

Contents

Section 1

1. The Mahogany Fox <i>Roots and Prefix</i>	1
2. The Fox <i>Essay</i>	5
3. A Cry in the Night <i>Theme</i>	9
4. Poetry: Deer <i>Free Verse; Descriptive Writing</i>	13
5. Quiz 1; Extra Activity	17

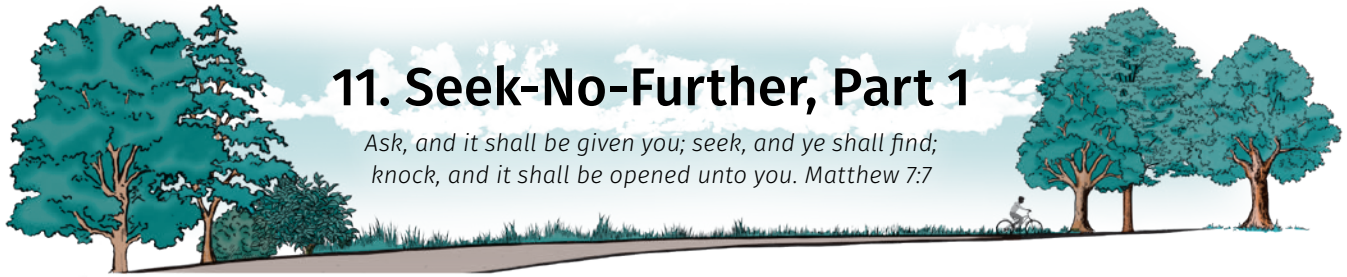
Section 2

6. First Hunt	18
7. The Plowing <i>Mood</i>	22
8. Woof	26
9. Poetry: My Prairies; Buffalo Dusk	30
10. Quiz 2; Extra Activity	34

Section 3

11. Seek-No-Further, Part 1 <i>Symbol</i>	35
12. Seek-No-Further, Part 2 <i>Legend</i>	39
13. The Chickens and the Mush <i>Parable</i>	43
14. Poetry: Trees; Shade <i>Iambic and Trochaic Meter</i>	47
15. Self Check	51
16. LightUnit Test	54
Literary Terms	55
Poetic Terms	57
Glossary	58





11. Seek-No-Further, Part 1

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Matthew 7:7

△ Vocabulary impish ruddy slough

A Look up the vocabulary words in the glossary. Complete each definition.

1. **impish:** _____ and _____
2. **ruddy:** a _____ red _____
3. **slough:** a _____ of deep _____ or _____

Introducing the Story

Born into a Quaker family in 1892, Mabel Leigh Hunt spent most of her life reading, writing, and working with books. In 1938 Hunt quit her job as librarian at the Indianapolis Public Library in order to write books full-time. By the time of her death in 1971, she had written over thirty books and many short stories for children.

In Hunt's story "Seek-No-Further," a boy and his mother admire a lone oak growing on the prairie. Inspired by the tree, they take a day off to ride out to the tree and satisfy their hankering for it. How does the story show that dreams can provide inspiration?



Oral reading class: "Seek-No-Further," Part 1 (pages 34-38)

Understanding the Content

B Answer each question.

4. For what group of people did Mabel Leigh Hunt write? _____
5. From what distance could Evan see the lone oak tree? _____
6. How did Evan's mother know he shared her interest in the tree?

7. Why was the name "Seek-No-Further" fitting for both the apples and for the oak tree?

Examining the Narrative

C Answer each question by circling the letter or writing the answer.

8. While Evan and Mother loved trees, what did Father love? _____
9. Evan's parents had once lived in a place of orchards and forests. What do you suppose Father had been hankering for in those days? _____
10. What did Father suggest Mother and Evan do that shows he did not understand their "tree-hankering" for the lone oak? _____

11. What is one way Father showed he loved his family in spite of their differences?
 - a. He agreed to Mother's plan of her and Evan riding out to the oak tree.
 - b. He told them not to get reckless and ride the seventy miles to St. Louis.
 - c. He talked to them about the differences between the forest, orchard, and prairie.
12. Why do you think it was easy for Father to forget about the locust grove he had promised Mother? _____

Appreciating the Language

Literary Technique: Symbol

Symbol: something that stands for or suggests something else

A symbol can be a character, object, or action that suggests something beyond its literal meaning. Writers use symbols to point to a deeper idea without directly explaining it.

A flag often symbolizes a certain country or organization. An American flag not only symbolizes America but also the idea of freedom.

D Read the paragraph and answer each question.

"The trees are lovely at Silver Creek. But they grew up through the marsh without any trouble and with plenty of company. The lone oak away off yonder—it's a rare brave thing, pushing up by itself, so strong, meaning through all its years of growing and reaching to be the best of its kind."

13. What object in "Seek-No-Further" is a symbol? _____
14. What is one thing the tree symbolized to Mother? _____



E Circle the letter of the answer to each question.

15. How is the metaphor “king of the prairie” an appropriate description of the oak tree?
- a. It was the only tree on the prairie that had survived storms and fire.
 - b. It was a strong, majestic tree, a prominent landmark on the prairie.
 - c. It was a mystery how the tree had ever taken root and grown.
16. Which sentence best explains how Evan’s mother could be “hungry for the companionship” of trees?
- a. She was hungry for the apples from her father’s orchard in New York.
 - b. She missed living in a place with many beautiful and useful trees.
 - c. She disliked living on the prairie with its wide, open spaces.

F Write a definition for each italicized word. Use the context of the word or a dictionary.

17. “You can see a *passel* o’ trees at Silver Creek and not go half so far.”
-
18. “If the buttermilk *clabbers* in the heat, it won’t harm us, and ’twill quench our thirst.”
-
19. Spot, one of the dogs, followed, *flushing* quail and prairie chickens and pheasants.
-

Life Application

G Answer each question by circling the letters or writing the answer.

20. What did Evan and his mother dream of doing? _____
-
21. How did Evan and Mother’s experience with the oak tree illustrate the teaching of the lesson verse? _____
-
22. A dream can provide inspiration by giving you something to work for. What are two reasons a dream might also take courage to fulfill?
- a. You often need to work hard and persevere to fulfill a dream.
 - b. Most people do not understand how a dream can inspire you.
 - c. Fulfilling a dream is something only a few people can accomplish.
 - d. Other people do not always understand what a dream means to you.

Writing and Creating

- H** Think of a tree you are familiar with. Write a description of this tree and circle the descriptive words and imagery you used. Draw a picture of the tree and write one thing it could symbolize.

△ 23. _____

Symbol of _____

Review

- I** Write a vocabulary word that names or belongs in each category.

pageant premises stature zenith

24. High points: peak, summit, _____
 25. Descriptions of a _____: elaborate, colorful, stimulating
 26. Found on a school's _____: parking lot, playground, library

- △ **J** Write a sentence using each vocabulary word or a form of it correctly.

27. captor _____

 28. excess _____

 29. expanse _____

 30. gaunt _____
