

# Circle C Milestones Literature Unit Study

## Enrichment Guide Content

The Circle C Milestones novels and enrichment guide can be used as literature curriculum. The activities cover a wide range of historical and language arts-related topics:

- ⇒ Vocabulary, reading comprehension, and critical thinking questions
- ⇒ Geography and map skills: cattle drive route, railroad routes, the Tehachapi Mountains, world's fair locations, New York, the Sierra Nevada
- ⇒ Historical topics relating to the 1880s: ranching, lice, cattle rustling, Palace Hotel, dime novels, transcontinental railroad, *La Quinceañera*, 1880s arithmetic, cattle drives, Kaweah Oak Preserve, camels in the Old West, the chuck wagon, Fort Tejon, Los Angeles, New York City, the Brooklyn Bridge, world's fairs, Frank and Jesse James, Jules Verne's works, wind pumps, barbed wire, Old West prisons, University of California-Berkeley, *Pilgrim's Progress*
- ⇒ Writing skills: the five elements of a story: character sketches, setting, story problem, plot events, solution; create a dime novel
- ⇒ Just for fun: Pandora's box, crossword puzzles, word search, web fun, Spanish, trick riding
- ⇒ Bible-related activities: Scripture copy work, the "fall," giants in the land, Bible mini-posters
- ⇒ Answer key for all four books

### Suggestions for Pacing the Literature Study:

Each book takes 21 days to complete.

The (optional) Circle C Milestones lapbook activities stretch that to 28 days per book. It is available in Ebook (\$12) or Print (\$24) at [www.CircleCMilestones.com](http://www.CircleCMilestones.com) and covers all four books with unique learning activities not covered in this literature guide.

Assignments are scheduled by day rather than by week, so you can use either a four-day or a five-day school week.

The books are chronological, but they are also stand-alone stories and need not be read in order. Multiple students can begin with different books.

**Note:** You have permission to copy as many pages from this study guide as you desire for your home or classroom. Not for resale.

Enjoy the adventure!

*Susan Marlow*



*Andi Carter*

## Daily Schedule for Book 1: Thick as Thieves

\*indicates an optional activity found in the *Circle C Milestones* lapbook.

(Lapbook activities can be skipped or purchased at [www.CircleCMilestones.com](http://www.CircleCMilestones.com))

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapters 1-2	Chapters 3-4	— — — —	— — — —
Literature Guide	Pg. 7; pg. 9 #1-6	Page 9 # 7-13	Pages 10-11	* Lapbook activity for chapters 1-4
	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	— — — — —	Chapters 5-6	Chapters 7-8	— — — —
Literature Guide	Pages 12-13	Page 14 #1-7	Page 14 #8-14	* Lapbook activity for chapters 5-8
	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	— — — —	Chapters 9-10	Chapters 11-12	— — — — —
Literature Guide	Pages 15-19	Page 21 #1-6	Page 21 #7-9	* Lapbook activity for chapters 9-12
	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapter 13	Chapter 14	Chapters 15-16	— — — — —
Literature Guide	Pages 22-23	Page 24 #1-5	Pages 24 #6-11	* Lapbook activities (2) for chapters 13-16
	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapter 17	Chapter 18	Chapter 19	Chapter 20-21
Literature Guide	Pages 25-27	Page 28	Page 29 #1-5	Page 29 #6-11
	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	— — — — —	— — — —	Chapters 22-23	Chapter 24
Literature Guide	* Lapbook activity for chapters 17-21	Pages 30-32	— — — — —	Page 33 #1-7
	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28
<i>Thick as Thieves</i>	Chapters 25-26	— — — —	— — — —	— — — — —
Literature Guide	Page 33 # 8-11	Pages 34-35	Pages 36-37	* Lapbook activity for chapters 22-26

**Story Synopsis:** When *Thick as Thieves* opens, Andi Carter is going on fourteen and looks forward to her mare, Taffy, delivering her first foal. What should be a routine foaling goes awry, and even big brother Chad may not be able to save the day. Later, Andi meets a new cast of characters who disrupt her life in more ways than she could ever imagine. Macy Walker, a homeless, ill-bred girl, invades the classroom and drags Andi to the brink of death on a runaway horse. Worse, a string of cattle rustling breaks out in the valley . . . and then the thieves go after the ranchers' horses. Andi is unwillingly drawn into a shaky friendship with Macy, and together they hazard a dangerous journey and learn the true meaning of compassion and friendship.

The character quality/theme for *Thick as Thieves* is "friendship." In your best handwriting, copy 1 Peter 3:8 from page 5 in the book. Color, cut out the poster, and memorize this verse during your study.

**FRIENDSHIP:**

UNSELFISHLY GIVING SUPPORT AND EXPRESSING COMPASSION TO ANOTHER

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 1–4

Show how well you understand the story by answering the following questions.

### CHAPTERS 1–2

1. What is the setting for *Thick as Thieves*? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why is Andi upset when she learns two of her brothers are at the yearly Cattlemen's Association meeting? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who agrees to come out to the barn to check on Taffy? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What would Andi prefer to read rather than write in a journal? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why doesn't Andi hear her brothers return from the cattlemen's meeting?
  - A. They return after Andi went up to bed.
  - B. The rain on the barn roof drowns out other noises.
  - C. Andi is sound asleep.
6. What does Andi wish she could wear? \_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTERS 3–4

7. What news does Chad give Andi that throws her into fear for Taffy's life?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Name the foals and give a physical description of each:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. After the foaling, what does Chad want Andi to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What does Andi want to do? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Andi's friend Cory is known for his money-making schemes. She imagines Cory proposing a peep show to exhibit the twins, but he'd want his "commission" for suggesting it. What is a commission? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What is the ranch foreman, Sid, looking for on the twins? \_\_\_\_\_
13. There is only one "cloud on Andi's horizon," meaning one gloomy thought. What is it?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR

For each underlined word below, write the part of speech (**noun, verb, or adjective**) on the given line. Then choose the best definition for how the word is used in the sentence. (See example.)

1. Mother says a proper young lady regards her feelings as a petticoat. \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN  
A. overskirt                      C. bloomers  
B. slip                              D. dressing gown
2. Andi ran her hand along Taffy's swollen flank and tried to stay calm. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. side                              C. chest  
B. rump                             D. stomach
3. Andi had been too wrapped up fretting over Taffy to remember what she ate. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. laughing                      C. worrying  
B. crying                          D. calming
4. Justin had quietly taken over as Andi's substitute father. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. replacement                  C. sympathetic  
B. long-term                      D. indulgent
5. "It's customary for young ladies to record their thoughts in a journal." \_\_\_\_\_  
A. highly unusual                  C. exceptional  
B. normal                          D. unconventional
6. Chad bosses me; I aggravate him. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. tease                            C. poke  
B. soothe                           D. annoy
7. Chad ran his hands down the mare's quivering flank and spoke softly. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. trembling                      C. throbbing  
B. sweating                       D. bleeding
8. Chad was often impulsive and quick-tempered. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. cautious                        C. hasty  
B. patient                          D. irritated
9. "Live twins are scarce as hens' teeth," the old cowhand quipped. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. said angrily                    C. shouted  
B. cried                            D. joked
10. Taffy perked up at the concoction and worked her way through it. \_\_\_\_\_  
A. liquid                            C. medicine  
B. mixture                         D. brew

## CHARACTERIZATION

*Characterization* is the technique an author uses to acquaint readers with the story's characters—both their physical traits and their personalities. Since characters drive the story, it's important that the reader get to know them soon . . . and to like them (or not like them, as in the case of a story's antagonists).



An author can introduce the characters in different ways. One way is to simply tell readers: "Andrea Carter was very worried about her mare, Taffy." Telling works, but it's not as interesting as letting the reader learn about Andi and her family naturally, through dialogue, action, and the setting (Andi's surroundings).

1. In chapter 1, what does Andi do that *shows* she is worried about Taffy foaling? (pp. 8-9)

---

---

2. Instead of *telling* the reader what Andi looks like, the author shows Andi doing something to her hair. What is it? (p. 8) \_\_\_\_\_

3. From the action in #2, we learn that Andi has \_\_\_\_\_ (color), \_\_\_\_\_ (length) hair that she wears in a \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What hints from chapter 1 show you Andi is impatient (pages 8-10)?

---

---

5. Andi's brother Chad is a major character. There are many hints that point to his personality in the first three chapters. List two things you learn about Chad.



A. \_\_\_\_\_

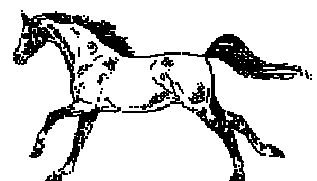
\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*This is one of my favorite Bible verses—  
"The horse is prepared against the day of battle,  
but safety is of the LORD." —Proverbs 21:31*



## FOALING

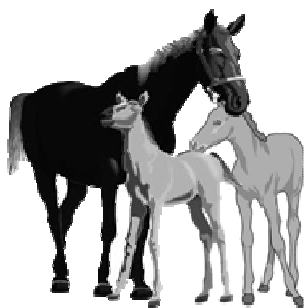
For eleven months (plus or minus a month or more, because mares often don't follow the "rules"), Andi has eagerly awaited Taffy's first foal. Being a rancher's daughter and well acquainted with stallions, mares, and foals, Andi feels confident Taffy will sail through the birth. Andi knows the signs of the impending birth and is on the lookout for them. She also knows that while the foal triggers the birth, the mare can delay it if she's nervous or upset. Here are the signs that send Andi running to the house for several days in a row, irritating Melinda and making her brothers shake their heads and chuckle:

- \* Two weeks before foaling, Taffy's udder filled and looked shiny.
- \* A few days before the birth, the muscles around Taffy's back end relaxed, and a little milk dripped from Taffy's teats.
- \* A day or two later, Taffy's attitude changed. She became restless, ate a few bites, paced, and had a faraway look in her eyes.
- \* That same evening, Taffy's tail switched. She paced, pawed, and nosed her flank. She sweated and got up and down.

Surely Taffy was in labor! But the most predictable thing about mares—as Andi found out when Justin checked on Taffy—is that they are unpredictable.

During early labor, Taffy was comfortable between contractions. She ate and appeared in no distress. But once the bag of waters breaks, a mare is in active labor. This stage of labor is fast. Usually only ten to twenty minutes pass before the foal arrives. When Taffy's foal did not make an appearance right away, Andi knew it was time to get help. If the foal is not delivered after thirty minutes, the chances of it being born alive plunges.

## FOALING TWINS



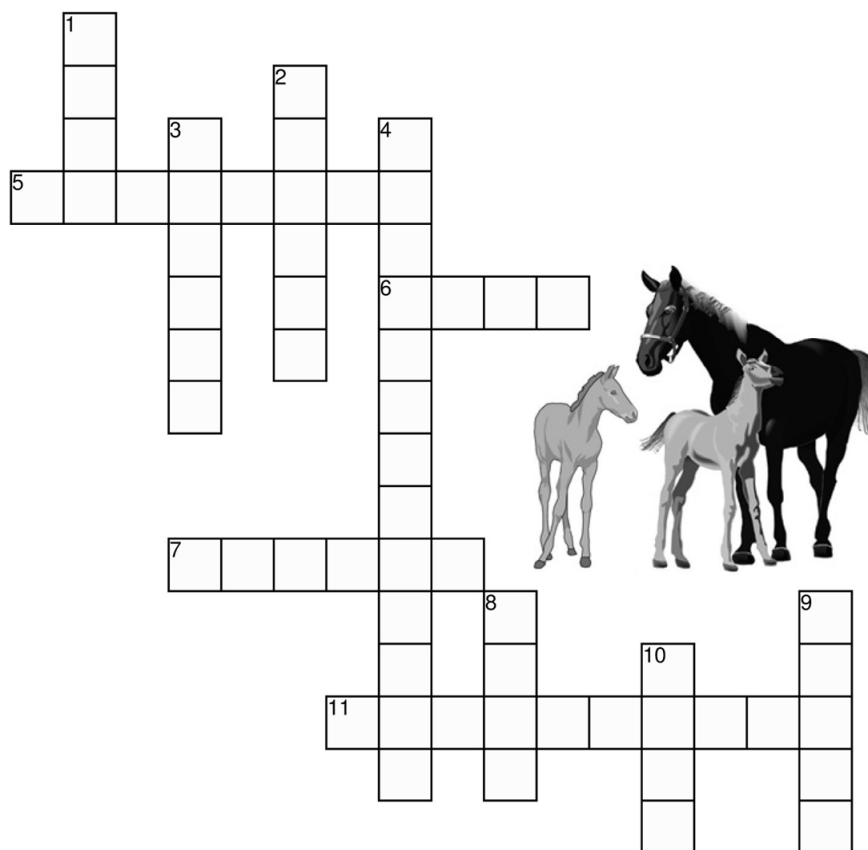
When Chad tells Andi that Taffy is carrying twin foals, her response is, *This can't be happening! It's all a horrible nightmare. I want to wake up right now in my own warm bed, with Taffy safe in her stall and one healthy foal beside her. Not two. Oh, please, God, not two!*

Andi is right to feel horrified. To a stockman, twin foals are never a blessing. There is a 90% chance the mare will lose them before she reaches full-term. Most of the time the twins die in the first weeks of pregnancy. In the 1800s, no one could tell if a mare was carrying twins or not. Modern veterinary medicine uses ultrasound in the early weeks to detect twins. If twins are discovered, the modern vet aborts one of them so the other foal can survive.

If twin foals do make it to full term, they often cause the mare more stress. She has to feed, protect, and teach two foals. In most cases, one twin is smaller (like Sunny). Due to the added stress of foaling twins, mares sometimes reject one of the foals, usually the runt.

## FOALING TIME CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword puzzle by referring to the foaling study guide on the previous page.



Created on [TheTeachersCorner.net](http://TheTeachersCorner.net) Crossword Maker

### ACROSS:

5. a male horse
6. Sometimes the mare rejects the \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ percent of twin foals die before birth
11. Today, an \_\_\_\_\_ can show twins early on in the pregnancy.

### DOWN:

1. A mare's nipple is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A foal should be born within \_\_\_\_\_ minutes after the water breaks.
3. the length of a mare's pregnancy (in months)
4. When a mare foals is quite \_\_\_\_\_.
8. a female horse
9. the part of the mare that fills with milk
10. a young horse under the age of one year



### SCRIPTURE MEMORY

If you haven't started learning **1 Peter 3:8**, begin to do so. It is the Bible verse that complements the theme of friendship for *Thick as Thieves*.

## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 5–8

Show how well you understand the story by answering the following questions.

### CHAPTERS 5–6

1. Andi had a hurry-up attitude about getting a foal from Taffy. If the foals were born at the beginning of January, circle the month Sabastian would have visited Taffy (see the previous pages about foaling for a hint.):    January    February    March    April
2. Andi would like to be finished with school when she completes the eighth grade.  
However, the Carter children must attend school until they are \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
3. Andi's marks in arithmetic are fine, but her worse subject is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What is Andi's punishment for letting her schoolwork slide so badly?  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Andi panics when she sees the sentence she must "parse" (break down into parts of speech). Can you help Andi find the subject and verb? Underline the subject once. Underline the verb twice. (Hint: "Man" is *not* the subject.)

*The stateliest building man can raise is the ivy's food at last.*

6. What does Cory do that embarrasses Andi? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the new student's full name? \_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTERS 7–8

8. What discovery about Macy makes the rest of the students gape in surprise?  
A. She has lice.                      B. She can't read.                      C. She lives in the back of the saloon.
9. Who teases Andi after school about "catching" Macy's stink? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why has Andi been riding Taffy to and from school for the past few days?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. The Carter brothers are sitting around the supper table discussing bad times on the ranch. What has happened to get Chad so upset?  
A. Cattle rustlers have hit the ranch.    B. There's been a fire.    C. Some cattle are sick.
12. How long ago was the family's last encounter with this problem? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What is the name of the future Mrs. Justin Carter? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who joins Andi when she goes outside to spend time with her colts? \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY: SYNONYMS & ANTONYMS

*Synonyms* are words that have the same (or nearly the same) meaning as the original word; *antonyms* have the opposite meaning. Below each sentence are four words. Circle the correct synonym for each underlined word. One of the words is the antonym. Copy the antonym onto the blank line. (The first one has been done as an example.)

### ANTONYM

1. Shasta looked at Andi with dark, limpid eyes.

*colored    clear    bright    opaque*

opaque

2. Sunny seemed aloof and somewhat capricious.

*frightened    unhappy    friendly    distant*

3. The cover showed a lurid picture of a "wild Indian" crouched over a helpless settler, tomahawk raised.

*shocking    colorful    dull    black & white*

4. Andi glanced at Chad, who gave her a sympathetic look.

*teasing    understanding    disagreeable    unfeeling*

5. Andi found herself back in the stifling classroom.

*airy    unbearable    stuffy    noisy*

6. "How often do they have to spell a useless word like 'pusillanimous'?" *angry    brave    fearful    sad*

7. Sunny seemed aloof and somewhat capricious.

*flighty    mean-spirited    predictable    lazy*

8. At this dire pronouncement, Macy lost her fight and became sullen. *expected    awful    urgent    wonderful*

9. Macy glared at the spellbound pupils.

*nervous    distracted    tired    captivated*

10. Mr. Foster slammed the roll book shut and smiled wanly.

*brightly    weakly    tiredly    sadly*

11. Jack looked like a frightened little boy, all because of one bold and impudent girl. *ugly    mouthy    respectful    cute*

12. "If I sit next to her, I'd swoon for sure!" Virginia said.

*cry    revive    become ill    faint*

## SCHOOLWORK: ARE YOU SMARTER THAN AN 1880S EIGHTH-GRADER?

Andi saw Cory's math problem on the blackboard and thought, *Easy!* How about you? Can you solve the problem? As long as you know the conversion between bushels and cubic feet, the problem is easy: **1 bushel = 1.2 cubic feet (volume)**.

*A wagon box is 2 feet deep, 10 feet long, and 3 feet wide.*

*How many bushels of wheat will it hold?*

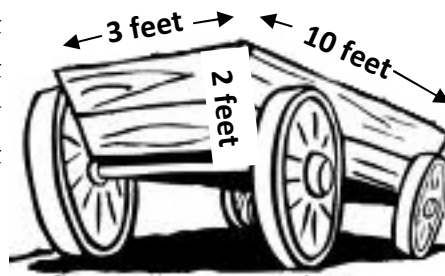
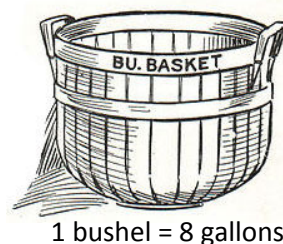
First, it's helpful to draw a picture of the volume we want calculate. We want to know how many bushels of wheat will fill the wagon box to the right. (To help a 21st-century reader get an idea of how big a bushel is, a bushel basket holds 8 gallons.)

Step 1: find the volume of the wagon box.

(Volume = length x width x depth)

\_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ cubic feet of wagon space

Step 2: Divide the volume (from step 1) by the conversion factor of 1 bushel = 1.2 cubic feet to find out how many bushels the wagon bed will hold: \_\_\_\_\_ / (divided by) 1.2 = \_\_\_\_\_ bushels of wheat. (You may use a calculator; Andi did it in her head. Children in the 1800s were taught how to do mental math quickly and easily.)



to

-----

Are you ready for another arithmetic problem from an 1880s eighth-grade graduation test? (You may use a calculator. If you don't know how many pounds are in one ton, you will need to look that up somewhere.)

*Find the cost of 6,720 pounds of coal at \$6.00 per ton.*

Step 1: Since the price needs to be per "ton," you need to find out how many tons 6,720 pounds of coal is. First, look up how many pounds are in 1 ton: \_\_\_\_\_

Step 2: Divide 6,720 by \_\_\_\_\_ pounds (in 1 ton) = \_\_\_\_\_ tons

Step 3: Once you know how many tons of coal you have, you can multiply it by \$6.00 per ton to find out how much you have to pay for your coal:

\_\_\_\_\_ tons x \$6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ (price for the coal)



A coal bucket

### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*I have done the arithmetic. I have 912 and a half days left until I can say "goodbye" to Mr. Foster and the Fresno grammar school forever. Sometimes, being good at arithmetic backfires. This is news I could live without.*

## TRAINING A FOAL

Some people (especially in the 1800s) began training—or breaking—horses when they were two years old or even older. This is where the “busting broncos” idea comes from. The rancher and his hands rounded up a wild herd of horses, confined them in a corral, and then—one by one—the cowboys lassoed their mounts and hung on. This was a quick (but often dangerous) way of “breaking” a horse to be ridden. Chad and his ranch hands use this method on wild stock, but they go about it differently with much of their “saddle” stock, like Taffy’s new colts. Andi plans to train Shasta and Sunny from the time they are foaled. So, what will Andi do to train her colts?

### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI’S JOURNAL:

*Chad helped me write a list of training tips so I wouldn't forget what to do. I copied it down in my journal and am keeping it out in the barn for easy reference. There's just one problem—how will I manage two lively foals?*

### ANDI’S LIST:

Newborn: Let the foal get used to me, sniff me, and learn that I am his friend. Sit in the corner and watch. Rub the foal all over. If he doesn’t like being rubbed in certain places, continue rubbing and talking softly. Since Taffy trusts me, Chad says this will work really well.

A few days old: I need to spend all of my time with the foal, watching him and holding him when he naps. Teach him right away who is the boss and how to stand still. Put an arm around his chest and another arm around his rump. Talk softly and hold him tight until he stands still. Then pat him and immediately let him go.

One week old: Put a halter on the foal for fifteen minutes at a time. Make sure each of the training sessions is short and fun.

Two weeks old: Teach the foal to lead with a halter and a lead rope. Use Taffy, since the foal will follow her. I’m going to use “walk on” to ask him to go. Never have a tug-of-war with the foal! Use a rope around his rump to make him go forward instead. As soon as he obeys, pat him and let him go. Teach the foal to stand tied. Brush and groom the foal every day.

One to two months old: Teach the foal the word “no.” Be firm but gentle. Give him a sharp whack on the rump, if necessary, to teach him good manners. Ride Taffy, and the foal can come along. Following his dam will help the foal learn about creeks, flapping branches, and other frightening things. If Taffy is not afraid, the foal will not be afraid.

Five or six months old: Wean the foal away from Taffy

One year old: Teach the colt “walk,” “stop,” and “trot” on command. Start lunging the colt in a round pen, using a long rope while standing in the middle of the ring.

Two to three years old: train the colt to be ridden.

# FOAL-TRAINING TIME LINE



NEWBORN

A FEW DAYS  
OLD

ONE WEEK OLD

TWO WEEKS OLD

ONE TO TWO MONTHS OLD

FIVE TO SIX MONTHS OLD

ONE YEAR OLD

TWO TO THREE YEARS OLD

## FOAL-TRAINING TIMELINE

The previous page shows a timeline, with blanks for short notes on what training to do at certain ages. Cut out the foal-training instructions on this page and put them in order on the timeline.

Wean the foal away from his dam.

Rub the foal all over.

Sit in a corner and watch the foal.

Start lunging the colt in a round pen.

Teach the colt the word "no."  
Whack him on the rump if needed.

Teach the colt "walk," "stop,"  
and "trot" on command.

Train the colt to be ridden.

Put a halter on the foal for fifteen minutes.

Teach the foal who is boss.

Put an arm around his chest and  
another arm around his rump.

Teach the colt to stand tied.  
Brush and groom him daily.

Teach the colt to stand still.

Spend all your time with the colt.

Teach the colt to lead with a  
halter and lead rope.



## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 9–12

Show how well you understand the story by answering the following questions:

### CHAPTERS 9–10

1. List the personality and physical traits of each of Andi's colts (see page 54):



SHASTA

---

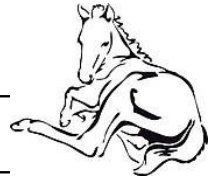
---

---

---

---

SUNNY



---

---

---

---

---

2. Who is the young *vaquero* (cowboy) who wants to call on Rosa? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does Andi hope Mr. Foster will agree to do for her?
- A. allow Andi to stay home      B. whip Macy into shape      C. give Andi a new seat
4. True or False: Andi's humble appeal touches Mr. Foster's heart and he honors her request.
5. What does Andi bring for Macy that shows she's willing to try to be friends?
- \_\_\_\_\_
6. What keeps Andi's temper from spilling over when it looks like Macy might spit at her?
- A. She knows she will get expelled if she loses her temper.  
B. She's afraid Macy will punch her like she punched Cory.  
C. She wonders what her mother would do in a similar situation.  
D. She realizes the teacher is watching her.

### CHAPTERS 11–12

7. Name two things Macy has done to stir up trouble in the schoolyard during recess.
- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What prompts Andi into taking action against Macy during the noon lunch hour?
- \_\_\_\_\_
9. True or False: Andi agrees with her classmates that standing up was a good idea and now Macy will not give them any more trouble.

## CHAPTERS 9–12: VOCABULARY MATCHING

Match the underlined word in each phrase with the correct meaning. Page numbers where the word is first used are given so you can find the meaning using the context of the sentence. The first one has been done for you.

### SECTION A:

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. <u>D</u> an old <u>adage</u> (p. 51)       | A. an abrupt or rough manner      |
| 2. _____ a <u>tirade</u> (p. 51)              | B. minor; trivial                 |
| 3. _____ <u>petty</u> school problems (p. 52) | C. enjoying; delighting in        |
| 4. _____ to <u>harass</u> someone (p. 53)     | <del>D. a saying; a proverb</del> |
| 5. _____ <u>brusque</u> manner (p. 56)        | E. one who shoes horses           |
| 6. _____ to be <u>ridiculed</u> (p. 56)       | F. jumpy; nervous                 |
| 7. _____ <u>savoring</u> the moment (p. 60)   | G. an outburst; a rant            |
| 8. _____ <u>loathsome</u> creatures (p. 64)   | H. peaceful; calm                 |
| 9. _____ a <u>farrier</u> (p. 69)             | I. to be mocked or made fun of    |
| 10. _____ a <u>skittish</u> horse (p. 69)     | J. to bother or pester someone    |
| 11. _____ to be <u>tranquil</u> (p. 78)       | K. disgusting; revolting          |

### DIGGING DEEPER

The relationship between Andi and her older sister is complicated, and often stormy. In chapter one, Melinda rolls her eyes at Andi's obsession about Taffy's wellbeing. However, in chapter 8, Melinda listens patiently to Andi's concerns about Macy and then gives good advice. Later in chapter 11, Melinda follows up to see how Andi is doing. Name a friend or family member with whom you have an up-and-down relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about a time when you and this person got along wonderfully: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Now write about a time when you clashed and how you resolved it: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LICE

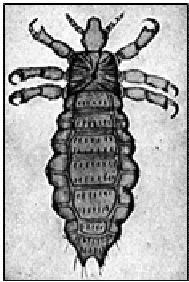
### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*"Infestations" is Virginia's ladylike way of saying "lice." It scares me spittleless to think Macy might really be harboring crawly critters in her tangles. My head itches just thinking about it. If I do catch them, I will simply die of shame!*



Macy Walker

Andi was right to be worried about picking up a lice infestation from Macy. Lice are very contagious, especially among children, who are often in close contact with each another. The tiny lice (singular "louse") live among human hairs and feed on tiny amounts of blood sucked from the scalp. Lice were not only an 1800s problem. Even today in the 21st century, they are a common problem. Lice are annoying and tough to get rid of. You can catch lice without even knowing it. Rich or poor, clean or dirty, a louse is no respecter of persons.



Lice are frustrating to deal with, but they aren't dangerous, nor do they spread disease. However, the bites can make a person's head itch, and scratching can lead to infection. The adult louse is smaller than a grain of rice and grayish white. The eggs (nits) are even smaller—like tan dots. After the louse hatches, it becomes a "nymph" (half-grown louse). In about ten days, the nymph is full grown. The old egg casings are easier to see than the lice. That's when you can tell if someone is infected. So, how does one get rid of these creepy crawlers?

If boys catch lice it's easy to get rid of them. A hair clippers and a "butch" haircut takes care of the problem. In the past, dousing a girl's hair with kerosene killed the live lice, but this treatment had to be repeated every few days to catch the new hatchlings. Sometimes, long hair was cut to make it easier to find the lice. Running a fine-toothed comb through wet hair every few days could also yank out the sticky nits. Nowadays, a doctor prescribes medicated, lice-killing shampoo. In addition to shampooing over and over again, the infected person's bedding must be washed in hot water. Brushes, combs, and hats must be checked and soaked in alcohol. Thankfully, lice don't survive very long away from the scalp.

Using kerosene (or any number of old-fashioned, "home" remedies) is *dangerous* and should never be used. Sadly, there are modern cases of children being badly burned using the "if it was good enough for great-grandma in the past, it's good enough for us" remedy of kerosene or gasoline. The fumes can ignite near a source of flame. And imagine the stink of kerosene Andi and her friends would have to endure. No wonder she was worried!

JUST FOR FUN: A "LOUSY" POEM: Fill in the blanks with lice-related words that rhyme.

One \_\_\_\_\_, two \_\_\_\_\_. Finding them is not real \_\_\_\_\_.

A half-grown \_\_\_\_\_ was once a \_\_\_\_\_. If your head starts to itch, you know you've been \_\_\_\_\_.

## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 13–16

Show how well you understand the story by answering the questions.

### CHAPTERS 13–14

1. Andi's chapter 13 journal entry is full of plans to avoid Macy. Why does she add:

*I think a journal can sometimes read like a work of fiction.*

---

---

2. List two things you learn about Lucy Hawkins from reading chapter 13 (pages 80-81):

---

---

3. To the right is a picture of the Fresno County courthouse. What does Taffy try to do at Courthouse Park? \_\_\_\_\_



4. When Andi takes off for town, she intends to give Macy what the girl deserves for her meanness. However, a Bible verse comes to her mind: *Be angry and sin not*. Think of an example of when it might be okay to feel angry (it is an emotion), yet it's not a sin:

---

---

5. What does Andi do instead of lighting into Macy with both fists? \_\_\_\_\_

---

### CHAPTERS 15–16

6. Andi expects Mitch to get after her for being in the bad part of town. What happens instead?

---

7. What does Mitch drop into Chad's hand? \_\_\_\_\_

---

8. What does Cory offer to do that makes Andi think boys are so silly? \_\_\_\_\_

---

9. What are Macy's brothers' names? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Which brother interrupts Andi and Macy after school? \_\_\_\_\_

11. What does he want Macy to do? \_\_\_\_\_

---

## SCRIPTURE MINI-POSTER

Oftentimes, Bible verses pop into Andi's head when she finds herself in a predicament. When Andi is faced with having to put up with Macy sitting beside her, she remembers Philippians 4:13, *I can do all things through Christ*. Ephesians 4:26, *Be angry and sin not*, comes to mind when Andi wants to pay Macy back for nearly killing her. Mitch reminds Andi that *God causes all things to work together for good* (Romans 8:28) when she thinks she should have ridden home with Lucy instead of riding Taffy. Later in the story, when Andi is really scared, Jesus' words from Matthew 28:20, *"Lo, I am with you always"* whisper in her mind and give her peace.

God has a way of using His Word to comfort His people and remind them how to behave in this world. The key is to memorize Scripture. God can't whisper His Word to you if you haven't "hidden it in your heart" (Psalm 119:11) in the first place. Look up the Bible verses listed above to see the full text (or choose a different verse to memorize) and neatly copy it on the mini-poster below. (You can make more copies of the page for more verses.) Keep the mini-poster in a handy place so you can look at it daily and memorize the verse.

---

---

---

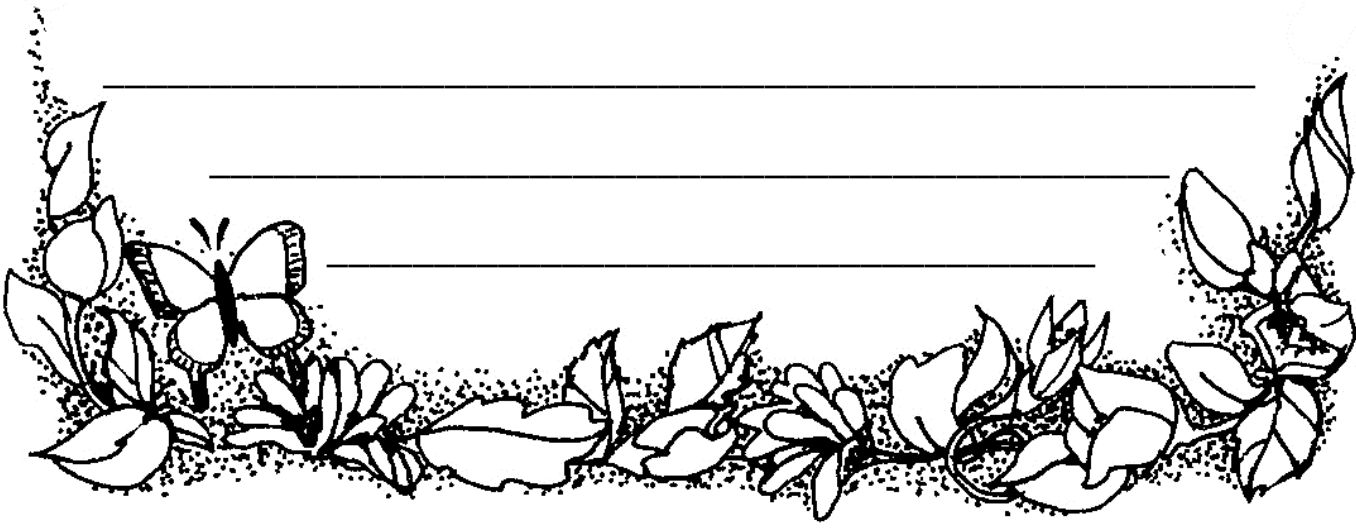
---

---

---

---

---





## VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

For each of the underlined words in the sentences below, write a definition in your own words. (See example.)

1. Perhaps I should play hooky from school for the rest of the term.

*"to play hooky" means . . .* to skip out; not go

2. Maybe somebody would sweep Lucy off her feet while Justin was dillydallying.

*"dillydallying" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

3. Justin getting married was as inevitable as the rising sun.

*"inevitable" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

4. Andi could not find one legitimate reason for not liking Lucy Hawkins.

*"legitimate" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

5. It was better to sit mortified in the dusty street than to be scared senseless.

*"mortified" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

6. Andi hung onto Taffy's neck like a leech.



*"leech" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

7. Andi looked for Macy near Fresno's most frequented saloons.

*"frequented" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

8. If Mitch caught Andi near this den of iniquity, she would catch it for sure.

*"iniquity" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

9. Why would he goad Macy into a fight and put her on public display?

*"goad" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

10. Andi gave in and let Mitch coddle her a minute more.

*"coddle" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

11. One or two of the Walker brothers were always loafing around town.

*"loafing" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

12. "It sounds like they're determined to get themselves invited to a necktie party."

*"necktie party" means . . .* \_\_\_\_\_

## SIMILES

A simile is a writing technique that compares things using “like,” “as,” or “than.” For example, “The sun beat down on Andi’s head *like a blacksmith’s forge*.” “Andi’s legs *felt like jelly* when she stood up to recite.” The similes compare the sun to a blacksmith’s forge and Andi’s legs to jelly. The first simile means it’s very hot. The second simile means Andi’s legs are weak and wobbly with nervousness. A number of similes are used in chapters 13-16.

1. Find the simile in the last paragraph on page 81 and write it here:

---

---

2. What is this simile comparing? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What does it mean? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Find the simile in the fourth paragraph on page 83 and write it here:

---

---

5. What is this simile comparing? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What does this simile mean? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Find the simile in the last paragraph on page 101.

---

---

8. What is this simile comparing? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What does this simile mean? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Copy 1 Peter 1:24 below. Circle the similes.

---

---

---

11. What does Peter mean when he compares people to grass and flowers?

---

12. Create some similes of your own by finishing these sentences:

A. Macy caught on to reading faster than \_\_\_\_\_

B. Standing up to the bully was like \_\_\_\_\_

C. The school day passed slower than \_\_\_\_\_

D. After grooming her, Taffy’s coat shone as bright as \_\_\_\_\_

## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 17–21

Show how well you understand the story by answering the following questions:

### CHAPTERS 17–19

1. What causes Macy to sleep through the entire day of school? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. © When Macy sees the Circle C brand on Taffy's rump, she panics and says she's got to leave. Why is she so jumpy all of a sudden? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What makes Andi's feet slip out from under her and cause her to crash to the floor?
  - A. She trips over all the junk on the floor.
  - B. The floor is slippery from water and soap.
  - C. She is shocked to see Macy's back and shoulders.
4. Macy asks, "Why would you bother with the likes of me? Especially when I've been so mean and spiteful?" Good question. What is Andi's answer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why has Macy slipped away and gone out to the barn?
  - A. She has to get back before her brothers catch her away from town.
  - B. She's planning to steal a horse.
  - C. She wants to hide so she doesn't have to go back to her brothers.

### CHAPTERS 20–21

6. Andi shrugs off her family's lack of response to her cheerful appeal for help with her colts. She thinks they're all just bone-tired from rustling concerns. What is the real reason everybody is so quiet at breakfast? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What promise does Andi try to get out of Chad? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Where have the rustlers stashed the Carter colts? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Knowing where her colts are being kept horrifies Andi. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What has Andi done that makes her feel caught between a rock and a hard place?
  - A. lied to Macy
  - B. promised to keep a dangerous secret
  - C. lied to her family
11. What does Andi pray for? \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY: MEANING FROM CONTEXT

For each underlined word below, circle the closest definition. Then use the word in a sentence of your own. (See example.)

1. Asleep, Macy looked young and vulnerable.

invincible      helpless      sad      battered

A newborn kitten is very vulnerable.

---

2. A swift reprimand always fell on a dozing student.

scolding      accounting      justification      whacking

---

3. The colts nuzzled her and whinnied, imploring Andi to come in and play.

hoping      telling      prodding      begging

---

4. Macy stood transfixed, staring at the two dozen young horses.

stabbed      awe-struck      frightened      startled

---

5. "It's the most peculiar thing I ever saw," Andi said.

prettiest      funniest      strangest      saddest

---

6. Andi quickly squelched that idea. Mother did not hold grudges.

whispered      broadcast      skipped over      squashed

---

7. Macy might not know about guest etiquette.

modesty      restraint      manners      routine

---

8. The whole day had turned into one colossal misery.

gigantic      heart-wrenching      upside down      scary

---

9. Macy swept a wary glance around the yard.

careless      happy      frightened      cautious

---

## CATTLE RUSTLING THEN AND NOW

Andi's family is embroiled in their worst nightmare—cattle rustling. How could rustlers get away with stealing so many cattle from the ranchers? For one thing, the rangeland covered thousands of square acres—too many to patrol with a couple dozen ranch hands on horseback. How did the rustlers go about nabbing somebody else's property? What did they do with the cattle once they had them in their grip?

Movies and TV often portray cattle rustlers as a couple of mischievous cowboys sneaking up on a herd of cattle and running off with a few head. True, there were small-scale operations, but most quickly developed into a large-scale industry. In the mid- to-late 1800s, cattle rustling gangs were stealing thousands of head at a time—and often killing the cowhands that got in their way. Many gangs worked together. One gang would steal a herd of cattle and sell it to another gang, who sold it to yet *another* gang—all of them making a nice profit along the way. With cattle changing hands so many times so quickly, it was hard for the law to track them down.

Gangs often sold rustled cows to “ghost ranchers,” who were a little like Macy's brothers—they kept the cattle in remote places. Their herds grew fast, with no evidence of breeding or calving. Altering the ranchers' brands was a common practice among rustlers. Some rustlers even used a piece of heavy wire they could bend into any shape and carry around in their pockets.

Many cattle rustlers—if caught—met their fate at the hands of angry ranchers, who arranged a “necktie party.” Hanging those guilty of rustling was illegal without a trial . . . but it was effective.



What about today? Has cattle rustling died out in these modern times? Not at all. As long as ranchers raise cattle and unscrupulous outlaws want them, cattle rustling will thrive. In fact, cattle rustling is worse now out West than it was in Andi's time. Just like back then, the cattle herd grazes miles away from the rancher's home—in the middle of remote rangeland. The cattle are counted twice a year—at calving and at selling time (like on the Circle C)—so it's hard to know if missing cows have died from lightning strikes, predators, disease, or have been stolen.

Rustlers stole cattle on horseback in 1880. Today they use a truck and trailer. They back it up to a small herd in the middle of the night and load up the cattle—with no one around to watch. Many cattle today are not branded. Some states don't even require it. A cattle seller needs only a bill of sale, which is easy to write up and show at the livestock sale. Some modern rustlers get away with hundreds of thousands of dollars of stolen beef. Cattle rustling in the 21st century is big business.

Cattle (and horse) rustling in the 19th century was a hanging offense. Today, the fine is \$20,000 and twenty years in prison.

## CATTLE RUSTLING THEN AND NOW

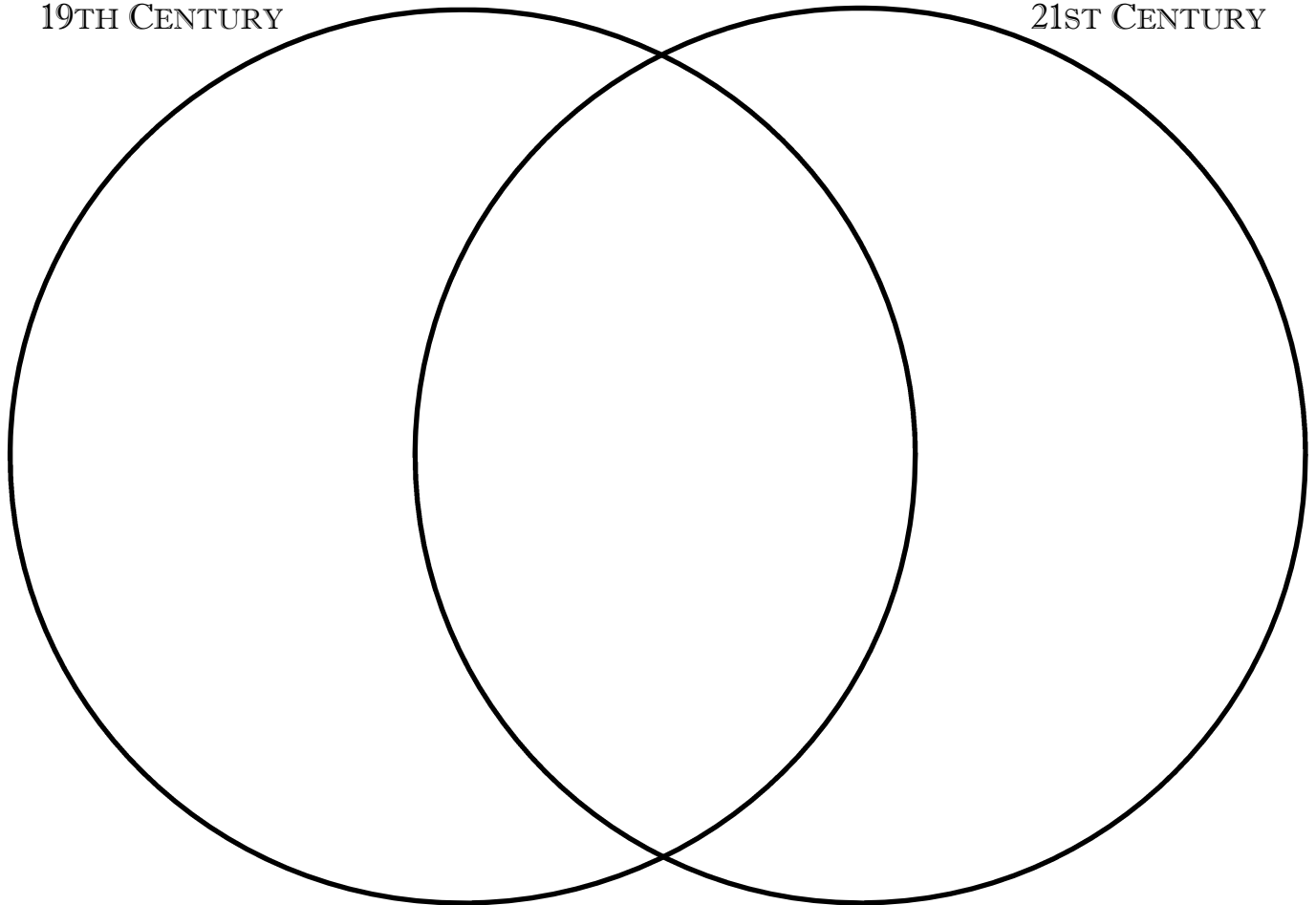
Using the study guide on the previous page and the Venn diagram below, compare and contrast cattle rustling in the 19th century with cattle rustling in the 21st century. List how the two are alike where the circles intersect.

### WORD BANK

20 years in prison   hang rustlers   "ghost" riders   large industry   \$20,000 fine  
change brands   fake bill of sale   trucks & trailers   on horseback   hard to track down  
thousands of cattle stolen

19TH CENTURY

21ST CENTURY



### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*Cattle rustlers are just like wasps. They sneak up and sting you when you least expect it, then they dart away before you can smash them. And just like a bee sting, the hurt doesn't go away. It just gets worse and worse. I guess I should be more patient with Justin, Chad, and Mitch, who are doing their best to clean out this nasty nest of cattle-rustling "wasps."*

## Thick as Thieves: Chapters 22–26

Show how well you understand the story by answering the following questions:

### CHAPTERS 22–24

1. Why does Andi put her journal in full view just before she leaves the ranch?

---

---

2. “Straight ahead, the canyon’s cliffs rose like sentries, marking the entrance.” What two things is this simile comparing? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What are “sentries”? \_\_\_\_\_

4. SETTING is where a scene takes place. It is often described using the senses of sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste. List some of the things Andi sees, hears, and smells on her way to (and once inside) Rock Canyon that contribute to her anxiety. For example, for the “TOUCH” sense, Andi feels the warm, July night as she’s riding (see pp. 143–145).

SIGHTS

SOUNDS

SMELLS

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. Macy expects Andi to rescue Shasta and Sunny from the Walker brothers. What does Andi plan to do that Macy does *not* expect? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What prevents Andi from taking the rescued colts back to the ranch?

---

7. How does Macy convince her brothers to spare Andi’s life?

---

### CHAPTERS 25–26

8. What hard choice does Macy finally make when she helps Andi hide in the swamp?

---

9. What has Macy brought along to protect themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who finds the girls in their hiding place? \_\_\_\_\_

11. How does Andi show her gratitude and her friendship with Macy at the end?

---

## VOCABULARY: CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use the word box and the clues to solve the crossword puzzle vocabulary words from the chapters. (The first one has been done for you.)

### ACROSS

4. ~~to shrink away; to cringe~~
5. to strengthen or support
8. something risky or dangerous
14. expensive, lush, or fancy
15. to be disbelieving; unconvinced
16. a guard
18. to be mixed with
19. a dilemma or predicament

### DOWN

1. a lock of hair
2. churned; turned over
3. likely or possible
6. getting rid of; wiping away
7. rendered speechless with astonishment
9. making something look small
10. pressed close to her side
11. small hills; mounds
12. nagging; irritating
13. hidden; out of the way
16. a sofa or couch
17. swollen
20. gruesome; hideous

VOCABULARY WORD BOX									
hazardous	potential	banishing							
grisly	mingled	bloated							
flanked	sentinel	roiled							
reinforce	skeptical	<del>coward</del>							
secluded	plight	tendrils							
niggling	hummocks	dwarfing							
luxurious	dumbstruck	settee							

## THE PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO

The wedding and reception for Andi's brother Justin and his bride, Lucy, take place at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The hotel was nearly new in 1882, having opened its doors on October 2, 1875. Seven stories high, it was the tallest building in San Francisco. With 755 guest rooms, it was the largest hotel on the West coast, and the most elegant. One rich man, Andrew Carnegie, remarked, "A palace truly! Where shall we find its equal? . . . The court of the Grand [Hotel] in Paris [France] is poor compared to this."

Mr. Carnegie was correct. The Palace cost \$5 million to build, and that was a *lot* of money in 1875. One of the astonishing features of the hotel was the skylight overlooking the Grand Court, where horse-drawn



carriages delivered wealthy guests right inside the hotel. White-columned balconies surrounded the Grand Court, where guests could watch the comings and goings.

The Palace Hotel boasted four hydraulic elevators (called "rising rooms"), and each room had an electric call button to summon the hotel's staff. Rooms also had their own private bathrooms. The guest rooms could be joined together and opened up into suites

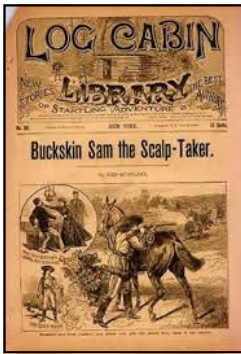
for large groups (with a parlor that overlooked the street), or turned into long-term apartments for the many people who used the Palace as their permanent residence.

The hotel survived the initial damage from the great San Francisco earthquake of April 1906, but by late afternoon of that day, it had been consumed by the fires that followed the quake. Seven months after the earthquake, the "Baby Palace" rose, a modest, two-story structure. Then in 1909, the Palace Hotel was completely rebuilt from the ground up and took its place once again as the elegant, prestigious hotel it had once been. It still operates today.

### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*There's nothing like the Palace! Our suite was on the fourth floor. I could lean over the balcony and see the Grand Court below. It made me dizzy. And the elevator! It was a moving box that took me up and down on a cable so I didn't have to climb all those stairs. I went up and down the elevator once too often, and Mother scolded me. This is one place where I decided it might be best to act like a lady.*

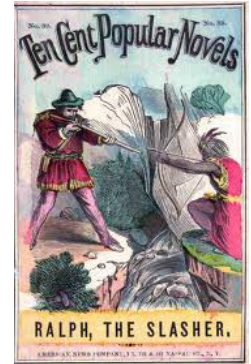
## DIME NOVELS: 1800S ADVENTURE NOVELS



To help ease Andi's impatience with her recovery, Mitch generously lends her a stack of dime novels. Two weeks later, she's enjoying *Buckskin Sam, the Scalp Taker*. Other outrageous titles in her pile included *Ralph, the Slasher*, *Crack Skull Bob*, *A Trip to the Center of the Earth*, and *King of the Swordsmen*, along with Indian stories of captivity and warriors going on the warpath.

Dime novels were published by the thousands in the mid-to-late 1800s. Most people lived simple but busy lives, working hard from sunrise to sunset. There were no movies, internet, or TV. Entertainment revolved around the home and church. Rodeos and round-ups (with competitions and trick riding) were fun but limited to certain times of the year.

In 1860, the Beadle brothers published a small paper book called *Maleaska, the Indian Wife of the White Hunter*. It was an immediate hit, selling over 65,000 copies in the first few months. The Beadles named their cheap paperbacks "dime novels," and they cost only ten cents each. Their series eventually included 312 books. Soon, other publishers were getting in on these hot sellers.



Dime novels were similar to today's paperback novels, comic books, and TV episodes all rolled up into farfetched tales of heroes, adventure, and danger. Sound familiar? *Star Wars* comes to mind. Instead of battling aliens in outer space, dime-novel heroes fought Indians and pirates, found gold, and battled stagecoach robbers. Some went on incredible journeys inside the earth. Real-life men like Kit Carson became larger than life in dime novel stories.

### SNIPPETS FROM ANDI'S JOURNAL:

*If Mr. Foster catches anybody with a dime novel, he yanks it away and tears it up in front of the entire class. Cory and Jack have lost many books that way. I keep the novels Mitch lends me far away from schoolmasters and preachers. They don't like them and don't think children should put such worthless ideas in their heads. Mitch says dime novels are all in good fun. Thankfully, Mother agrees.*

Most everybody liked dime novels—from boys (and girls like Andi) to cowboys (like Mitch) to presidents (like Abraham Lincoln). There were, however, many people who did not like the books for the reasons expressed in Andi's journal entry above. Like today, there were probably some stories best left unread. However, the majority of them were good, clean fun and cheap entertainment for thousands of people.

Later, the price was dropped to a nickel ("Half-dime novels") so the books would be easier for children to buy. Dime novels never lost their popularity. They turned into the paperback novels of the 20th century and the E-books of today. Andi would have no trouble recognizing them. Trouble is, today's adventure stories don't cost ten cents any longer.

## A DIME NOVEL: *CALIFORNIA JOE, THE MYSTERIOUS PLAINSMAN*

Here is an excerpt from *California Joe*, a newly published dime novel (1882) for Andi, from Beadle's Boys' Library of Sport, Story, and Adventure; Volume 3, #54. Summary: *The Strange Adventures of an Unknown Man, whose real identity, like that of the "Man of the Iron Mask," is still unsolved.*

### CHAPTER I—THE FOREST PHANTOM

"Who was California Joe?"

Kind reader, that question I cannot answer more than can I the queries: "Who was the Man of the Iron Mask?"

But from the time he entered upon the eventful career of a border boy, when he was in his seventeenth year, I can write of him, and many a thrilling tale of his adventures can be told.

But go beyond that night when he first appeared to a wagon-train of emigrants and became their guide, and all is a mystery, as though a veil had been drawn between him and the years that had gone before, for of himself this strange man would never speak.

One night nearly half a century ago a [wagon] train, westward bound, was encamped just where the prairie met the woodland and hills. It consisted of a score of white-tilted wagons, drawn by oxen, half as many stoutly-built carryalls, to which were hitched serviceable horses, and the stock of the emigrants, comprising horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs.

Perhaps half a hundred souls were in the train, half of them being hardy, fearless men, and the remainder their wives and children, seeking homes in the border land.

When the camp had been pitched for the night, an hour before sunset—for the train traveled slowly, retarded as it was with their stock—a few of the younger men took their rifles for a stroll through the woodland above, hoping to knock over a few wild turkeys and squirrels for the evening meal. They were quite successful, and lured on by the sport, they penetrated the hills for a couple of miles and only thought of returning when the evening shadows warned them that night was at hand.

"Heaven above! Look there!"

The cry came from the lips of one of the party and all were thrilled with the sudden exclamation, which told of something more worthy of attention than a wild turkey or even a bear.

All glanced in the direction in which the one who had made some startling discovery was gazing, and every eye became riveted at once in a manner that proved the thrilling cry of their comrade had not been uncalled for. There, some hundred paces distant from where they stood, was what appeared to be a horse and rider. The animal was snow-white and stood as motionless as though carved from marble. The rider was dressed in deep black from boots to hat and sat silent and still. Even in the gathering gloom his face, seemingly very pale, was visible, and it was beardless. Across his lap lay a rifle, also seemingly painted black, and a belt of arms of the same somber hue was about his waist.

The horse was saddle and bridle-less and stood with head erect, gazing upon the party. This much all of the young immigrants saw. But who was this strange being and his ghost-like horse? (*Read the rest of the story on the Stanford University library's dime novel page:*)

[www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/dp/pennies/texts/ingraham2\\_toc.html#note](http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/dp/pennies/texts/ingraham2_toc.html#note)

# Answer Key: *Thick as Thieves* - 1

## **Page 9: Chapters 1-4**

### **Chapters 1-2:**

1. California; San Joaquin Valley; winter, 1882
2. She wants them to check on Taffy
3. Justin
4. A dime novel
5. B
6. Overalls

### **Chapters 3-4:**

7. There are two foals.
8. Shasta: chocolate palomino (dark body; flaxen mane); Sunny: cream-colored all over
9. Go inside to bed
10. Stay out in the barn with Taffy and the foals
11. A commission is a percentage of the money Andi would get for showing the foals.
12. Whorls
13. She has to go back to school.

## **Page 10: Chapters 1-4**

### **Vocabulary**

1. B noun
2. A noun
3. C verb
4. A adjective
5. B adjective
6. D verb
7. A adjective
8. C adjective
9. D verb
10. B noun

## **Pages 11: Characterization**

1. Andi is jumpy when Taffy is pacing and pawing; she dashes up the stairs; runs into the house for help
2. She tosses aside a thick, dark braid.
3. Dark; long; braid
4. Andi wants Chad “right now!”; she tells Justin to “hurry”
5. Answers may include:
  - Chad’s the best stockman in the valley.
  - He yells when he’s annoyed or upset.
  - He and Andi are a lot alike.
  - Chad is impulsive and quick-tempered.
  - He is calm in an emergency.
  - He is protective and knows how to make Andi feel better.

## **Page 13: Foal Crossword Puzzle**

### **Across**

5. Stallion
6. Runt
7. Ninety
11. Ultrasound

### **Down:**

1. Teat
2. Thirty
3. Eleven
4. Unpredictable
8. Mare
9. Udder
10. Foal

## **Page 14: Chapters 5-8**

### **Chapters 5-6**

1. February
2. Sixteen
3. Grammar
4. Andi’s time with the colts is cut way back.
5. Subject = building; verb = is
6. Winks at her
7. Marcella Walker

### **Chapters 7-8**

8. B
9. Virginia
10. The colts are being weaned.
11. A
12. Four years ago
13. Lucinda (Lucy) Hawkins
14. Melinda

## **Page 15:**

### **Synonyms & Antonyms**

### **Chapters 5-8**

1. Clear opaque
2. Distant friendly
3. Shocking dull
4. Understanding unfeeling
5. Stuffy airy
6. Fearful brave
7. Flighty predictable
8. Awful wonderful
9. Captivated distracted
10. Weakly brightly
11. Mouthy respectful
12. Faint revive

## Answer Key: *Thick as Thieves* - 2

### Page 16: School Math

1.  $2 \text{ ft} \times 10 \text{ ft} \times 3 \text{ ft} =$   
60 cubic feet;  
60 divided by 1.2 =  
**50 bushels of wheat**
2. 2,000 pounds = 1  
ton; 6,720 pounds  
divided by 2,000 =  
3.36 tons; 3.36 x  
\$6.00 = **\$20.16 for  
the coal.**

### Page 18: Foal-training Timeline

- NEWBORN:** Rub the foal all over; sit in a corner and watch the foal
- A FEW DAYS OLD:** Teach the foal who is boss; spend all your time with the foal; teach the colt to stand still; put an arm around his chest and another arm around his rump.
- ONE WEEK OLD:** Put a halter on the foal for 15 minutes.
- TWO WEEKS OLD:** Teach the colt to stand tied; teach the colt to lead with a halter and lead rope
- ONE TO TWO MONTHS:** Teach the colt the word “no.”
- FIVE TO SIX MONTHS:** Wean the foal from his dam.
- ONE YEAR OLD:** Start lunging the colt in a round pen; teach the colt to “walk,” “stop,” and “trot” on command.
- TWO TO THREE YEARS:** Train the colt to be ridden.

### Page 21: Chapters 9-12

#### Chapters 9-10

1. **SHASTA:** flaxen mane; chocolate body; no stripes or socks; smart; calm **SUNNY:** smaller colt; cream-colored (like a sunbeam) mischievous; impulsive; startles easily
2. Hector Flores
3. C
4. False
5. Andi gives Macy her old McGuffey’s primer to read.
6. C

#### Chapters 11-12

7. Macy gave Cory another black eye; stole Ollie’s bat; grabbed the ball; cut up the jump rope; stole the boys’ marbles; dumped water on Andi
8. Andi sees Macy picking on Cindy and snatching her doll.
9. False

### Page 22: Vocabulary Matching

#### Chapters 9-12

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. D | 7. C  |
| 2. G | 8. K  |
| 3. B | 9. E  |
| 4. J | 10. F |
| 5. A | 11. H |
| 6. I |       |

**Digging Deeper:** Answers will vary.

### Page 23: A “Lousy” Poem

One **LOUSE**, two **LICE**. Finding them is not real  
**NICE**. A half-grown **NYMPH** was once a **NIT**. If  
your heads starts to itch, you know you’ve been **BIT**.

### Page 24: Chapters 13-16

#### Chapters 13-14

1. Andi can dream and make plans all she likes, but she knows she can’t get away with putting her journal plans into practice. So, the journal entry is “fiction” (her imagination) to her.
2. (any of these): Lucy can drive a buggy well; She lives in Fresno and keeps house for her lawyer-brother; Lucy is from San Francisco; Lucy’s family is delighted that she’s marrying Justin; Lucy has dark-brown hair; She has dimples; She can drive a buggy; She seems to like Andi.
3. Taffy tries to scrape Andi off.
4. Answers will vary, but something about being angry at the things that anger God: sin and injustice, etc.
5. Andi offers Macy a ride on Taffy.

#### Chapters 15-16

6. Mitch doesn’t bring it up. He saddles Taffy for her. He gives her quiet approval at what she chose with Macy.
7. a tack
8. He offers to carry her books.
9. Ty, Jase, and Rudy
10. Jase
11. Go out to their place in the canyon. (or)  
Help Rudy keep an eye on things.

## Answer Key: *Thick as Thieves* - 3

### **Page 27: Vocabulary Chapters 13-16** (sample answers)

- |                              |                               |                              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. To skip out; not go       | 6. A blood-sucking worm       | 11. Hanging around           |
| 2. To delay or waver         | 7. The most visited saloons   | 12. Slang for being “hanged” |
| 3. It’s certain.             | 8. Sin                        |                              |
| 4. A real or genuine reason  | 9. To push or prod            |                              |
| 5. Embarrassed or humiliated | 10. To baby or pamper someone |                              |

### **Page 28: Similes**

1. She bolted—streaking down K Street [like a shot out of last summer’s Fourth of July cannon.]
2. It compares Taffy’s speed to a cannon shot.
3. Taffy was running fast!
4. Andi stayed in the saddle by clinging to Taffy’s neck [like a leech.]
5. It compares Andi’s grip to a leech.
6. Andi was holding on very tightly!
7. “They got worse manners than a weasel in a henhouse.”
8. It compares the brothers’ manners to a weasel.
9. Macy’s brothers have horrible, sneaky manners.
10. “All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass.” The grass withers and the flower falls off.”
11. People’s lives are very short.
12. Answers will vary. Check to see the student has used a simile with “like,” “as,” or “than.”

### **Page 29: Chapters 17-21**

#### **Chapters 17-19**

1. She is exhausted from working so hard.
2. Macy knows her brothers are the rustlers.
3. C
4. Because Andi decides to care about Macy rather than reject her.
5. A

#### **Chapters 20-21**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 6. Andi’s colts are gone (stolen).       | 9. It’s dangerous |
| 7. She wants Chad to get her colts back. | 10. B             |
| 8. Rock Canyon                           | 11. Peace         |

### **Page 30: Vocab**

#### **Ch. 17-21**

1. Helpless
2. Scolding
3. Begging
4. Awe-struck
5. Strangest
6. Squashed
7. Manners
8. Gigantic
9. Cautious

### **Page 32: Cattle Rustling**

**Then:** horseback, “ghost” riders, changed brands, hanged rustlers.

**Now:** trucks and trailers, fake bills of sale, \$20,000 fine; 20 years in prison

**Both:** large industry; thousands of cattle stolen; hard to track down and catch rustlers

### **Page 33: Chapters 22-26**

#### **Chapters 22-24**

1. Andi does not want to disappear without an explanation. She wants her family to know where she is.
2. The canyon’s cliffs are compared to sentries.
3. Guards
4. **SIGHTS:** a huge disk (moon); the dark cliffs; debris; rockslide; carcasses; scrub brush; yellow light; **SOUNDS:** clip-clop of hooves; marbles tossed down stairs; crickets; frogs; cattle lowing; falling rubble; nickers; clattering and shouting from the cabin; **SMELLS:** stink along the path; stink from swollen carcasses; rotting flesh
5. Andi rescues all of the Carters’ colts, not just Shasta and Sunny.
6. A rockslide and being thrown from Taffy.
7. Macy tells her brothers that Andi is worth a lot of money to her family and should be ransomed instead of killed.

### **Page 33: Chapters 25-26**

8. Macy decides to leave her brothers and stay with Andi and her family.
9. a pistol
10. Jase (or) Chad and Mitch
11. Andi gives Sunny to Macy.

## Answer Key: *Thick as Thieves* - 4

### Page 34: Vocabulary Crossword

#### ACROSS

4. Cower
5. Reinforce
8. Hazardous
14. Luxurious
15. Skeptical
16. Sentinel
18. Mingled
19. Plight

#### DOWN

1. Tendril
2. Roiled
3. Potential
6. Banishing
7. Dumbstruck
9. Dwarfing
10. Flanked
11. Hummocks
12. Niggling
13. Secluded
16. Settee
17. Bloated
20. Grisly

## Answer Key: *Heartbreak Trail* - 1

### Page 41: Chapters 1-4

#### Chapters 1-2

1. 14 years old, almost 15
2. Go along on the upcoming cattle drive.
3. C
4. Sid; foreman
5. B
6. Get the "ranching" notion out of her head (that she thinks she can help run the ranch).

#### Chapters 3-4

7. A
8. They flip a coin.
9. A collection of horses.
10. C
11. Kitty Wilkins and Lizzie Williams
12. Justin

### Page 42: Elements of a Fiction Story

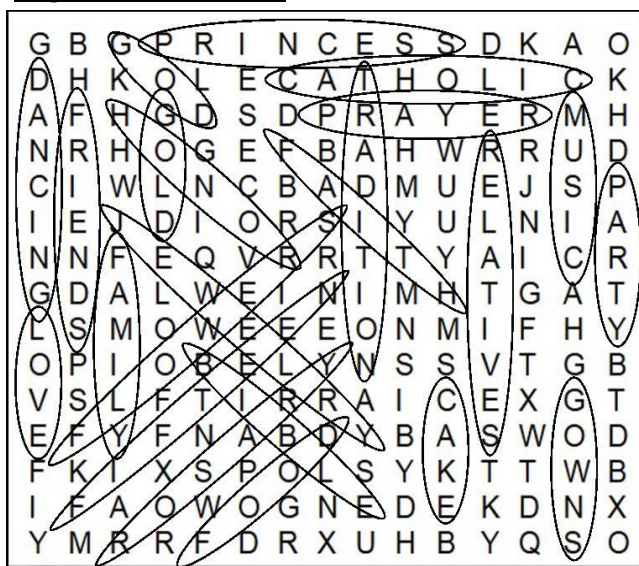
1. Examples: Levi = nephew; Chad = brother; Sid = foreman over Andi; Justin = brother; Elizabeth = mother; Lucy = future sister-in-law; Melinda = sister; Mitch = brother.
2. Spring 1883
3. Circle C Ranch
4. Tulare Lake; Buena Vista Lake
5. See the map on page 6 of the book for placements.

### Page 44 Chapters 1-4

#### Vocabulary & Grammar

1. C adjective
2. A verb
3. B verb
4. D verb
5. C verb
6. A noun
7. B verb
8. D adjective
9. A verb

### Page 46 Word Search



### Page 47 Chapters 5-8

#### Chapters 5-6

1. Partially lame; a Mexican; old and proud; gruff; hard-working; bossy
2. 1,000 head of cattle
3. B
4. She hopes to get a ride on Toledo's beautiful horse.
5. Sultan; white; black
6. She thinks Mitch left without her because she slept in.

#### Chapters 7-8

7. Flint doesn't like horses, yet he does the job given to him without complaining.
8. Answers will vary: a seagoing dinosaur
9. Chad takes her out to see the herd bedded down.
10. **SETTING:** see the map in the book on page 6. They have traveled 4 days; They have gone 55 miles.