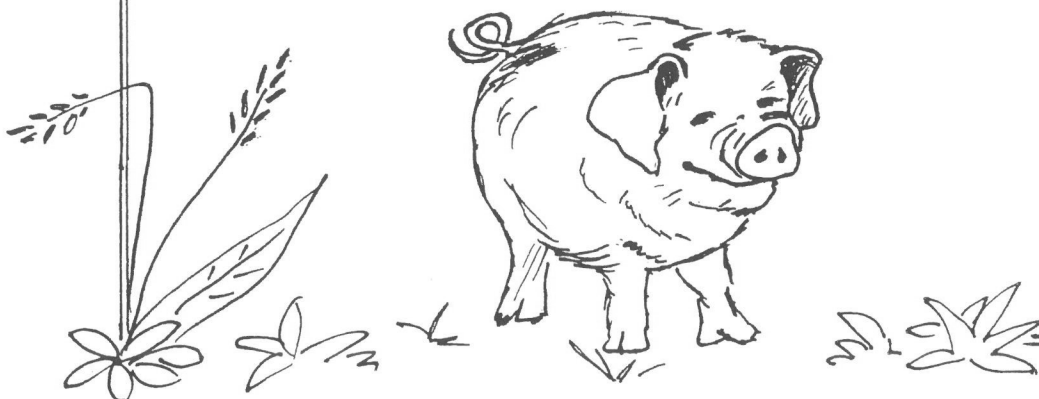


Charlotte's Web

by E.B. White

A literature based
programme for the middle
primary school



About the Programme :

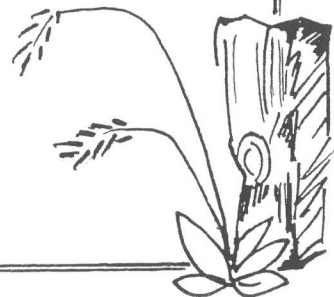
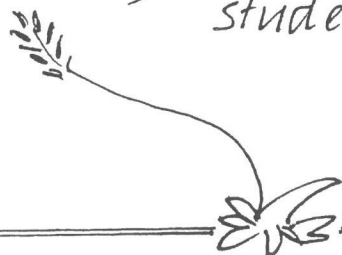
E.B. White's Charlotte's Web is a delightful story about friendship enjoyed by children everywhere.

Our literary programme, based on this well-loved novel has been designed to :

1. Engage readers in the text and further enhance their literary appreciation and insight by promoting a number of 'literary responses' that involve different levels of thinking and creative responses and
2. To promote a better understanding of the broader theme "Farm Life."

The programme presents teachers with a number of useful strategies, including ideas for curriculum applications and literary response guides.

Teachers can adapt the material to suit the interests and ability levels of the students.



Shared Text

- Predict events, characters actions
- Attention to new words, figures of speech
- Highlight 'describing' language
- Discuss writer's style, setting, plot, characterization, theme(s) → make a class 'theme mural'.



Responding to Text

- Did you enjoy the story? Why?
- How did the book make you feel?
- How would you feel if you were Wilbur?

Imagine you are Wilbur - Make a "Dear Diary" entry describing your feelings on the day of your arrival at Zuckerman's Farm.

Drama

Charlotte was a good friend to Wilbur. In pairs create a short drama that involves friends helping each other out. Present to the class.



"Some Pig" incident. Present your findings as a 'news-paper' article with an interesting title.

Language

- Discuss 'new' words - add to 'word bank' → Use these to make class spelling list.
- Similes / Metaphors eg: "The grass looked like a magic carpet," p78

Social Science

- 'A way of life' - Use text to research daily life on farms: routines, special events eg: school, festivals, harvesting
- Interdependence - animals ↔ people ↔ plantations ↔ weather etc

Science

- Farm animals, animals & their young
- Life cycles, weather & seasons
- Pets

Story Mapping

Map the story's main events in sequence as a 'comic strip' with illustrations. Add dialogue bubbles.

Mood Graph

Graph Wilbur's changes in mood / feelings throughout the story - Complete activity sheet attached.

Character Profiles

Create character profiles of one or more of the main characters. Are they life-like? List personality traits. Have they changed / grown?

Charlotte's Web

by E.B. White

Investigative Report

You are a reporter investigating the events leading up to the "Some Pig" incident. Present your findings as a 'news-paper' article with an interesting title.

Charlottes Web by E.B. White

A Cloze Activity

Read the following passage carefully and select an appropriate word for each of the spaces.

Wilbur

Fern loved Wilbur more _____ anything. She loved _____ stroke him, to feed _____, to _____ him to bed. Every morning, as soon _____ she got up, she _____ his milk, tied his bib _____, and held the bottle _____ him. Every afternoon, _____ the school bus stopped in _____ of her house, she _____ out and ran to the _____ to fix another bottle for _____. She fed him _____ at suppertime, and again just _____ going to bed. Mrs Arable gave _____ a feeding around noontime _____ day, when Fern was away at _____. Wilbur loved his _____, and he was never happier _____ when Fern was warming _____ a bottle for him. He would stand and _____ up at _____ with adoring eyes.



Charlotte's Web : Mood Graph

Happy								Happy
Neutral								Neutral
Sad or Anxious								Sad or Anxious
	Wilbur's life with Fern. Being fed warm milk, playing in the mud.	Wilbur is taken to live at Zuckerman's and Farm. Life is boring.	Wilbur is lonely, friendless and hungry.	Wilbur makes friends with Charlotte	"I don't want to die." Wilbur learns that he will be killed for food.	Charlotte saves Wilbur's life by spinning words in her web.	Wilbur's friend Charlotte dies.	