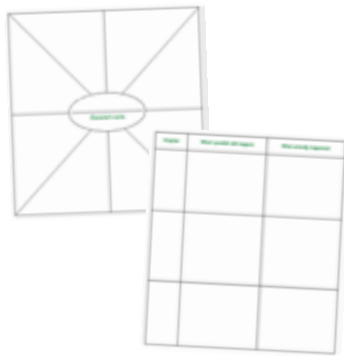


My Father's Dragon



Random House Trade Paperback • 0-394-89048-5
Ages 7-10



About the Book

A Newbery Honor-winning title and a favorite among children, *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett, is a humorous adventure story about a clever and resourceful boy named Elmer Elevator, who runs away to Wild Island to rescue a baby dragon.

Characterization

While reading *My Father's Dragon*, discuss the characters as a class, then have students create a character web for the various character they are introduced in each chapter. Include physical characteristics as well as personality traits, and be sure the children add features to each character as they continue reading the story. At the end of the book, have students compare and contrast different characters.

Predicting Outcomes

Using the chart provided, have students predict what they think will happen before reading each chapter. Have students write their predictions on the chart, then read the assigned chapter. Discuss what happened in the chapter and whether it matched their prediction.

As a class, write a shared writing summary of the chapter and have the class add to their individual charts. The summaries can help students review the events of the story to prepare for any future quizzes, tests, or assignments.

Discussion Questions

1. Ask the class to tell why Father decided to go to Wild Island.
2. Ask the students to describe Wild Island, making sure that they include three details.
3. Name five things Elmer packed in his knapsack for his trip to Wild Island and explain how Elmer used the items in the stor. What animal on the island was affected?
4. Name the three reasons the Boars thought there was an invasion on their island.
5. What was the funny sight that Elmer saw as he flew away from Wild Island?

Travel Brochure

Have the students create a travel brochure with the following guidelines.

Page 1: Restaurant Menu— Ask students to pretend there were restaurants in the area. What kinds of foods would they serve? Make up at least two restaurants, create a menu, and illustrate a delicious meal.

Page 2: Famous Sights—Ask students to think about their favorite places on Wild Island. What would a visitor see if they were able to visit? Have students choose three places to describe and illustrate.

Page 3: Necessary Objects—Ask students to brainstorm the items visitors would need to pack if they were to visit Wild Island. Have them make a list and illustrate three items.

Page 4: Dangers on the Island—What dangers should visitors be aware of while they were on the Wild Island? Have students tell about how to avoid three dangers and draw illustrations of ways to prevent any incidences.

On the back of the brochures have students include a map of Wild Island and add anything they think would be helpful to visitors.



VOCABULARY

- Suspicious
- Glaring
- Scarce
- Summon
- Dense
- Conduct
- Cargo
- Disorderly

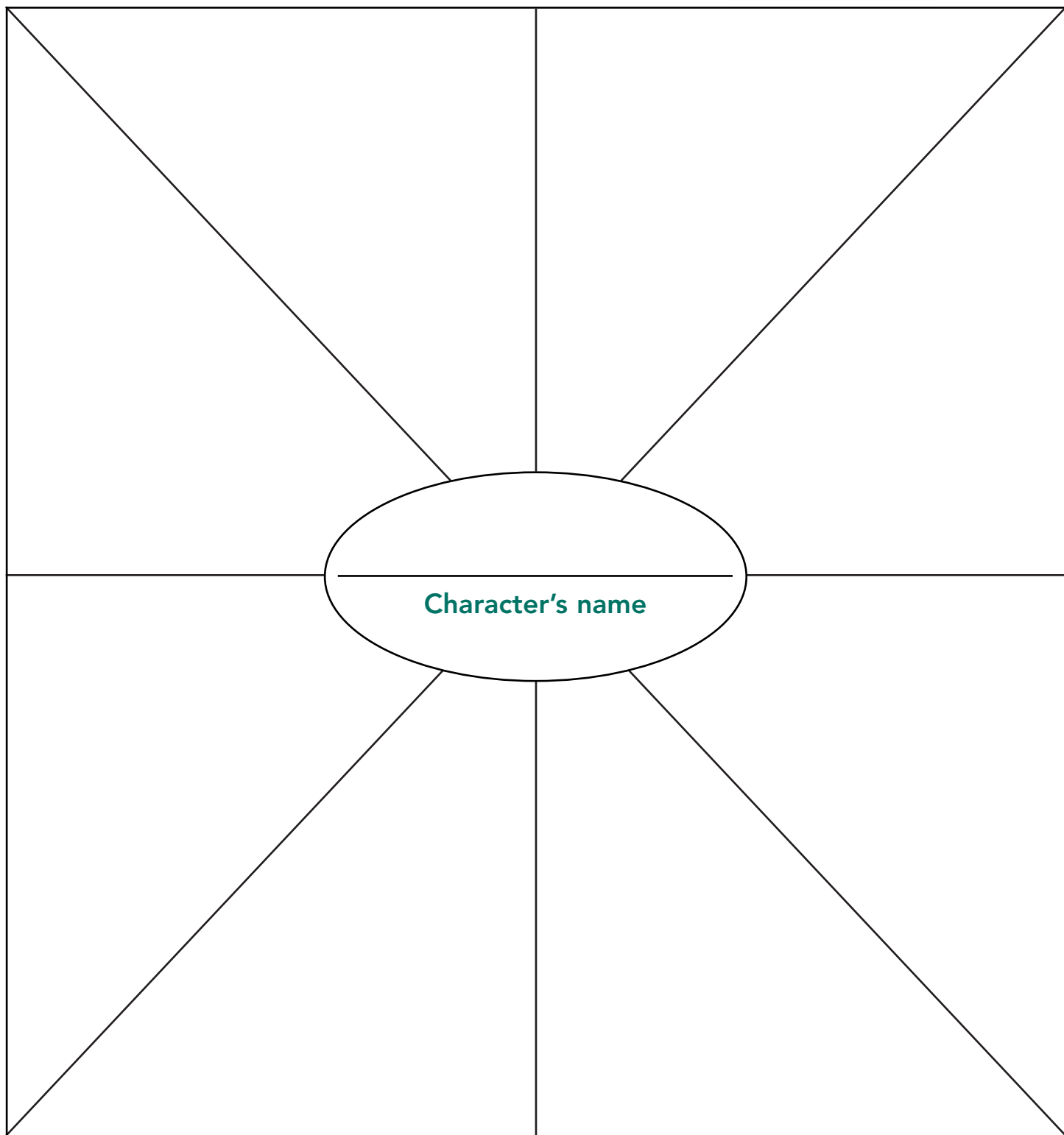
Make Your Own Dragon

Have students create their very own Dragon to hang in the classroom. Have students re-read the description of the dragon on the top of page 18 and create a dragon to match the description. To ensure that the dragon fits in the classroom, ask students to adhere to the following guidelines. The dragon should be:

- No taller than 24 inches
- Be made of some type of paper
- Be securely fastened to a piece of string
- Be three-dimensional

Name _____

My Father's Dragon Character Web



To read *My Father's Dragon*, visit your local library or bookstore.

Name _____



Outcome Prediction Chart

Chapter	What I predict will happen	What actually happened

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