

Tuck Everlasting

~Natalie Babbitt~

Vocabulary & Narration Guide



Your purchase of this publication by Brinalynn.com entitles you to print copies for use in your private homeschool only. You may not share printed or digital products for anyone outside your (the purchaser's) household, including, but not limited to co-ops, friends, or family. Thank you for your support and for honoring the copyright. You can reach via email at findingjoy@brinalynn.com if you have any questions.

Tuck Everlasting

~Natalie Babbitt~

How to use this vocabulary and narration guide:

The vocabulary I listed in the guide were words that I felt my own children were not very familiar with. That said, if they come to a word that they know and can explain the meaning without looking it up in the dictionary, I allow them to mark that one off the list. We are not about busy work, so we eliminate what we can.

The questions started out as a way for me to remember what each chapter was about so that I could make sure they narrated to me correctly. You may use them as such, or allow your child to use the guide as their daily work. Urge your child to give as much detail as he or she can.

Of course, you are free to use the guide however best fits your homeschool.

We hope you enjoy this book as much as we did!

Vocabulary & Narration Guide

Prologue:

How does the author describe the first week of August?

Chapter 1:

1. Bovine: _____

2. Contemplation: _____

3. Infinite: _____

4. Abruptly: _____

5. Forlorn: _____

Tell why it was a good thing that the cows stayed “to the road” rather than going into and through the woods.

Chapter 2:

1. Rueful: _____

Explain the reason Mae didn't bother looking in the mirror.

Chapter 3:

1. Frantic: _____

Explain how Winnie and the toad are alike.

Chapter 4:

1. Marionette: _____

Describe the man who stopped to talk to Winnie.

Chapter 5:

1. Galling: _____

2. Venture: _____

3. Consoling(ly): _____

What happened when Winnie ventured into the wood?

Chapter 6:

1. Comprehend: _____

2. Revolve(ing): _____

3. Falter: _____

Give details of Winnie's kidnapping.

Chapter 7:

1. Eagerness: _____

2. Gypsy: _____

What happened to the Tuck family?

Chapter 8:

- 1. Elated: _____
- 2. Receded: _____

How did Winnie react to the Tucks' explanation?

Chapter 9:

- 1. Vivid: _____
- 2. Vanity: _____
- 3. Vigorous: _____
- 4. Reservoir: _____
- 5. Penetrate: _____
- 6. Embankment: _____

Who is excited to see Winnie? Why?

Chapter 10:

- 1. Indomitable: _____
- 2. Eddy: _____
- 3. Mirage: _____

Describe the Tucks' house.

Chapter 11:

What was supper like with the Tucks?

Chapter 12:

1. Anguish: _____

How did Tuck explain the water “wheel”?

Chapter 13:

Who stole the Tucks horse? Why?

Chapter 14:

1. Consciousness: _____

What was Winnie’s spend-the-night experience at the Tucks’ house?

Chapter 15:

What was the deal the man in the yellow suit made with the Fosters?

Chapter 16:

1. Constable: _____

2. Cahoots: _____

3. Gallows: _____

4. Gander: _____

Tell about the man’s visit to the constable.

Chapter 17:

1. Peril: _____

Was Winnie's experience fishing a good one or not? Explain.

Chapter 18-19

1. Immense: _____

2. Fatal: _____

3. Petulance: _____

4. Ghastly: _____

What was the plan of the man in the yellow suit?

Chapter 20:

What is the warning the constable gives more than once to the Tuck family?

Chapter 21:

1. Peer(ed): _____

What is the news the constable brings?

Chapter 22:

- 1. Exertion: _____
- 2. Perspiration: _____

Describe the plan to set Mae free.

Chapter 23:

- 1. Ponderous: _____
- 2. Remorseless: _____
- 3. Plaintive: _____
- 4. Gentility: _____
- 5. Prostrate: _____

Describe the day.

Chapter 24:

- 1. Accusation: _____

Did the plan to rescue Mae work? If so, were there any complications?

Chapter 25:

- 1. Sedate(ly): _____
- 2. Unwitting(ly): _____
- 3. Perverse(ly): _____
- 4. Constrict(ed): _____
- 5. Apprehension: _____
- 6. Astonish(ment): _____
- 7. Accomplice: _____
- 8. Custody: _____
- 9. Staunchly: _____
- 10. Indefinite(ly): _____
- 11. Impulse: _____
- 12. Revulsion: _____
- 13. Rigid: _____

What strange thing did Winnie do in chapter 25? Why do you think she did it?

Epilogue:

- 1. Verandah: _____
- 2. Hastily: _____

What did the Tucks discover? How does their discovery make you feel?

Tuck Everlasting

~Natalie Babbitt~

Vocabulary & Narration Guide

Answers



Your purchase of this publication by Brinalynn.com entitles you to print copies for use in your private homeschool only. You may not share printed or digital products for anyone outside your (the purchaser's) household, including, but not limited to co-ops, friends, or family. Thank you for your support and for honoring the copyright. You can reach via email at findingjoy@brinalynn.com if you have any questions.

Narration Guide Answers

Prologue:

How does the author describe the first week of August?

She describes August as the pinnacle of the year, comparing it to a Ferris wheel. But the first week of August she describes as motionless and hot and silent with sunsets which have too much color. There is often much lightening in the evenings with the absence of thunder and rain. She refers to these days as the dog days.

Chapter 1:

Tell why it was a good thing that the cows stayed to the road rather than going into and through the woods.

If the cows went through the wood, so would their road. People would then follow the road, and eventually, they would see the large ash tree and the spring at its base, though concealed with with pebbles. If the spring were found out, it would be disastrous.

Chapter 2:

Explain the reason Mae didn't bother looking in the mirror.

Mae knew that her reflection had not changed in the last 87 years, so there was no use looking into the mirror.

Chapter 3:

Explain how Winnie and the toad are alike and different.

Both the toad and Winnie want to be left alone.

Winnie feels trapped inside her fence with her mother and grandmother watching her all the time. She feels like no one understands her, including the toad.

The toad is free, as Winnie would like to be.

Chapter 4:

Describe the man who stopped to talk to Winnie.

The man was tall and thin. He had a a long chin, a beard, and gray hair. He wore a yellow suit and held a black hat in his hand. The man seemed somewhat kind and charming to Winnie. He told her he was looking for a family, but the Fosters were no help to him.

Chapter 5:

What happened when Winnie ventured into the wood?

- *She realized that it was not such a bad place.*
- *She happened upon the toad, and spoke to him.*
- *Later, she heard a noise, and then realized it was young man who was resting against a tree.*
- *He drank from a hidden low spurt of water.*
- *They had a conversation in which they established who Winnie was and that she didn't mind if Jesse passed through the wood.*
- *Jesse tells Winnie that she must not drink the water from the fountain at the bottom of the tree.*
- *They argue and Winnie tells Jesse that it's her wood, her water.*
- *Jesse assures her that it would be very bad if she did drink the water.*
- *At that moment, Jesse's ma and brother come through into the clearing.*

Chapter 6:

Give details of Winnie's kidnapping.

She was seized and swung through the air onto the back of the horse, with the boys and Mae running alongside and in front of the horse. Her kidnappers were as alarmed as Winnie. They asked her not to be afraid, promising that they would never hurt her. They only grabbed her so that she would not yell or run and tell anyone. They promised to explain things to her, and to take her home the next day. Absentmindedly, Mae takes the music box from her pocket and winds the key. As the music starts to play, Winnie recognizes the tune and is comforted.

Chapter 7:

What happened to the Tuck family?

The Tucks, having from from a long way east, were looking for a place to start a farm. They stopped to camp and discovered the spring. They all, including the horse, took a drink from the spring. They carved a T in the tree to mark the place they had been.

When they finally built a house to settle down, there was something strange.

Jesse fell from high up in a tree on his head and was unharmed. The horse was shot by hunters but did not die. Pa was bitten by a snake; Jesse ate poison toadstools. None were harmed.

After 20 years, they realized none of them were getting older. The Tucks were accused of making a deal with the devil, witchcraft, and black magic.

Chapter 8:

How did Winnie react to the Tucks' explanation?

Winnie was shocked and in disbelief. But she noted the gentleness and childlikeness about them. She was unafraid of going with them, and counted them friends. Winne was actually excited to be "running away" with them.

Chapter 9:

Who is excited to see Winnie? Why?

Angus Tuck is very excited to see Winne. At the look of her, his countenance changed and the sadness was lifted. Tuck and his family are finally able to talk with someone and share their life with her after more than 80 years.

Chapter 10:

Describe the Tuck's house.

The Tuck's house was quite the opposite of Winnie's, which was orderly and squeaky clean. The Tucks cared nothing for tidiness, and it showed in the dust and cobwebs, stacks of dishes and scraps of fabric laying around. There is a kitchen, a parlor, small a bedroom. Upstairs was a loft where the boys slept when they were home. It was also home to Mae's sewing and Tuck's woodcarving.

Chapter 11:

What was supper like with the Tucks?

Supper with the Tucks was flapjacks, bacon, bread, and applesauce. They ate in the parlor instead of at the table. There seemed to be no rules. There were no napkins, and it was perfectly acceptable to like one's fingers.

Chapter 12:

How did Tuck explain the water “wheel”?

The water is in a stream, meeting with rivers. Eventually, it makes its way to the ocean. Then the sun sucks some of it back out of the ocean and carries it back to the clouds. Then it rains. The rain goes into streams, and the streams keep moving to the rivers. The water keeps going.

He explains that everything is a wheel. It keeps on turning, never stopping. He explains that everything is on a wheel that keeps moving, never stopping, even people.

Chapter 13:

Who stole the Tucks horse? Why?

The man in the yellow suit stole the Tucks horse because he wanted to ride back to tell Winnie's family where she was.

Chapter 14:

What was Winnie's spend-the-night experience at the Tucks' house?

Winnie did not sleep for a while. The sofa was very uncomfortable, and she was homesick. Winnie's mind kept thinking about all the things she had heard and experienced that day. Both Mae and Tuck checked on her. Later Jesse came in to talk with Winnie. He asked her to consider waiting until she was 17, then drink the water so that they could be the same age and get married.

Chapter 15:

What was the deal the man in the yellow suit made with the Fosters?

The man in the yellow suit wants the wood, which belongs to the Fosters. If they will sell him the wood, he will bring Winnie home. The Fosters agreed to the plan.

Chapter 16:

Tell about the man's visit to the constable.

The constable was not happy about being awoken in the night and was very impatient with the man at first. He was not pleased that they must travel 20 miles to find the girl.

Chapter 17:

Was Winnie's experience fishing a good one or not? Explain.

Winnie's experience fishing was not a good one. Winnie was glad her fish got away, and when Miles caught one, she asked him to put it back right away. The fish was beautiful to her but horrible at the same time. She hated the way the hook was caught in its lip.

Chapter 18-19

What was the plan of the man in the yellow suit?

The man plans to sell the water since the wood now belongs to him. He wants the Tucks to help him by giving demonstrations to prove that the spring water is magical.

Chapter 20:

What is the warning the constable gives more than once to the Tuck family?

If the man in the yellow suit dies, Mae will be charged with murder and hung on the gallows.

Chapter 21:

What is the news the constable brings?

The man in the yellow suit is dead, and Mae will be hanged.

Chapter 22:

Describe the plan to set Mae free.

Miles will take the window frame in Mae's cell out of the wall, and she will crawl through to the outside.

Winnie offers to climb in the window when Mae climbs out so that the constable won't notice Mae missing. Miles will replace the window, and they will run away.

Chapter 23:

Describe the day.

It was long and hot. Winnie had trouble concentrating because it was such a hot, silent day. Later in the day, the air was heavy, as if it were going to rain.

Chapter 24:

Did the plan to rescue Mae work? If so, were there any complications?

The plan to rescue Mae did work. They had to be on the lookout for the constable who frequently checked on his prisoner. Also, it was not as easy to get the window out and to get Mae out as they had hoped, but they did get her out and Winnie in.

Chapter 25:

What strange thing did Winnie do in chapter 25? Why do you think she did it?

Winnie saved the toad from a dog by picking it up and bringing it inside the fence with her. She told the dog, "That's my toad." She then went into the house and brought back Jesse's bottle with water from the spring.

Answers will vary.

Epilogue:

What did the Tucks discover? How does their discovery make you feel?

They discovered that Winnie died an old woman, a wife and mother, two years before they came back to town.

Answers will vary.

Evaluation:

1. Did you like this book? Why or why not?

- *Answers will vary, but be sure to encourage your child to give you specifics.*

2. Which character in Tuck Everlasting was the bravest? Explain your answer.

- *Again, this is according to your child. Make sure he or she can explain why they think the character is the bravest.*

3. Obviously, there is no such thing as water (or anything for that matter) that can make you forever young. But pretend you could live forever. List the pros and then the cons of living forever.

- *Answers will vary, but some examples...*

- *Pros: never have to die, can enjoy life without worry*
- *Cons: everyone else would die, you would have to hide the secret, earth would be too crowded.*