

Novel·Ties

Red Scarf Girl

Ji-Li Jiang



A Study Guide

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LEARNING LINKS

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For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of lessons to use in conjunction with a specific novel. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel on its reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

1. Preview the book by reading the title and the author's name and by looking at the photograph on the cover. What do you think this autobiographical work will be about? Where and when do you think the events in this book took place?
2. **Geography Connection:** Find China on a map or globe. Locate the city of Shanghai. How many other countries on the map are bigger than China? Which countries border China?
3. **Social Studies Connection:** What do you know about the history of modern China, particularly the period referred to as the Cultural Revolution? Read the Background Information on page two of this study guide and the Foreword to the book on page *xv*. Then brainstorm with a small group of classmates to fill in a K-W-L chart, such as the one below. Jot down what you already know in the first column. List your questions in the second column. When you finish the book, record what you learned in the third column.

Cultural Revolution		
What I Know -K-	What I Want to Know -W-	What I Learned -L-

4. As you read *Red Scarf Girl*, find newspaper and magazine articles about contemporary China. With your classmates, discuss how today's China compares with China during the Cultural Revolution.
5. Before you begin reading the memoir, read and discuss the "Note to the Reader" and the "Note on Pronunciation" at the beginning of the book. Also, familiarize yourself with the Glossary at the end of the book and refer to it when you come upon new words and concepts as you read.
6. Chinese leader Mao Ze-dong took many of his ideas about revolution from a political thinker named Karl Marx. Read the Background Information on page two of this study guide and do some additional research to find out how Marx and the Russian revolution influenced the man China called Chairman Mao.
7. Have you ever had an experience that tested your loyalty to a friend or family member? If so, what happened? How did this situation affect your relationship with the other person?
8. The author of this memoir, or autobiographical story, set ambitious goals for herself during her childhood. What top five goals would you put on a list for yourself?
9. **Cooperative Learning Activity:** The author behaved heroically when she was faced with the choice of saving herself or protecting the people she loved. Work with a small cooperative learning group to list and discuss the qualities of a hero or heroine. As you read this book, see how Ji-li Jiang measured up to those qualities.

Prologue; The Liberation Army Dancer; Destroy the Four Olds!; Writing *Da-zi-bao* (cont.)

Questions:

1. How did Ji-li characterize her childhood before her twelfth birthday?
2. Why did the young Liberation Army soldier give Ji-li and some of her classmates a test of physical flexibility?
3. Why did Ji-li's father discourage her from auditioning for a place in the arts academy?
4. Why had Ji-li always felt proud of her family in the past?
5. According to Ji-li, why did the decision not to audition have such a strong effect upon her life?
6. Why did Chairman Mao wish to destroy the Four Olds?
7. Why did Mao consider it evil for an individual to make a lot of money?
8. Why did Mao attempt to control fashion?
9. Why were many students eager to write *da-zi-bao*? Why did Ji-li have difficulty participating?
10. How did the status of individual students change dramatically once the Cultural Revolution began?

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think Ji-li's father wrote in the note to Principal Long? Do you think she was sympathetic to the family's decision?
2. What do you think might have been dangerous about the destruction of the Four Olds? Were these attacks on tradition in any way beneficial, or helpful, to society?
3. Have you ever been faced with a dilemma that adults thought you were too young to understand?
4. Why do you think Ji-li and many of the adults in her parents' circle of friends did not seem bitter over the reduced quality of their living conditions under the Communist regime?
5. Do you feel Ji-li should have tried to stop her fellow students from criticizing her aunt?
6. Why do you think the crowds supported the smashing of store signs and the mutilation of clothing deemed inappropriate? Have you ever witnessed a crowd where bystanders became involved in uncharacteristic behavior?
7. Why do you think Yin Lan-lan and the other students singled out Ji-li for a *da-zi-bao*?

See more ideas about Red scarf girl, Red scarves, Library quotes. See the Glog! red scarf girl: red scarf girl | Glogster EDU - Interactive multimedia posters. For The Old & Weak. Woohoo! on any FOUR Pop-Tarts toaster pastries. Read Common Sense Media's Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution review, age rating, and parents guide. Parents need to know that this a memoir of a girl growing up during China's Cultural Revolution and includes details about beatings and suicides. Ji-Li Jiang paints a clear and devastating portrait of a brutal political movement that ruined many lives -- and had a deep impact on her family. The engaging story makes young readers want to know more about the subject. More than 1500 red scarf girl at pleasant prices up to 52 USD. Fast and free worldwide shipping! Frequent special offers and discounts up to 70% off for all products! Red scarf girl - 1500 products on Joom. If you're looking for high-quality and affordable red scarf girl - you'll find the best red scarf girl at great prices on Joom - from 4 to 52 USD. Publishers Weekly Best Book * ALA Best Book for Young Adults * ALA Notable Children's Book * ALA Booklist Editors' Choice Moving, honest, and deeply personal, Red Scarf Girl is the incredible true story of one girl's courage and determination during one of the most terrifying eras of the twentieth century. It's 1966, and twelve-year-old Ji-li Jiang has everything a girl could want: brains, popularity, and a bright future in Communist China. But it's also the year that China's leader, Mao Teaching Red Scarf Girl has been developed to help classrooms explore essential themes, including conformity, obedience, prejudice and justice. This study guide accompanies Red Scarf Girl, Ji-li Jiang's engaging memoir which provides an insightful window into the first tumultuous years of the Cultural Revolution in China. Exploring the choices made by Jiang, her family, and her peers | Rhonda Harlow. Red Scarf Girl by Ji-Li Jiang | Scholastic.