

Teacher's Guide: The Mouse and the Motorcycle
The activities below address the following Sunshine State Standards:
LA.A.1.2; LA.A.2.2; LA.B.1.2; LA.B.2.2; LA.D.1.2; LA.D.2.2

Chapter 1

Vocabulary

Pronounce each vocabulary word for students, and review the definitions as a class. Have students demonstrate their comprehension of the words by using them in sentences.

bellboy: n. A hotel worker who carries travelers' luggage

croquet: n. A game in which players use mallets to hit balls through metal wickets

vacancy: n. An opening

dreadful: adj. Frightening; very unpleasant

threadbare: adj. Worn down; shabby

Questions

Have students answer the following questions individually or in small groups. Students can then share their answers with the class.

1. How are you and Keith alike? How are you and Keith different? Support your answers with specific examples.
2. How does Mrs. Gridley feel about the Mountain View Inn?
3. Why does Mr. Gridley refuse to leave the Mountain View Inn?
4. How is Keith's opinion of mice different than his mother's? How do you know?

Activities

Write a Review

Have students write reviews of the Mountain View Inn to be published in the travel section of a newspaper. Students' reviews should begin with a description of the hotel. Help them look through Chapter 1 for descriptive words and phrases to use. Then, the reviews should explain why readers should or should not stay at the hotel. Have students include at least two reasons to support their points of view. Provide reviews from travel sections of newspapers that students can use as models.

Create an Advertisement

Have students work in pairs to create advertisements for the Mountain View Inn. As a class, look at advertisements in a newspaper and make a list of the qualities they share, such as illustrations, photographs, descriptions and testimonials from satisfied customers. Then, help students gather information about the hotel from Chapter 1. Students' ads should include a brief description of the hotel's best qualities and imaginary quotations from happy customers. Have students illustrate their ads with an appealing illustration or photograph of the hotel.

Chapter 2

Vocabulary

Pronounce each vocabulary word for students, and review the definitions as a class. Have students demonstrate their comprehension of the words by using them in sentences.