



Me and Rupert Goody

Chapter One Activities

Teacher Notes

Chapter One of the novel Me and Rupert Goody establishes the tone and introduces the main characters and conflict in the novel. Seven activities are provided for chapter one. You may choose which activities work best for your reader. Enjoy the novel!

Chapter One Activity #1 introduces students to the novel by having them explore the cover and the editorial information. The activity asks them to predict what the novel will be about based on the clues found on the cover and in the editorial information.

Chapter One Activity #2 asks the students to record the information they discovered about the narrator and the setting in chapter one.

Chapter One Activity #3 asks the students to create a concept map of the sensory images in chapter one. This activity will be continued throughout the novel.

Chapter One Activity #4 asks the students to create a vocabulary list of challenging words from chapter one. This activity will be continued throughout the novel.

Chapter One Activity #5 provides an opportunity for students to respond in writing to chapter one.

Chapter One Activity #6 asks the students to locate examples of dialect.

Chapter One Activity #7 introduces the idea of keeping a double entry reading log.

Chapter One - Activity #1

What is the title?

What can you tell about the book from the title?

Who is the author?

What do we know about her writing?

What can you tell about the book from the cover art?

What did we find out about the story from the book jacket?

Chapter One - Activity #2

Chapter One introduces Jennalee, her family situation, and her life in Claytonville. Think about what you have learned about the setting; put that information in the graphic organizer.

<u>Me and Rupert Goody</u> Setting	
Place	Time
Claytonville Uncle Beau's General Store	

Chapter One - Activity #3

Authors often use words that appeal to the senses to establish the setting, introduce a character, or paint a word picture. Images that appeal to the senses (sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste) are called **sensory images**. What images stood out as you listened to or read chapter one of the novel? What senses did the images appeal to?

Chapter	Image	What sense did it appeal to?

Chapter One - Activity #4

As you read or listen to chapter one of the novel, select words that are new or challenging to you. List the word, the page number, the sentence in the novel in which it is used, and the definition in the chart.

Word	Page	Context sentence (What words in the sentence provide clues to the meaning of the word?)	Definition

Now that you have learned the definition of the words, it is time to practice using the words.

Write a good sentence for each of the words on your list.

Complete the following chart using your words.

Word	Synonym	Antonym

Chapter One - Activity #5

Writing Prompts: Choose one or develop one of your own. Remember that you must write or reflect for the required time and length.

1. Jennalee describes a day in her life; she says that it is predictable or at least it was until Rupert Goody "waltzed himself into Claytonville." How would you describe your life? Are your days predictable? Unpredictable? Do you like it that way? How would you feel if something happened to change that?
2. Jennalee describes her family as wild and unpredictable. How would you describe your family? How would you describe your place in your family?
3. Rupert Goody is an unknown character at this point in the novel. Do you believe that one person could possibly change Jennalee's life as much as she says that he does? Is that realistic? Can one person change another's life that drastically? Why or why not?

Chapter One - Activity #6

Dialect is the distinctive way that people from a particular region or area speak. Dialects vary in pronunciation, grammar, and word choice. You may have noticed as you listened to or read chapter one that Jennalee has a distinctive way of speaking.

What are some examples of dialect in chapter one?

Quote/Dialect Example	My Thoughts (What does this tell me about the character? The setting? The tone or mood? Why do I think the author chose to use this? ETC)

Chapter One - Activity #7

Keeping a Double Entry Journal

One of the activities that you can do to help you understand and remember a novel that you are reading is keeping a log of your thoughts, questions, and predictions as you read. As you read and reflect on the novel, you can use something called a double entry journal to record your reflections.

The first column is for quotes, summaries, character descriptions, and information from the text. The second column is for your thoughts, ideas, questions, concerns, reactions, predictions, etc.

In the novel	My Thoughts
<p>Ch. 1 p. 3 (Quote)</p> <p>"Before Rupert Goody waltzed hisself into Claytonville, I nearly always knew how my days would start and how they'd end. Could've bet my last nickel on nearly everything in between. That's how I like things—predictable."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is Rupert Goody? • "waltzed hisself"—example of dialect. I like the slang. • Why does she like things predictable? • The quote grabbed my attention. It made me wonder what Rupert did to change things. • Jennalee—narrator, first person.

