

A Guide for Using

Number the Stars

in the Classroom

Based on the novel written by Lois Lowry

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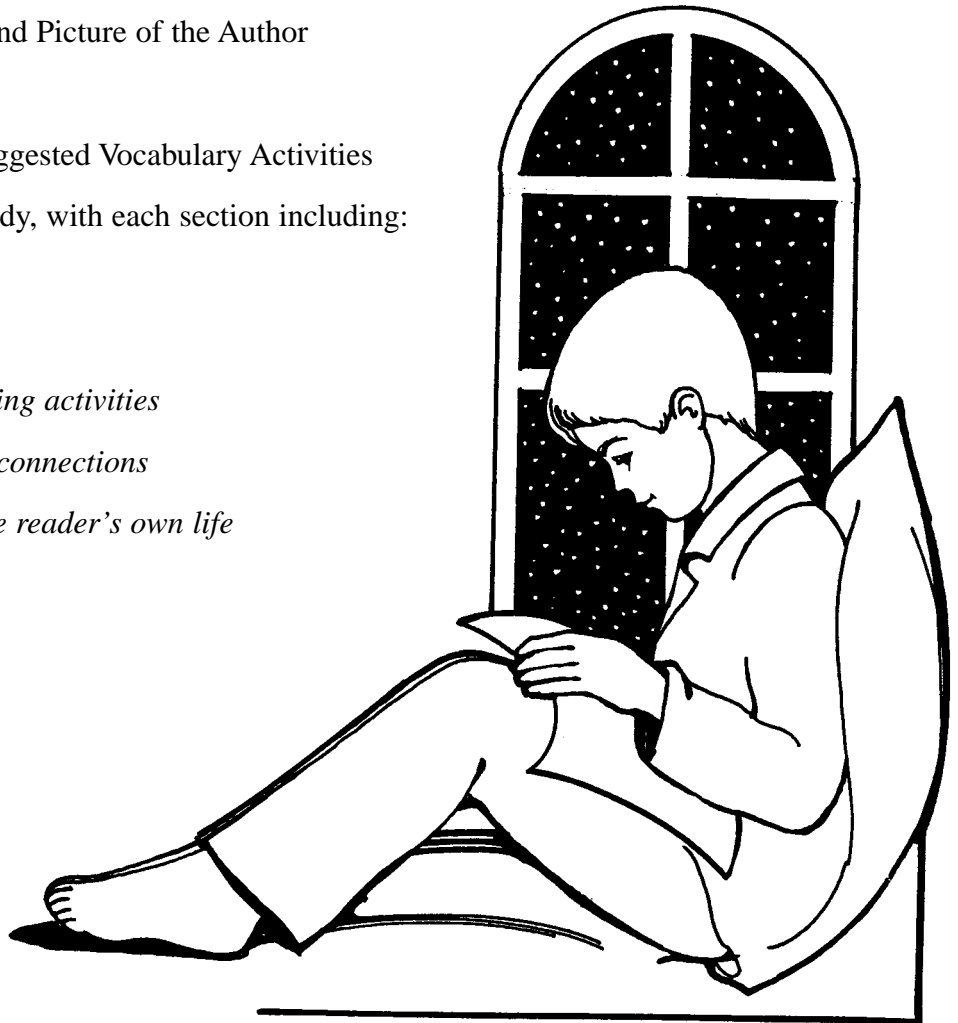
Introduction

A good book can touch our lives like a good friend. Within its pages are words and characters that can inspire us to achieve our highest ideals. We can turn to it for companionship, recreation, comfort, and guidance. It also gives us a cherished story to hold in our hearts forever.

In *Literature Units*, great care has been taken to select books that are sure to become good friends!

Teachers who use this literature unit will find the following features to supplement their own valuable ideas.

- Sample Lesson Plans
- Pre-reading Activities
- A Biographical Sketch and Picture of the Author
- A Book Summary
- Vocabulary Lists and Suggested Vocabulary Activities
- Chapters grouped for study, with each section including:
 - *quizzes*
 - *hands-on projects*
 - *cooperative learning activities*
 - *cross-curriculum connections*
 - *extensions into the reader's own life*
- Post-reading Activities
- Book Report Ideas
- Research Ideas
- A Culminating Activity
- Three Unit Test Options
- A Bibliography
- An Answer Key



We are confident that this unit will be a valuable addition to your planning, and hope that, as you use our ideas, your students will increase the circle of “friends” that they have in books!

Number the Stars

by Lois Lowry

(Dell, 1989)

(Available in Canada from Doubleday Dell Seal, in the UK from Lions,
and in Australia from Transworld Publishers)

Annemarie Johansen and her best friend, Ellen Rosen, are racing home from school when they are stopped by German soldiers on the corner. The girls think this is just another inconvenience that they need to contend with since the occupation of Denmark by the Nazis. However, they do not realize that soldiers on street corners and rationed food are only the beginning of their trials.

Since Annemarie and her family are Protestant they are safe, but Ellen's family is Jewish. When the Rosens get word that they are about to be relocated, they decide to find a way to escape. The Johansens agree to allow Ellen to live with them temporarily, and the girls embark on an adventure designed to save Ellen's life.

Mrs. Johansen's brother, Henrik, owns a fishing boat, which he normally uses to earn his living. During the Nazi occupation, he also uses it to help smuggle Jews out of Denmark into Sweden. However, he finds that his efforts are being thwarted by German soldiers who realize that Jews are escaping, and begin to suspect the local fishermen.

Annemarie discovers that once the Rosens are aboard the fishing boat, her Uncle Henrik is missing a secret packet that he needs in order to make the journey successful. In spite of her fear, Annemarie knows that she must deliver the packet. She is stopped by German soldiers while on her way to the boat and narrowly escapes with the packet hidden in Uncle Henrik's lunch.

The mysterious item hidden in the packet, and the historical relevance of it are not revealed until the very end of the book. Annemarie discovers that she has played a major part in saving Ellen's life, and that bravery is thinking about what needs to be done, not about how frightened she is.



Vocabulary Lists

On this page are vocabulary lists which correspond to each sectional grouping of chapters. Vocabulary activity ideas can be found on page 9 of this book.

SECTION 1

(Chapters 1 - 4)

lanky	<i>Halte</i>
Nazi	occupation
sabotage	rationed
kroner	swastika
disdainfully	synagogue
rabbi	submerged

SECTION 2

(Chapters 5 - 8)

Star of David	pose
tentatively	exasperation
shoreline	hazy
relocate	military arrest
specter	imprinted

SECTION 3

(Chapters 9 - 12)

rhythmically	mourning
urgency	staccato
typhus	Godspeed
pride	exhausted
unfamiliar	surge

SECTION 4

(Chapters 13 - 15)

drunkard	sprawling
stricken	donned
latticed	visible
exasperated	saliva
contempt	tantalize

SECTION 5

(Chapters 16 - 17)

warily	concealed
courageous	anthem
balcony	executed
deprivation	heroine
permeated	cocaine