfectly happy being the unnoticed sidekick of his friend Eddie. So he's not expecting Dead Wednesday to feel that different. But he didn't count on being assigned Becca Finch (17, car crash). And he certainly didn't count on Becca showing up to boss him around! Letting this girl into his head is about to change everything. This is the story of the unexpected, heartbreaking, hilarious, truly epic day when Worm Tarnauer discovers his own life.

The hardship and cruelty of life in the ghettos of Warsaw during the Nazi occupation of World War II is captured through the eyes of a young Jewish orphan who must use all his wit and courage to survive unimaginable circumstances.

Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

Who Put That Hair in My Toothbrush? Sibling rivalry at its finest! Whether it's on the hockey ice, at school, or at home, Greg and Megin just can't seem to get along. She calls him Grosso, he calls her Megamouth. They battle with donuts, cockroaches, and hair. Will it take a tragedy for them to realize how much they actually care for each other?

Teacher Guide

Monkey Island

A Study Guide

Red Wolf

The Warden's Daughter

From Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli comes the story of a girl searching for happiness inside the walls of a prison. And don't miss the author's highly anticipated new novel, Dead Wednesday! Cammie O'Reilly lives at the Hancock County Prison--not as a prisoner, she's the warden's daughter. She spends the mornings hanging out with shoplifters and reformed arsonists in the women's exercise yard, which gives Cammie a certain cache with her school friends. But even though Cammie's free to leave the prison, she's still stuck. And sad, and really mad. Her mother died saving her from harm when she was just a baby. You wouldn't think you could miss something you never had, but on the eve of her thirteenth birthday, the thing Cammie most wants is a mom. A prison might not be the best place to search for a mother, but Cammie is determined and she's willing to work with what she's got. "A tapestry of grief and redemption, woven by a master storytellerMoving and memorable." --Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

The first novel in the wildly popular #1 New York Times bestselling Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series, from the author of The Whole Thing Together and The Here and Now. Some friends just fit together. Once there was a pair of pants. Just an ordinary pair of jeans. But these pants, the Traveling Pants, went on to do great things. This is the story of the four friends—Lena, Tibby, Bridget, and Carmen—who made it possible. Pants = love. Love your pals. Love yourself. "Funny, perceptive, and moving." --USA Today "An outstanding and vivid book that will stay with readers for a long time."

—Publishers Weekly, Starred, Flying Start "The loving depiction of enduring and solid friendship will ring true to readers." —The Bulletin, Recommended "A feel-good novel of substance." —Kirkus Reviews, Starred "Uplifting." —Seventeen

This novel tells the story of Red Wolf, a young First Nations boy forced to move into a residential school and assume a new identity. Paralleling his story is that of Crooked Ear, an orphaned wolf pup he has befriended. Both must learn to survive in the white man's world.

Meet Courtney Whitmore, a typical teenage girl trying to make it through high school-but she's about to stumble upon a secret that will make her life a lot more complicated! Her new stepfather, Pat Dugan, was once a costumed adventurer called Stripesy. Finding the Kid's costume, Courtney decides to become the new Star-Spangled Kid! But Dugan isn't about to let his new daughter put herself in harm's way-at least, not by herself. He soon builds a robotic suit called S.T.R.I.P.E. so he can keep an eye on Courtney as she battles for justice. Now the duo fight side by side as they take on aliens, cults, super-villains, and more! Collects Stars and S.T.R.I.P.E. #0-14, JSA All Stars #4, and stories from DCU Heroes Secret Files (1999) and DCU Villains Secret Files (1999).

*A Study Guide for Jerry Spinelli's "stargirl."
Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus
Stargirl Novel Units Teacher Guide
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
Stargirl [by] Jerry Spinelli*

Twelve-year-old Iris and her grandmother, both deaf, drive from Texas to Alaska armed with Iris's plan to help Blue-55, a whale unable to communicate with other whales.

Newbery Honor Book * ALA Notable Children's Book "Deeply felt. Presents a moral question with great care and sensitivity." —The New York Times "A spellbinding story about rites of passage." —Publishers Weekly (starred review) "A realistic story with the intensity of a fable." —The Horn Book (starred review) "Thought-provoking." —School Library Journal (starred review) In Palmer LaRue's hometown of Waymer, turning ten is the biggest event of a boy's life. But for Palmer, his tenth birthday is not something to look forward to, but something to dread. Then one day, a visitor appears on his windowsill, and Palmer knows that this, more than anything else, is a sign that his time is up. Somehow, he must learn how to stop being afraid and stand up for what he believes in. *Wringer* is a powerful tour de force from Newbery Medal winner Jerry Spinelli.

"Between laughs, readers will be prompted to think — about what constitutes truth, how the media massages it, and the importance of ethics, fairness, and getting the facts right." — Publishers Weekly (starred review) Adam Canfield has to be the most overprogrammed middle-school student in America. So when super-organized Jennifer coaxes him to be coeditor of their school newspaper, THE SLASH, he wonders if he 's made a big mistake. But when a third-grader 's article leads to a big scoop, Adam and his fellow junior journalists rise to the challenge of receiving their principal 's wrath to uncover some scandalous secrets. From a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and New York Times columnist comes a funny, inspiring debut that sneaks in some lessons on personal integrity — and captures the rush that 's connected to the breaking of a really great story.

New ways to teach reading, writing, and the love of literature.

The Newbery Award-Winning Author of *Maniac Magee*

LitPlan Teacher Pack

Maniac Magee

I Can Be Anything!

Stars and S.T.R.I.P.E.

Follows the adventures of Courtney Whitmore, the new Star-Spangled Kid, and S.T.R.I.P.E., her stepfather with a robotic suit, as they battle aliens, cults, and villains.

Use Novel-Ties® study guides as your total guided reading program. Reproducible pages in chapter-by-chapter format provide you with the right questions to ask, the important issues to discuss, and the organizational aids that help students get the most out of each book they read.

Armpit and X-Ray are living in Austin, Texas. It is three years since they left the confines of Camp Green Lake Detention Centre and Armpit is taking small steps to turn his life around. He is working for a landscape gardener because he is good at digging holes, he is going to school and he is enjoying his first proper romance, but is he going to be able to stay out of trouble when there is so much building up against him? In this exciting novel, Armpit is joined by many vibrant new characters, and is learning what it takes to stay on course, and that doing the right thing is never the wrong choice.

The New York Times bestselling sequel to Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli's modern-day classic *Stargirl*, now an original film on Disney+! And don't miss the author's highly anticipated new novel, *Dead Wednesday!* Love, *Stargirl* picks up a year after *Stargirl* ends and reveals the new life of the beloved character who moved away so suddenly at the end of *Stargirl*. The novel takes the form of "the world's longest letter," in diary form, going from date to date through a little more than a year's time. In her writing, *Stargirl* mixes memories of her bittersweet time in Mica, Arizona, with involvements with new people in her life. In *Love, Stargirl*, we hear the voice of *Stargirl* herself as she reflects on time, life, Leo, and - of course - love. "Spinelli is a poet of the prepubescent. . . . No writer guides his young characters, and his readers, past these pitfalls and challenges and toward their futures with more compassion." —The New York Times

Small Steps

Crash

Who Put That Hair in My Toothbrush?

Milkweed

Knots in My Yo-Yo String

New friends and a mystery help Aven, thirteen, adjust to middle school and life at a dying western theme park in a new state, where her being born armless presents many challenges.

*Essentially a complete teacher's manual for the book, this LitPlan Teacher Pack includes lesson plans and reproducible resource materials for the book *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli. It includes: 18 Daily Lessons Short answer study questions Multiple choice quiz questions Vocabulary worksheets for each reading assignment 3 detailed writing assignments Individual and group activities Critical thinking discussion questions 5 unit tests (2 short answer, 2 multiple choice, 1 advanced short answer) Evaluation forms Review puzzles & games Bulletin board ideas Reproducible student materials And more! A Note About A Few Of The Many Different Assignments Included: There are three writing assignments in this unit, each with the purpose of informing, persuading, or expressing personal opinions. The detailed writing assignment sheets guide students through the assignments. In the first assignment, students write to inform. They write a "filler" for the newspaper. In the second assignment, students write to persuade Leo to accept *Stargirl* OR persuade *Stargirl* to find a better way to fit in with the group OR persuade you that Leo and *Stargirl* acted appropriately in the book and wouldn't need to be persuaded to do anything differently. The third writing assignment gives students the opportunity to do some creative writing by writing the plot summary for a sequel to the novel *Stargirl*. Students are assigned to do a project with this unit. Students are members of the Sunflower Club, a club of students who pledges to do something nice each day for someone other than themselves. Students will try to keep this pledge and keep a list of what they did each day. After about two weeks, students will share their experiences with the class. These materials are geared for whole class use but are very easily adapted for independent study work, lit circles or book groups, home school use, or tutoring. If you have never taught this book before, this manual will give you a great foundation of materials on a variety of levels. If you have taught this book before, you might like to know that many veteran teachers have told us they have found our LitPlan Teacher Pack manuals to be much more thorough and more helpful than other materials they have used. All publications are copyrighted materials, with permission to print student materials as needed for ONE teacher's classroom use only, unless otherwise specifically stated. Documents may not be reproduced, displayed, or distributed in any other way without written permission from Teacher's Pet Publications, Inc. He wasn't born with the name *Maniac Magee*. He came into this world named Jeffrey Lionel Magee, but when his parents died and his life changed, so did his name. And *Maniac Magee* became a legend. Even today kids talk about how fast he could run; about how he hit an inside-the-park "frog" homer;*

how no knot, no matter how snarled, would stay that way once he began to untie it. But the thing Maniac Magee is best known for is what he did for the kids from the East Side and those from the West Side.

ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME • NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A modern-day classic from Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli, this beloved celebration of individuality is now an original movie on Disney+! And don't miss the author's highly anticipated new novel, Dead Wednesday! Stargirl. From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of "Stargirl, Stargirl." She captures Leo Borlock's heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal. In this celebration of nonconformity, Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli weaves a tense, emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill and inspiration of first love. Don't miss the sequel, Love, Stargirl, as well as The Warden's Daughter, a novel about another girl who can't help but stand out. "Spinelli is a poet of the prepubescent. . . . No writer guides his young characters, and his readers, past these pitfalls and challenges and toward their futures with more compassion." —The New York Times

NOVELS FOR STUDENTS

Stargirl

Eggs

Dead Wednesday

Weetzie Bat

Activities to be used in the classroom to accompany the reading of The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison.

A Newbery Medal winning modern classic about a racially divided small town and a boy who runs. Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.

There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom

Space Station Seventh Grade

Stargirl Novel Units End of Book Test Teacher Guide

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants