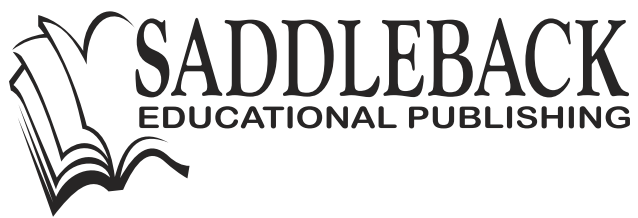


Focus **ON READING**

The Pigman

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Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

avocation—a hobby

incandescent—giving off light as a result of being heated

commemorative—something that honors a memory

subliminally—perceiving something unconsciously

repress—to hold back

infantile—lacking maturity; like an infant

monstrosity—a malformed plant or animal; a freak

compulsive—to act impulsively or irrationally

mortified—humiliated

sanitarium—an institution for the treatment of mental disorders

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Gestapo refers to the police unit of Germany's Nazi army which was infamous for its terrorist methods. The Nazis, led by Adolf Hitler, ruled Germany during World War II.

Thrombosis is the formation of a blood clot in the body's heart cavity.

Sigmund Freud (1856–1939) was an Austrian-born physician and pioneer psychoanalyst.

Homo sapiens is the scientific name for human beings.

Venus is the Roman goddess of love and beauty.

Jean Harlow (1911–1937) was a glamorous, platinum-blond American movie star. She made a number of movies throughout the 1930s but died at the early age of 26.

“**Do you have Prince Albert in a can?**” refers to a prank. Prince Albert was a popular brand of pipe tobacco, packaged in a can. If the answer to the question is yes, the response is “Then let him out!”

