## **Unit 2: Characters' Actions and Reactions**

## Daily Take-Home Activity Calendar Check off each activity as you complete it.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	The Gnat and the Lion p. 4	The Gnat and the Bull p. 5	Snow White Meets the Huntsman pp. 6-7	Snow White Meets the Huntsman pp. 8–9	Melamut the Crocodile p. 10
Week 1	Invite your child to read aloud the fable.     Discuss what the gnat is trying to prove and whether he succeeds or fails.	<ul> <li>Invite your child to read aloud the fable.</li> <li>Discuss the lesson, or moral, of this story.</li> <li>Then compare and contrast the gnats in "The Gnat and the Lion" and "The Gnat and the Bull."</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Read aloud pages 6 and 7 together, alternating paragraphs.</li> <li>Point out the word surpass in paragraph 3.</li> <li>Ask your child to look for clues that explain the word's meaning. Then take turns using the verb in sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Read aloud pages 8 and 9 together, alternating paragraphs.</li> <li>Take turns thinking of adjectives that describe the huntsman. Give reasons for your choices.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Invite your child to read aloud the selection.</li> <li>Together, make a list of details in the story that describe Melamut.</li> <li>Then find an informational book or web site about crocodiles to confirm or revise these "facts."</li> </ul>
Week 2	Come Away, Come Away! pp. 12–14  • Read aloud the first three pages of the excerpt together, alternating paragraphs.  • Then work together to find examples of the narrator directly addressing the reader.	Come Away, Come Away! pp. 15–17  • Read aloud the next three pages of the excerpt together, stopping after paragraph 26.  • Then assume the roles of Wendy and Peter, and do a dramatic reading of the dialogue only.	Come Away, Come Away! pp. 17–19  • Finish reading the excerpt together, beginning at paragraph 27. • Discuss what you learn about both Wendy and Peter during the scene about Peter's shadow.	Come Away, Come Away! pp. 12–19  • Ask your child to read the captions in the story aloud.  • Together, discuss whether you would prefer to see a play of <i>Peter Pan</i> or an animated movie.	Peter, the Wild Boy p. 20  Invite your child to read aloud the selection. Together, locate phrases that show what we know about "Wild Boy's" early childhood and whether or not he influenced J. M. Barrie's story.
Week 3	How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow pp. 22–25  • Read aloud the first four pages together, alternating paragraphs.  • Ask your child to describe the Scarecrow.  • Ask: How is he like scarecrows Dorothy has seen before? How is he different?	How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow pp. 26–27  • Read aloud the next two pages of the excerpt together. • Discuss what you learn about Dorothy from her conversation with the Scarecrow.	How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow pp. 28–29      Finish reading the excerpt. Point to the word suspected in paragraph 27.      Ask your child to look for clues that explain the word's meaning. Then take turns using the term in sentences.	How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow pp. 22–29  • Ask your child to recount the story events. • Ask: How do the illustrations help readers better understand the characters and setting?	<ul> <li>The Wonderful World of Oz p. 30</li> <li>Invite your child to read aloud the selection.</li> <li>Discuss which characters were introduced in the excerpt you read earlier.</li> <li>If your child is interested in reading the books about Oz or seeing the film <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>, check your local library.</li> </ul>