

TEACHER'S GUIDE






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Dundurn Press
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Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4L 1C9
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I • OVERVIEW

Lost Shadow is the second book in a series about urban coyotes by author and coyote lover Claire Gilchrist.

The first book, *Street Shadows*, introduces two coyotes, Pica and Scruff. Pica grows up on a hillside of a golf course with her siblings, protected by her parents and a sister from a previous litter. She is curious and impulsive, which gets her into trouble at times. She also struggles to hunt due to impaired vision from an eye infection. When she and her siblings are old enough, their parents teach them how to cross a busy road and hunt in the city without being detected by humans, like shadows.

Scruff is the only surviving pup in his litter because his parents died soon after he and his siblings were born. He is adopted by Jagger, who we learn later is a sibling from a previous litter. His upbringing is devoid of fun and affection. They live in the forest that borders the hillside. Scruff and Pica become friends, even though it is frowned upon by both of their packs. Jagger blames Pica's parents for the death of his own family and is biding his time to challenge them for their idyllic hillside territory.

One day, construction begins and the forest is destroyed. Jagger takes action and tricks Scruff to lure Pica's father to his death. After Jagger attacks Pica, her family realizes they are no longer safe and leave their territory. Feeling deceived and used by Jagger, and witnessing Pica's hatred of him when she learns of his role in her father's death, Scruff also runs away. Scruff struggles to hunt and find a place to live in the city. He encounters hostile animals, humans, and other coyotes. He eventually decides to return to the hillside.

As Pica's family looks for a new home in the city, Pica is captured and rehabilitated by Alyssa, a city worker with urban wildlife monitoring and rescue. Upon Pica's release, she is unable to find her family and heads back toward the hillside, where she is reunited with Scruff. Seeing that the hillside is now a residential development, they decide to travel together and help each other survive. After they find Pica's pack, who rejects Scruff, Pica decides to form a pack with Scruff and explore the Wild Lands in search of a new beginning.

II • SUMMARY

This book is organized into five parts. Students should be able to read this book in five weeks. The book summary has been divided into five sections accordingly. The book study itself takes six weeks. In the first week, students can complete the pre-reading activities and part 1. The reading groups can then meet weekly to discuss each part of the book, as part of the during-reading activities. Finally, the students complete the after-reading activities.

Part 1 (Ch. 1–5, p. 1–36)

Pica and Scruff wake up under a bush near a road on a cold and wet winter’s day. Pica remembers her home on the hillside as well as the events that brought both herself and Scruff to begin a new life together in the Wild Lands. They are still young and small and are not yet ready to successfully challenge older, larger coyotes for a territory. They struggle to find food and a territory that is not already occupied by other coyotes.

Hungry and desperate to find a home, Scruff finally lets Pica convince him to explore the forest, even though they detected an unknown scent that terrified them the last time they entered the forest. They carefully make their way around other coyote territories and through human neighbourhoods toward the forest. As they cut through a backyard to avoid coyotes, they encounter humans. Pica wonders about the source of human power, given that the human sense of smell is dull and they are not very aware of their surroundings.

The young coyotes carefully enter the forest and enjoy the protection that the tall trees and dense vegetation offer them from the elements. They hunt together and feast before falling asleep under a fallen log. They wake up suddenly to the sound of a mountain bike racing past them. Before leaving the forest, Pica wants to try hunting on her own. As she enjoys the peaceful surroundings, Pica senses an ominous presence and is attacked by a large cat. Although Scruff manages to stop the attack before Pica is fatally wounded, they both agree that the forest is too dangerous for them.

Scruff finds a place under a bush between two roads and under power lines for Pica to rest, and he tends to her injuries. While Pica sleeps, Scruff follows a sweet scent and sees men loading a truck. He steals a fresh loaf of bread from the truck. Pica gets upset at Scruff for taking such a risk and refuses to eat any of the bread. Scruff does not understand why Pica is being so stubborn.

Pica wakes up at dusk, upset about the fight she had with Scruff. Her pride is hurt. She tries hunting, without success, and when she returns to their spot, Scruff is gone. While waiting for Scruff to return, she smells the sweet scent of baking bread. She jumps into the back of an unattended truck to get a loaf of bread as a peace offering. Just as she is ready to leave, the humans close the back of the truck and drive off, with her trapped inside.

After Pica walks off at dusk, Scruff decides to wander in the opposite direction. He is still upset after his argument with Pica and does not understand why she is so stubborn. He wanders into an unfamiliar area and recognizes Jagger’s scent on a bush in a ravine, which unlocks painful memories. Scruff runs as far as he can from the ravine. He eventually finds his way back to their spot under the power lines. He wants to make up with Pica; however, she is no longer there. He begins to worry that she does not want to be found.

Part 2 (Ch. 6–10, p. 39–75)

The truck drives for hours, taking Pica far away from Scruff. When it arrives at its destination, the humans see Pica in the back of the truck. She runs toward a road and into a forest as the men hit her with sticks and throw rocks at her. She looks around and notices that her surroundings are very different from where she grew up. She does not know which direction to take to get back to Scruff. She decides to follow the biggest road she can find and trust her instincts.

After walking along the road, Pica's wounds ache, and she decides to rest. She wakes up to a howling coyote in danger and sees it run past her. Not wanting to encounter what the coyote is running from, she follows.

Pica stumbles into a standoff between two young coyotes and a wolf over a deer carcass by the side of the road. When the wolf addresses Pica, she remembers her confrontation with Jagger and stands her ground, and Skye, the lone wolf, leaves.

The two young coyote brothers, Rip and Rooney, introduce themselves to Pica. They thank her for standing with them against the wolf. When Leila, Rip and Rooney's mother, and the rest of the pack arrive, the brothers tell them how Pica stood up to the wolf with them. The coyote pack and Pica feast on the carcass until they hear the wolf pack howling.

Upon hearing the wolf howls, Leila instructs her pack to run in the opposite direction. Rip invites Pica to go with them, because the wolves will kill her if they find her alone. Pica joins them, even though they are headed away from the direction she wants to go.

Rip has many questions for Pica. Pica learns from Rip that she will need to pass through wolf territory and cross ice mountains to return to the city. She hopes to learn more from the coyote family. Once they return to the safety of their home territory, Leila thanks Pica for helping Rip and Rooney and invites her to stay with them for now. Pica shares her story with Leila and tells her she wishes to return to her family in the Wild Lands near the city as soon as possible.

Although travelling back through the mountains in winter is dangerous, Pica feels she needs to leave immediately. She receives some last-minute advice from Leila and Bruno (the largest male in the pack) and heads out along the highway. At dusk, Pica rests under a bush near a farmhouse. She wakes up to howling wolves. She soon realizes the wolves are hunting her. Skye and three younger wolves chase and finally surround Pica. Pica takes advantage of a sudden distraction to escape; however, the wolves catch up to her in no time. Just as one of the younger wolves attacks, Skye warns them to stop. Pica runs away and wonders what could be so dangerous that the wolves are afraid to follow her.

As she walks carefully through this new territory, looking for signs of danger, she steps into a hidden trap. Pica struggles to get her paw free for two nights and a day. She finally accepts her fate and closes her eyes. Leila finds her and urgently encourages her to rip her leg out of the trap or chew it off before the humans arrive to kill her. With Leila's help, Pica manages to pull her leg out of the trap and follows her to safety just as the humans arrive.

Leila shares with Pica that her partner, Arnou, died after getting caught in a similar trap. She tells her that the farm where Pica got caught is on her hunting route. She invites Pica to stay and eat with her pack while she heals, which Pica gratefully accepts. Her injury is very bad, and she likely will not regain use of that leg.

Part 3 (Ch. 11–13, p. 79–99)

Scruff waits for Pica to return to their spot under the power lines. As time passes, he feels that she will not return. He goes to the bridge and wonders whether she crossed it to return to her family in the city, but he does not detect her scent. After some time, Scruff loses hope. He does not return to the power lines and instead spends the night on a dirty beach by the ocean. While there, Scruff encounters a young, friendly, healthy, and talkative coyote named Kaia. She shares her story with him, and he shares some of his. She shows him a comfortable and safe spot to rest and tells him she lives in another park on the other side of the busy highway.

The next morning, lonely Scruff decides to cross the highway and find Kaia. Kaia shows Scruff how she obtains her food: from an old woman who lives in the house beside the gas station. Kaia calls the woman “Friend.” She senses Scruff’s apprehension about interacting with humans and tells him that, in her experience, there are good and bad humans. Friend has never harmed her.

One month later, Scruff is still enjoying the park with his new friends Kaia, Noodle, Chica, and Casper. Kaia seems close with Casper. Although Scruff still searches for Pica, he really enjoys the community and companionship of his new friends. He continues to be concerned about receiving most of his food from Friend, but he is eating well and building his strength.

One day, Scruff invites Kaia to join him on an adventure. He leads her to an area with an abundance of mice so they can hunt together. He is surprised that Kaia is unable to catch a mouse. He is concerned that his new pack relies too heavily on humans for their food and do not hunt.

Scruff and Kaia become closer. He enjoys their time together and hunts less and less. One day Kaia tells Scruff and the others about boxes containing food and other items in the driveway in front of Friend’s house. They decide to feast on the food in those boxes. As they rest and digest in the park, Scruff feels something is not right. He also thinks about Pica and decides that, since she chose to leave him, he needs to let her go.

Part 4 (Ch. 14–19, p. 103–44)

Pica spends time learning about country life with Leila’s pack while her paw heals. She notices that the country coyotes are larger than city coyotes and hunt large game co-operatively. They even hunt with badgers. Rooney tells her that humans can kill with “big sticks” (guns) from far away. Pica wonders if she will have the courage to go back home and if Scruff will be waiting for her if she does.

Scruff and his friends scavenge at the gas station and then go to Friend's house looking for more food. The boxes outside the house have been cleaned up and Friend does not answer when they scratch at the door. Kaia says not to worry as Friend is not always there. Scruff decides to hunt mice, but Kaia thinks hunting is too much work — scavenging is more efficient. New humans move into Friend's house, but instead of feeding them, a woman screams and a man throws things when the coyotes scratch at the door. Scruff tries to convince Kaia's pack to go hunting with him, but Kaia does not want to. Casper, Noodle, and Chica follow her lead.

When Scruff gets back from hunting, Kaia and her pack are excited as they have found a new source of food: humans having a picnic in a nearby park at night. Scruff warns them that humans are dangerous, but Kaia says that it is a myth. Humans are slow, have bad hearing, and no sense of smell. They agree to disagree, and Scruff continues to hunt alone while the others scavenge.

In the spring, Leila tells Pica she is welcome to stay but that she should leave soon if that is what she really wants to do. Pica admits that she is afraid of the wolves and the traps, but she does feel the need to find out what happened to Scruff. Rooney makes it clear he would like her to stay as his mate but will travel with her part of the way to help her get past the wolves.

Scruff's new pack continue to steal food from humans. Scruff continues to hunt and scavenge. Casper and Kaia steal food from a new human building they come across. The next day, humans come by their park yelling and hitting the bushes. Kaia goes over to the humans, hoping for food, and is shot and killed. Casper runs out of the bushes barking and is also killed. Scruff, who was more cautious of the humans, escapes.

Scruff is terrified of humans but returns to the park to see if he can help Kaia and Casper. He finds an empty park and blood-stained grass. He grieves the loss of his friends. As the days pass, Scruff's instincts take over to force him to find food and water, but he is feeling numb. He decides not to try to find Noodle and Chica. One day he sees Jagger, and they briefly talk about their past.

Pica says goodbye to Leila's pack. She and Rooney travel toward the mountains without being challenged by the wolves.

Part 5 (Ch. 20–26, p. 147–95)

Scruff is feeling conflicted after his encounter with Jagger. He relives the memories of his childhood with Jagger. He realizes that he needs to talk to Jagger and understand his past and Jagger's reasons for raising him. After Jagger explains, Scruff still has doubts about Jagger but decides to accept the offer to stay with him. He realizes that, for the first time in a while, he feels safe.

Pica continues her journey uphill, keeping the highway in sight. She finds the rodents she sees too difficult to catch. After half a day travelling, she thinks she will arrive at the top of the mountain but is disappointed to find out she is only halfway up. Although she wants to rest, she smells a faint scent of the type of cat that attacked her and has to continue without resting. She arrives at the highest point of the mountain by dusk, and although she wants to rest, ravens warn her of danger, and she smells the monster cat. Her fear causes her to recklessly start her descent on ice, and she slides down a cliff. Somewhat injured, she is able to rest for the night.

Scruff is enjoying the teamwork and companionship he gets from living with Jagger. He roams the city, learning the territory of the other coyotes, looking for a place of his own, and searching for Pica's scent. He makes a decision to be a lone coyote, sharing the ravine with Jagger but not making a pack, and howls a goodbye to Kaia, Pica, and his dreams of a different life.

Pica continues travelling for days, hungry, hurt, and exhausted. Only her desire to find Scruff keeps her motivated to continue her journey. When she finally makes it to a city, she finds that the humans do too good a job securing their garbage and resorts to stealing from humans having a picnic. She reflects that although stealing from humans caused her to be lost, it will also help her get home. She rests for three days, building energy for the next part of her trip.

After one more day travelling, she is elated to discover that she has reached the top of the mountain. She can see the ocean, the train tracks, the city, and the Wild Lands. She can smell the familiar smells of home.

As Pica enters the Wild Lands the next night, she heads for the ocean to look for familiar places. She is not able to find any trace of Scruff, although she does find the scent of Jagger. She decides that she has been away too long and, in order to survive, decides to go back to her mother's pack.

One day, as Scruff continues to explore the areas away from the ravine, he catches Pica's scent and howls. She replies and they find each other and exchange stories about the adventures they have separately experienced.

Scruff explains that he will never forgive Jagger for what he did, but he understands him a bit better now. Pica does not trust Jagger and wonders about his motives. Scruff asks her to stay just for a short while with Jagger and get strong. Once she is healthy, they will leave. Pica agrees because she trusts Scruff, but tells him that if Jagger threatens her, she will leave.

As they talk with Jagger, Pica learns that Scruff let Jagger think they broke up and not that she disappeared. Scruff admits to Pica that he thought she left because of the fight. Pica realizes that he was thinking of starting a pack with Kaia and runs away. When he follows her, he apologizes to her for not having faith in her and for lying to Jagger about where she was. He offers to make it up to her by living wherever she chooses. She tells him that she was humiliated to learn the truth from Jagger and not from him. She tells him that she wants to be with him, that he is her home. Although she does not trust Jagger and does not understand why Scruff does, she agrees to stay with Jagger until she's stronger. As the novel ends, they go hunting together.

III • PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

Examining the Title and Making Predictions

The title of a book is important and highlights a main idea or an important event. With the students, examine the title of this book and the series title, A Song Dog Adventure. What do they notice about the titles? How does the series title relate to the book titles? Do they notice the title similarities for the two books in the series? Can they detect the differences between the titles for the first and second books *Street Shadows* (Book 1) and *Lost Shadow* (Book 2)? Make predictions about the plot.

Students can also learn about how coyotes communicate through singing or howling. You can view a YouTube video of the coyote songs here: youtu.be/YtsZole3Czk.

Building Schema Activities

Being Lost

The teacher initiates a discussion with the class about being lost and shares a personal story of a time they were lost. Have students share their experiences. On a chart or blackboard, note students' feelings about, during, and after being lost.

The Association Between the Senses and Memories

A sight, a sound, a smell, or even a sensation has the power to unlock a flood of memories and/or emotions. Sometimes they are positive, and sometimes they are negative.

The teacher invites students to share examples of how a sight, sound, scent, or sensation unlocks a memory for them.

True or False Quiz

Before reading, have students individually read the statements on the True or False Quiz and write down whether they believe each statement is true or false in the Before Reading column. Collect the papers and return them to students to complete after reading the book.

STATEMENT	BEFORE READING (TRUE/FALSE)	AFTER READING (TRUE/FALSE)	CORRECTION/FACTS
Animals have their own built-in GPS.			
Different species of animals hunt together.			
Wild animals naturally avoid entering human vehicles.			
Leg-hold traps are legal in Canada.			
Coyotes prefer eating human garbage instead of hunting.			
Coyote packs abandon injured coyotes.			

IV • DURING-READING ACTIVITIES

Chapter Questions

The chapter questions can be used as oral discussion questions during weekly group meetings that students are individually assigned before reading.

Part 1 (Ch. 1–5, p. 1–36)

CHAPTER 1

1. What is your favourite season and why? Support your answer with specific and relevant information from your own experiences.
 2. What kinds of details does the author use to help the reader visualize Pica’s childhood home? Describe details involving sights, sounds, and sensations.
 3. Where did Pica grow up?
 4. How many siblings does Pica have?
 5. Who is Jagger? What did he do?
 6. What happened to Pica’s childhood home?
 7. Why is it difficult for Pica and Scruff to find their own territory in the Wild Lands?
 8. Why doesn’t Scruff want to try finding a home in the big forest?
 9. What do you think the strange smell in the forest could be? Use information from the text and your own experiences to support your prediction.
-

CHAPTER 2

1. Pica and Scruff encounter humans in a backyard. What surprises Pica about humans?
2. What does Pica wonder about humans? Why?
3. What does Pica like about the forest?
4. What wakes Pica and Scruff from their nap?
5. Why does Pica have difficulty hunting alone?
6. Why does Pica go off on her own in the forest?
7. Pica senses she is being watched. What is watching her? From where?

CHAPTER 3

1. What do we learn about the animal that attacks Pica? Jot down all relevant information from the text.
2. How badly is Pica injured?
3. Where is Pica's family?
4. How does Scruff care for Pica after she's been attacked?
5. Why does Pica refuse to eat the bread? Use information from the text and from your own experiences.
6. Pica is being stubborn. Share an example of a time when you or a friend were being stubborn. How does this connection help you better understand Pica or Scruff? Explain.

CHAPTER 4

1. What bothers Pica most about her argument with Scruff? Explain.
2. What does Pica decide to do when Scruff has not returned? Why?
3. What is the irony in the situation Pica finds herself in at the end of this chapter?
4. Is the truck making a local delivery? How do you know?

CHAPTER 5

1. Describe how Scruff is feeling after his fight with Pica. Use specific information from the text to support your answer.
2. Where does Scruff end up after wandering all night?
3. Why does Scruff decide not to head back to Pica that night?
4. Whose scent does Scruff recognize in the ravine?
5. How does Scruff react when he recognizes the scent? Explain why he reacts this way.

Part 2 (Ch. 6–10, p. 39–75)

CHAPTER 6

1. How do the men from the truck react when they see Pica?
2. How would you react if you saw a coyote? If you have seen a coyote, how did you react?
3. Use the descriptive details provided in this text to draw the environment Pica is looking at after she gets out of the truck. Share your drawing with a partner and compare them.
4. How is the new environment Pica finds herself in different from the type of environment/landscape she is used to? Show your comparison using a Venn diagram or a T-Chart.
5. Explain why Pica decides "to follow the biggest road she could find."
6. Pica is trying to decide which direction to travel: "Some kind of feeling was telling her to go toward the little bumps, but she didn't know what they were. Should she trust it?" (p. 43). Explain how Pica must feel at this moment.

CHAPTER 7

1. What memories do Pica's encounter with the wolf trigger?
 2. How does Pica choose to handle her confrontation with the wolf? Explain.
 3. Describe the two young coyotes that Pica meets.
 4. How is Pica's attitude different when speaking to the wolf and when speaking to Leila? Explain why.
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CHAPTER 8

1. What does Leila instruct her pack to do when they hear wolves?
 2. Why does Rip suggest Pica go with them?
 3. Why does Pica hesitate when invited to follow the coyote pack?
 4. What obstacles lie between Pica and the city?
 5. What message/lesson does Leila share with her pack after Pica tells her story?
 6. Why does Pica not want to follow Leila's advice and delay her return to the city?
 7. What information and advice does Leila share with Pica about the journey back to the city?
-

CHAPTER 9

1. How long should it take Pica to travel back to the city?
 2. Why is Pica travelling during the day?
 3. Where does Pica seek shelter at dusk? Why?
 4. Why does Pica walk in the opposite direction from the road?
 5. Why do the wolves suddenly stop chasing Pica?
 6. Why doesn't Pica leave the territory when she senses danger?
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CHAPTER 10

1. How does Pica survive the trap?
2. What memories are triggered as Pica runs away?
3. Who is Arnou? What happened to him?
4. What does Leila tell Pica wolves are afraid of?
5. Why does Leila offer to help Pica?
6. How bad is Pica's injury?

Part 3 (Ch. 11–13, p. 79–99)

CHAPTER 11

1. What are the similarities and differences between Kaia and Rip and Rooney?
 2. How does Kaia help Scruff?
 3. Where does Kaia live?
-

CHAPTER 12

1. What surprises Scruff about Kaia and her friends?
 2. Explain why Kaia is so healthy and well fed.
 3. How does Kaia obtain her food?
 4. How does Scruff feel about how Kaia obtains food?
 5. What is Kaia’s perspective of humans? Explain.
 6. How are Kaia’s and Pica’s feelings about humans similar or different? Explain.
 7. What are some disadvantages to feeding wild animals? (You might need to do some research.) Knowing this, what prediction can you make following this chapter? Explain.
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CHAPTER 13

1. Explain the differences between Scruff’s and Kaia’s perspectives about humans.
 2. What concerns Scruff about Kaia and her friends?
 3. Why do you think there are all kinds of boxes and garbage bags in Friend’s driveway?
 4. What thoughts and feelings go through Scruff’s mind as he rests beside Kaia after their feast?
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Part 4 (Ch. 14–19, p. 103–44)

CHAPTER 14

1. Why are Pica and Rooney able to hunt in the daytime?
2. How is city and country hunting different? Make a T-Chart comparing the differences between city and country hunting.
3. How does Pica run with an injured paw?
4. Pica learns about a new human threat in this chapter. What is this threat?
5. Do you think Pica will choose to leave or stay? Explain your thinking.

CHAPTER 15

1. What does Kaia say is the most efficient way to get food?
2. How do you think Casper feels about Scruff joining their pack? Why do you think so?
3. New people have moved into Friend's home. How do they react to seeing the coyotes at the back door?
4. Do you think Casper, Kaia, Noodle, and Chica would be able to hunt if they wanted to try? Explain why or why not.
5. How do Kaia and Casper find food at the end of the chapter?

CHAPTER 16

1. Pica wonders if Leila is talking to her to "exchange banalities." Explain what this expression means. Use a dictionary or online dictionary if necessary.
2. Does Leila want Pica to stay with her pack? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. Does Pica want to stay with Leila's pack? How do you know?
4. What does Rooney say to show how much he admires Pica?
5. What does Rooney offer to do to help Pica? Why do you think he offers to help?

CHAPTER 17

1. Kaia and Casper often steal food from humans in the daytime. What do Noodle, Chica, and Scruff do for food?
2. Kaia and Casper steal food from inside a human house and explain that the ground smelled bad. What do you think the strange smell is that they are talking about? What kind of human building do you think they were in?
3. What favour does Scruff ask of Kaia and why?
4. What favour does Kaia ask of Scruff in return?
5. What happens when Kaia tries to hunt?
6. What is one of the most delicious foods you have ever eaten? Explain.
7. The day after hunting at the pond, humans arrive at Kaia's park. What happens?
8. Why do you think the humans came to the park to hunt the coyotes? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

CHAPTER 18

1. Scruff spends many days hiding from people, barely eating and drinking enough to survive. He is feeling numb and sad after losing Kaia and Casper. What happens to jolt him into different behaviour?
2. Jagger says that Scruff always fought him about how they lived when Scruff was young. What does Jagger describe as "basic coyote things"?
3. How does Scruff's vision of how to live differ from Jagger's?
4. Do you think Scruff will talk to Jagger again? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

CHAPTER 19

1. How does Pica say goodbye to Leila's pack?
2. How long will it take Pica and Rooney to get to the mountains?
3. Why do they need to rest periodically (from time-to-time) along the way?
4. Do they meet any wolves?
5. What advice does Pica give Rooney for his safe trip home?
6. What advice does Rooney give Pica for the rest of her trip to the Wild Lands?

Part 5 (Ch. 20–26, p. 147–95)

CHAPTER 20

1. Why do you think part 5 is called “New Leaves”?
2. Scruff thinks about his feelings for and memories about Jagger. Some of the feelings are happy ones, others are not. Make a T-Chart or Venn diagram to sort the feelings and memories into categories of your choice.
3. Scruff is left wondering something about Jagger. What is it? What do you believe the answer is to Scruff's question? Explain why you think so.
4. Why does Scruff decide to go to the ravine where Jagger lives?
5. What is a synonym the author uses to replace the word *ravine* in this chapter?
6. What is Jagger's reason for not telling Scruff he is his brother after he adopted him?
7. Why does Scruff think of his brother as a bully?
8. Jagger explains to Scruff why their parents drove Jagger out of the pack. What was the reason?
9. Why did Jagger go back to his parents' pack?
10. Scruff is not sure that Jagger is completely honest with him. What do you think? Would you trust Jagger if you were Scruff? Why or why not?

CHAPTER 21

1. What happens when Pica tries to hunt?
2. Why can't Pica rest when she first wants to rest?
3. Are there any wolves in the area? How do you know?
4. What happens when Pica tries to walk on the ice?
5. What warning does Pica get that causes her to slide down the slope? Why does she believe the warning?

CHAPTER 22

1. Why does Scruff decide to stay with Jagger?
2. Why does Jagger want Scruff to stay?
3. Why does Scruff explore beyond the ravine?
4. What happens when two coyotes stop by their ravine?
5. What does Scruff learn about his relationship with Jagger from this encounter?
6. Why does Scruff howl that night?

CHAPTER 23

1. Pica travels for a few days without much food. How does she encourage herself to continue travelling when she is so tired and hungry?
2. When Pica finally reaches a city, what is familiar about it?
3. What is different about the city? Why is this a problem for Pica?
4. What is Pica's solution to this problem? What similar situation happened earlier in the book to a different group of humans?

CHAPTER 24

1. Pica gets some food from humans again in the first paragraph of this chapter. Where do you think the humans are and why? Make an inference.
2. There are other coyotes in the town where Pica steals food from humans for three days. What might be the consequences for those coyotes from her actions in their habitat?
3. Early in the morning, Pica discovers she is almost home. Why does she decide to wait until night to travel the rest of the way home?
4. Pica finds the spot where she was attacked by the monster cat. What does she discover there?
5. What scares Pica as she explores the Wild Lands looking for Scruff?
6. What does Pica decide to do at the end of the chapter and why?

CHAPTER 25

1. What does it mean when the author writes that Scruff is "drawn to the water"?
2. What does Scruff find at the bridge?
3. What does Scruff do? What happens next?
4. How does Scruff convince Pica to go and meet Jagger?

CHAPTER 26

1. How does Pica show that she is not eager to see Jagger?
2. What does Scruff do to help her feel more at ease?
3. How does Jagger react to seeing Pica?
4. What problem does Jagger cause between Scruff and Pica?
5. Why is Pica angry with Scruff?
6. How does Scruff resolve this problem?
7. Will Scruff and Pica hunt, scavenge, or steal from humans while they stay with Jagger? How do you know?

V • AFTER-READING ACTIVITIES

True or False Quiz (Revisit)

After students have read chapter 26, return True or False quizzes that the students completed during the pre-reading activity. Have students read the chapter titled “Did You Know?” and use the information in this chapter to self-correct their quizzes. Then have them complete the After-Reading and Correction/Facts columns. Share and discuss.

Public Service Announcement Activity: Don't Feed Wild Animals

Here is a link with suggestions on teaching students about Public Service Announcements:

teachwriting.org/blog/2018/4/11/public-service-announcements-a-how-to-guide-for-teachers.

- Students will work with a partner to research the consequences of feeding wild animals or allowing easy access to human food.
- Students can find information on the author's website about co-existing with coyotes: clairegilchrist.com/what-to-do-if-you-see-a-coyote.
- Another source of information is WildSafeBC: wildsafebc.com.
- Students will create a PSA to inform others about the importance of not allowing wild animals access to human food.

Public Service Announcement Activity Rubric

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
Demonstrates understanding of the characteristics of public service announcements	Limited effectiveness	Some effectiveness	Considerable effectiveness	High degree of effectiveness
Use of planning skills – uses relevant information from research to create a PSA	Limited effectiveness	Some effectiveness	Considerable effectiveness	High degree of effectiveness
Communicates to inform the reader	Few supporting details help the reader understand why we should not feed wild animals (may include unrelated information)	Some supporting details help the reader understand why we should not feed wild animals (may include unrelated or repetitive information)	Related supporting details help the reader understand why we should not feed wild animals	Accurate and relevant supporting details help the reader understand why we should not feed wild animals
Selection and display of images, video, captions/speech, and sound to communicate information	Images, video, captions/speech, and sound communicate information about the topic with limited effectiveness	Images, video, captions/speech, and sound communicate information about the topic with some effectiveness	Images, video, captions/speech, and sound communicate information about the topic with considerable effectiveness	Images, video, captions/speech, and sound communicate and enhance information about the topic with a high degree of effectiveness

What Happens to Pica and Scruff Next?

For this collective brainstorm activity, students can predict what adventures and misadventures may befall Pica and Scruff in the Wild Lands.

Supporting an Argument Activity #1: What Kind of “Monster Cat” Attacks Pica?

In chapter 3, Pica is attacked by a “monster cat.” Based on information provided in the book, as well as research about wild cat species in B.C. and the coyote food web, students will determine what species this monster cat is. Have them research information about the cat’s prey, habitat, and hunting methods to support their answers.

Supporting an Argument Activity #2: Where Does the Truck Take Pica?

Students can work with a partner and access online and print resources (including topographical and road maps), in addition to finding relevant clues in the book, to identify a possible real-world location in B.C. where Pica escapes the truck.

The focus of this activity is on connecting specific and relevant information from the text to previous knowledge and other texts, such as maps. Just as they do when writing a reading response, students need to justify and explain their chosen location to the class. They also need to make connections to what they have learned about the physical regions of Canada to support their thinking.

The teacher may want to give students the following information: The Wild Lands are across a bridge from a large park (most likely Stanley Park in Vancouver).

Supporting an Argument Activity #1 and #2 Rubric

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
Justify your answer: explain why, showing you understand the text	Response indicates a slight misunderstanding of the text	Response is developed with minimal information from the text	Response is developed with general information from the text	Response is developed with accurate, specific, and relevant ideas and information from the text
Support your answer by making connections between the text, other texts (research, maps), and previous knowledge	The student connects a limited amount of the clues in the text to previous knowledge and other sources	The student connects some of the clues in the text to previous knowledge and other sources	The student connects most of the clues in the text to previous knowledge and other sources	The student connects all of the clues in the text to previous knowledge and other sources

VI • ONTARIO CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

Language: Grades 4–8 Curriculum Expectations

■ **READING**

1. Identify a variety of reading comprehension strategies and use them appropriately before, during, and after reading to understand texts.
2. Identify a variety of text features and explain how they help readers understand texts.

Applies to: Examining the Title and Making Predictions; True or False Quiz;
Building Schema Activities

DURING-READING ACTIVITIES

Language: Grades 4–8 Curriculum Expectations

■ **READING**

1. Identify a variety of reading comprehension strategies and use them appropriately before, during, and after reading to understand texts.
2. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of texts by summarizing important ideas and citing supporting details.
3. Use stated and implied ideas in texts to make inferences and construct meaning.
4. Extend understanding of texts by connecting the ideas in them to their own knowledge, experience, and insights, to other familiar texts, and to the world around them.
5. Make judgments and draw conclusions about the ideas and information in texts and cite stated or implied evidence from the text to support their views.
6. Identify the point of view presented in a text, citing supporting evidence from the text, and suggest some possible alternative perspectives.

Applies to: Chapter Questions

AFTER-READING ACTIVITIES

Language: Grades 4–8 Curriculum Expectations

■ **READING**

1. Identify a variety of purposes for reading and choose reading materials appropriate for those purposes.
2. Identify a variety of reading comprehension strategies and use them appropriately before, during, and after reading to understand texts.
3. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of texts by summarizing important ideas and citing supporting details.
4. Use stated and implied ideas in texts to make inferences and construct meaning.
5. Extend understanding of texts by connecting, comparing, and contrasting the ideas in them to their own knowledge, experience, and insights, to other familiar texts, and to the world around them.

Applies to: Public Service Announcement Activity; What Happens to Pica and Scruff Next?; Supporting an Argument #1 and #2; True or False Quiz (Revisit)

■ **MEDIA**

1. Produce a variety of media texts for specific purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions, and techniques.

Applies to: Public Service Announcement Activity

■ **WRITING**

1. Determine whether the ideas and information they have gathered are relevant, appropriate, and adequate for the purpose, and do more research if necessary.
2. Produce revised, draft pieces of writing to meet identified criteria based on the expectations related to content, organization, style, and use of conventions.

Applies to: Public Service Announcement Activity; What Happens to Pica and Scruff Next?; Supporting an Argument #1 and #2

Social Studies: Grade 4 Curriculum Expectations

■ *POLITICAL AND PHYSICAL REGIONS OF CANADA*

1. Identify various physical regions in Canada (e.g., landform, vegetation, and climatic regions), and describe their location and some of the major ways in which they are distinct from and similar to each other.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of cardinal and intermediate directions (i.e., NW, SW, NE, and SE), and use these directions as well as number and letter grids to locate selected political and physical regions of Canada on a variety of print and digital/interactive maps.

Applies to: Supporting an Argument #1 and #2

Science: Grade 4 Curriculum Expectations

■ *HABITATS AND COMMUNITIES*

1. Analyze the positive and negative impacts of human interactions with natural habitats and communities, taking different perspectives into account, and evaluate ways of minimizing the negative impacts.

Applies to: Public Service Announcement Activity