



Companion Teaching Activities to the historical fiction serialized story

Story by Kay Hively

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The Sacrifice
 Chapter One — by Russ and Kay Hively

The warm sun beat down on Larry Green as he stepped back from home plate. The 12-year-old adjusted his Cleveland Indians ball cap and leaned on his bat.

A train was passing by the open lot that Larry and his friends used as a ball field. When this happened, the boys stopped the game. The train was so loud, the boys could not hear each other or hear the crack of the bat. Also, baseballs were damaged when they were knocked or thrown under a rolling train.

Right now the boys were down to their last good baseball. It was hard to get new balls because of rationing, and money was tight for most of their families.

The boys watched the train. The passenger cars were filled with men in uniform. It was 1944 and almost everyone had relatives in the military. The boys hoped, by some chance, they would see someone they knew. The soldiers on the trains always looked out the windows. Some of them waved to the boys.

But Larry was not watching the train. He knew he would not recognize anyone from his family. His father was a sailor on a ship in the Pacific Ocean, and Uncle Chuck was driving a tank in Europe. At this moment he was worried about the pitcher he was facing.

Larry was a good hitter, but he was an even better pitcher. The other team was ahead by one run and his team already had two outs. Larry had two strikes and did not want to make an out. Besides, it was almost supper time and the boys would have to go home soon. The team that was in the lead when the first boy was called home for supper won the game.

Larry adjusted his hat again, pushing it down on his head, flattening his curly black hair. There was a slight breeze from the north coming off Lake Erie. The breeze kept the players from getting too hot, but they were all dirty and sweaty anyway.

The train finally passed and Larry stepped up to the plate. He dug his feet into the dirt so he would not slip when he swung. Looking behind the plate, he saw Mr. Williams sitting on his porch watching the game. Mr. Williams always watched the boys play.

The opposing pitcher looked at his teammates in the field to be sure everyone was ready. The pitcher then turned back to look at the batter. Larry could feel that his grip was too tight on the bat. He relaxed his hands and thought about what his dad had told him — just put the bat on the ball.

The pitch was low and inside.

Larry checked his nerves and waited on the next pitch. It was right down the middle, and Larry swung the bat.

Author Kay Hively and Illustrator Allen Capruth (lived both in Newark, Mo. Co-author Russ Hively also lives in Newark, Mo. Produced in partnership with the Missouri Press Foundation. Copyright 2015.

Learning Extensions — Things to Think About and Do

A. The servicemen rode on a train. List five other ways people can travel from one place to another?

B. A breeze was coming off the lake, cooling the boys on the ball field. Why does wind help cool a person?

Next Week: Chapter Two — A letter from dad

Show Me Standards Met: G.1.1; G.1.2; S.5.5; H.1.E.1



Missouri Grade Level Expectations

Chapter 1	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, R.3.C, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p> <p>Science: 8.1.C</p>
Chapter 2	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.B, R.2.C</p>
Chapter 3	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, R.3.C, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p> <p>Social Studies: 4.A</p> <p>Science: 1.1.A</p>
Chapter 4	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.B, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p> <p>Science: 1.1.A</p> <p>Health: H.2.A</p> <p>Information and Communications Technology Literacy: 3.B, 4.B, 5.B</p>
Chapter 5	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, R.3.C, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p> <p>Social Studies: 5.A, 5.B</p>
Chapter 6	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, R.3.C, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p>
Chapter 7	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.E, R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, W.2.A, W.2.B, W.2.C, W.2.D, W.2.E, W.3.A</p> <p>Science: 1.1.A</p>
Chapter 8	<p>Communication Arts: R.1.F, R.1.G, R.1.H, R.1.I, R.2.C, R.3.C, W.2.B, W.2.D, W.3.A</p> <p>Social Studies: 5.A, 5.B</p> <p>Math: N.3.C</p> <p>Information and Communications Technology Literacy: 3.B, 4.B, 5.B</p>

The Sacrifice
Chapter 1

Name _____

1. Name at least two reasons Larry and his friends stopped the game as the train passed.

2. Locate pictures and words of modes of transportation in the newspaper. Cut out the words and pictures, then paste them in a chart labeled land, water, and air.

3. Describe how transportation has changed since Larry was a little boy. What do you think caused these changes?

4. When did the story take place? _____ What war was taking place at that time? _____

5. Where do you think this story takes place? Use two details from the story to explain your answer.

6. Larry said almost everyone had relatives in the military. Locate an article in your local newspaper about someone who is serving, or has served, in the military. Summarize the article below. Make sure to answer the questions who, what, when, where, why, and how.



The Sacrifice
Chapter 2

Name _____

1. Give an example of personification from this chapter.

2. How did Larry feel when he struck out? Give two details that support your answer.

3. West Side Market is a proper noun. List at least three other proper nouns from this chapter. Look through your local newspaper for five proper nouns, then cut and paste them below.

4. In your local newspaper, locate pictures and words of foods. Label two paper plates: ***Foods that were served in 1944*** and ***Foods that were not served in 1944***. Cut and paste the words and pictures in the correct categories.

5. How have foods changed since 1944?



The Sacrifice
Chapter 3

Name _____

1. Larry and his mother just received a letter from Larry's father. Pretend you are Larry. On a separate piece of paper, write your father a letter about what you have been doing. Use at least three details from the story and make sure you use the proper format for a friendly letter.
2. Locate pictures in the newspaper of men and women in uniform. Cut and paste them on a separate piece of paper. Name the job and the service each provides.
3. Larry's Boy Scout troop was collecting scrap metal. Locate and circle items in the newspaper that could have been made from scrap metal.
4. What was going to be made from the scrap metal that was being collected?

5. How did Larry feel when he saw his special visitor? Give two details to support your answer.

6. Larry's Boy Scout troop volunteered its time to collect scrap metal. In your local newspaper, locate an article about someone donating time to a special cause. Summarize the article below.



The Sacrifice
Chapter 4

Name _____

1. What simile did the author use to describe how Larry's uncle carried him?

2. Larry and his Uncle Chuck worked in the Victory Garden. What is a Victory Garden? You may use reference books or safe search engines on the Internet to search for your answer.

3. Using your local newspaper, locate and cut out pictures of items that might be found in a Victory Garden. Paste the words and pictures into a collage to create your own Victory Garden, then label each object *Living* or *Non-Living*.

4. Uncle Chuck had many medals and patches on his uniform. Locate pictures or articles about people in the newspaper who you feel deserve to be honored with a medal. Record their names and why you feel each deserves the medal.

Medal Recipient	Why does this person deserve a medal?

5. Choose one of the medal recipients from your list above. On a separate piece of paper, use words and pictures from the newspaper to design an original medal for that person. Then write a short speech dedicating the medal to the person you chose.



The Sacrifice
Chapter 5

Name _____

1. In your local newspaper, locate a word or picture of a gift you would like to receive. Cut and paste it on a separate piece of paper and describe why you'd like to receive that gift.

2. What is a pop bottle cap and how was it used in Larry's ballgame?

3. What is the team name, or mascot, for Cleveland? _____
Philadelphia? _____

Search for team names in your local newspaper. Write each school and team name, or mascot, below.

High School	Team Name/Mascot

4. What verb was used to describe how the train moved? _____
In your local newspaper, locate five verbs that might describe how a train moves. Cut and paste them below.

5. Do you think Larry should let his friends use the ball that was given to him by his uncle Chuck? Explain your answer.



The Sacrifice
Chapter 6

Name _____

1. What was Larry's sacrifice?

2. Describe a time when you made a sacrifice.

3. How was Larry rewarded for his good deed?

4. How did Larry feel when his team made a double play? Why did he feel that way? Use details from the story to explain your answer.

5. Sports players experience many emotions while playing a game. In your local newspaper, locate pictures of players showing various emotions. Cut and paste them on a separate sheet of paper. Label each picture with the emotion that was being expressed, and make an inference about why each player was showing that particular emotion.

6. Write a news story about someone in your school or community who has made a sacrifice to help others. Make sure you include the 5 Ws:

- Who? Who was involved?
- What? What happened?
- Where? Where did it take place?
- When? When did it take place?
- Why? Why did it happen?
- How? How did it happen?



The Sacrifice
Chapter 7

Name _____

1. How would collecting scrap metal benefit the war?

2. Larry and his friends were volunteers providing a community service. Look through your local newspaper and cut out pictures and news stories of people volunteering in your community. As a class, create a mural recognizing your local volunteers.

*Write an editorial thanking your community volunteers.

3. Larry and Uncle Chuck “got rid of their *loot* as fast as they could.” Use context clues from the story to describe what *loot* means.

4. Locate words from the newspaper that could take the place of the word *loot* in this story and paste them below.

5. Discuss with your class the importance of recycling. Then, use your local newspaper to find pictures and words of objects that can be recycled. Cut and paste the objects in categories such as metal, plastic, paper, and glass.

6. Larry describes his batting experience in great detail. Cut out a photo from your newspaper’s sports section, but do not read the cutline or article that goes with the picture. Pretend you are a sports broadcaster and write your own play-by-play account of what is happening in the picture.



The Sacrifice
Chapter 8

Name _____

1. Bob Feller was elected into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. Use the Internet to locate three facts that made him worthy of this recognition.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
2. Create a *Community Hall of Fame* poster using your local newspaper. Cut out pictures and articles of local sports stars that deserve to be inducted into the *Community Hall of Fame*. Write words and phrases that describe each local sports star.
3. Bob Feller was nicknamed The Bullet. Why do you think he was given that nickname?

4. Larry wanted to see a Cleveland Indians game. Where is Cleveland located?

5. Circle the names of local sports teams in the newspaper. Locate and label each city on a Missouri state map. Then using the map scale, calculate the distance traveled for three games. Record the information in the chart below.

Home	Visitor	Distance Traveled

Which team traveled the farthest? _____

7. Create a comic strip about someone making a sacrifice.



The Sacrifice Scavenger Hunt

Name _____

Directions: Locate words and pictures of the items below in your newspaper. Cut and paste them on a separate piece of paper. Make sure you label each item.

- Someone in the military
- Baseball or baseball bat
- Something that could be found in a Victory Garden
- Something made out of metal
- Something that can be recycled
- Someone in uniform
- A volunteer
- Someone making a sacrifice
- A mascot
- A special gift
- A train
- A medal or a patch
- Something signed

