

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



By

Roald Dahl

A Novel Study
by Nat Reed

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By Roald Dahl



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About the author: Nat Reed was a member of the teaching profession for more than 35 years. He was a full-time instructor at Trent University in the Teacher Education Program for nine years. For more information on his work and literature, visit novelstudies.org

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Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By Roald Dahl



Suggestions and Expectations

This 72 page curriculum unit can be used in a variety of ways. Each chapter of the novel study focuses on two or three chapters of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and is comprised of four different activities:

1. Before You Read
2. Vocabulary Building
3. Comprehension Questions
4. Language and Extension Activities

A **portfolio cover** (p.7) as well as a **Checklist** (p.6) are included so that students may track of their completed work.

Every activity need not be completed by all students.

Links with the Common Core Standards (U.S.)

Many of the activities included in this curriculum unit are supported by the Common Core Standards. For instance the *Reading Standards for Literature, Grade 5*, makes reference to

- a) determining the meaning of words and phrases... including figurative language;
- b) explaining how a series of chapters fits together to provide the overall structure;
- c) compare and contrast two characters;
- d) determine how characters ... respond to challenges;
- e) drawing inferences from the text;
- f) determining a theme of a story ... **and many others.**

Themes which may be taught in conjunction with the novel include the importance of family, greed, overcoming difficulty, poverty vs wealth, old age, choices (foolish vs. wise), selfishness vs. selflessness.

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List of Skills

Vocabulary Development

1. Locating descriptive words/phrases
2. Listing synonyms/homophones
3. Identifying/creating *alliteration*
4. Use of capitals and punctuation
5. Identifying syllables
6. Identify *anagrams*
7. Identify *personification*
8. Use of singular / plural nouns
9. Listing compound words
10. Identifying parts of speech
11. Determining alphabetical order
12. Identification of root words
13. Identify/create *similes*
14. Identification of a *cliffhanger*

Setting Activities

1. Summarize the details of a setting

Plot Activities

1. Complete a *time line* of events
2. Identify conflict in the story
3. Identify the climax of the novel
4. Five W's Chart

Character Activities

1. Determine character traits
2. Protagonists and antagonists
3. Relating personal experiences
4. Comparing two Characters

Creative and Critical Thinking

1. Research
2. Write a newspaper story
3. Write a letter to a friend
4. Complete an Observation Chart
5. Conduct an interview
6. Write a description of personal feelings
7. Write a book review
8. Complete a KWS Chart

Art Activities

1. A Storyboard
2. Create a collage
3. Design a cover for the novel
4. Design an Information Card

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By *Roald Dahl*



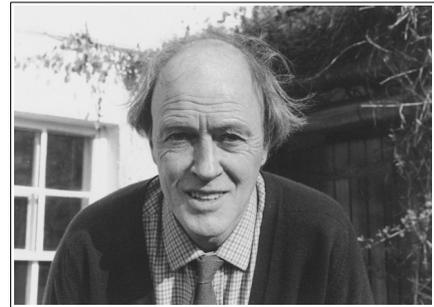
Synopsis

Willie Wonka's famous chocolate factory is opening at last! But only five lucky children will be allowed inside. Augustus Gloop, an enormously fat boy whose hobby is eating; Veruca Salt, a spoiled-rotten brat whose parents are wrapped around her little finger; Violet Beauregarde, a dim-witted gum-chewer with the fastest jaws around; Mike Teavee, a toy pistol-toting gangster-in-training who is obsessed with television; and Charlie Bucket, Our Hero, a boy who is honest and kind, brave and true, and good and ready for the wildest time of his life! [The Publisher]

Author Biography

Roald Dahl

Few authors of children's books have been as prolific or successful as **Roald Dahl** (1916-1990). His novels have been read and enjoyed by countless children the world over and include such classics as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Danny the Champion of the World*, *James and the Giant Peach* and *Matilda*. Shortly before his death, the top five selling children's books in Great Britain were all authored by Dahl.



Born to Norwegian immigrants, Roald Dahl hailed from Llandaff, Wales. Despite losing his father when he was only four, Roald claimed to have had a most happy and eventful childhood. Although not a particularly good student, Roald did excel at athletics.

Dahl was married to the famous actress, **Patricia Neal**, for many years and they had five children together. The couple were, however, divorced after thirty years of marriage. Roald began his writing career as a short story writer, and didn't pen his first children's novel until 1961 - *James and Giant Peach*. This was followed by several bestsellers. Roald Dahl passed away in 1990 at the age of 74. In Great Britain the anniversary of Dahl's birthday on 13 September has become **Roald Dahl Day**.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



By Roald Dahl

Name: _____

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By Roald Dahl
Chapters 1 - 2



Before you read the chapters:

The **protagonist** in most novels features the main character or “good guy”. The protagonist of **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** is a very likeable boy, Charlie Bucket, whose life goes through some dramatic changes as the story unfolds. Think back on some of your favorite characters from past novels you have read or movies you’ve seen. What do you think makes for an especially interesting protagonist?



Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list to complete each sentence.

desperate	torture	exposed	scented	gorgeous
extraordinary	delicate	absurd	uncomfortable	fantastic

1. Since its accident, my cat has been in a very _____ condition.
2. His talent for reading other people’s thoughts can be described as _____.
3. We bought Aunt Gail a _____ bar of soap for her birthday.
4. When her child disappeared she had a _____ look on her face.
5. “That is a _____ answer!” the teacher said excitedly.
6. Will the kidnappers _____ him to find out the combination to the safe?
7. I think it is _____ for people to still think that the earth is flat.
8. Sleeping on that hard ground without a mattress will be very _____.
9. Mike’s sister is so _____ I think she should enter a beauty pageant.
10. After a few hard questions the FBI _____ him for the criminal that he was.

Questions



1. What is the setting of Chapter One?

2. The seven people in Charlie's family were:

3. Describe what Charlie's dad did for a living?

4. Charlie's diet was quite sparse. List what he had for all three meals.

Breakfast _____

Lunch _____

Supper _____

5. What was it that tortured Charlie more than anything else?

6. Give two examples to show what a magician Willy Wonka was with chocolate.

1	
2	

7. Chapter One ends with a literary device known as a **cliffhanger**. What is a cliffhanger, and why is it a popular device used by many novelists?

Language Activities



A. Chocolate

Chocolate plays a huge role in this novel. As we begin our study it might be useful to learn a little about this marvelous treat. Did you know, for instance, that chocolate is a raw or processed food produced from the seed of the tropical *Theobroma cacao* tree and has been around for about 3,000 years? Did you know that Europeans sweetened and fattened it by adding refined sugar and milk? Using resources in your school library or on the Internet, research a few basic facts about chocolate. Below record three fascinating facts from your research to share with your classmates.



1.	
2.	
3.	

B. The Good Old Indispensable Adverb!

An **adverb** is a part of speech defined as *a modifier (or helper) of a verb* (usually an action word). Often an adverb will end in the letters *ly* (i.e. *slowly*). Our novel features a good many creative adverbs.

1. ... he would place it carefully in a small wooden box.
→ In this sentence, which verb does *carefully* modify? _____
2. ... taking creamy candy bars out of their pockets and munching them greedily...
→ In this sentence, what verb does *greedily* modify? _____
3. He desperately wanted something more filling...
→ In this sentence the adverb _____ modifies the verb _____

C. Choose ten words from this chapter with two or more **syllables**. Indicate the syllables by drawing a line between each syllable. **Example:** good / bye.

D. A **simile** is a comparison using the words “like” or “as”. An example from Chapter Two is “They were as shriveled as prunes and as bony as skeletons.”

What is being compared in this example?

Invent your own **similes** comparing the following items with something from your imagination:

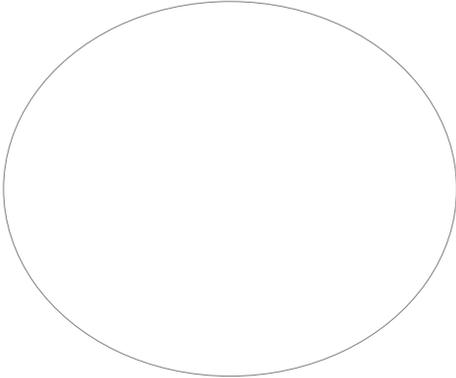
a) the blare of a television set

b) the crack of a rifle

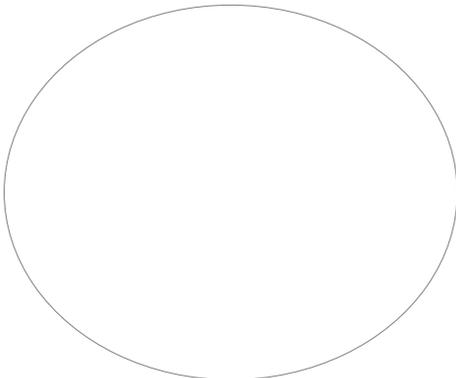
Bonus: Keep your eye open for another example of a **simile** as you read the novel. When you find one, remember to come back and enter it here

E. 5 Ws and an H.

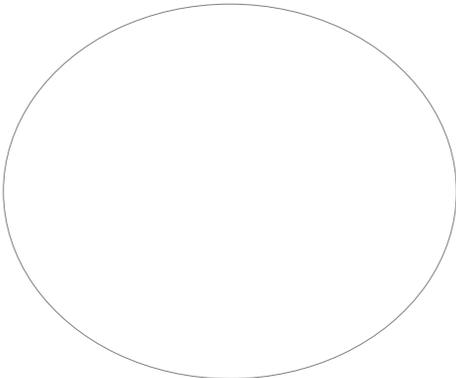
Choose an event from this section that you thought was really important and/or exciting. Using facts that you gleaned from reading about this event, fill in the balloons below, summarizing what you learned.



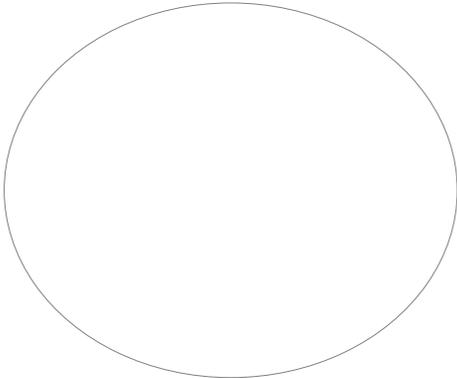
WHO?



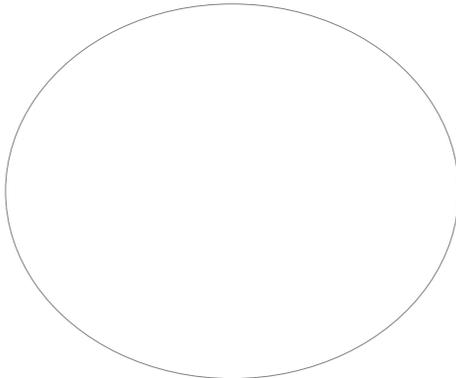
WHAT?



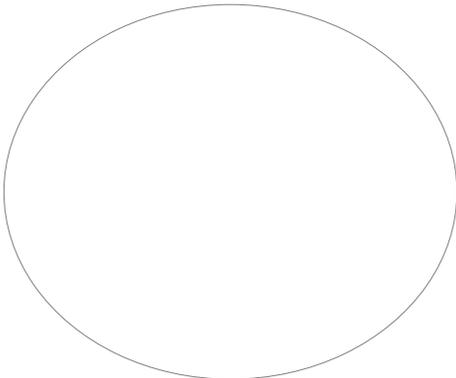
WHEN?



WHERE?



WHY?



HOW?

Extension Activities



Storyboard

A storyboard is a series of pictures that tell about an important event in a story. A storyboard can tell the story of only one scene – or the entire novel.



Complete the storyboard below illustrating the events described in the first two chapters of ***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory***. You may wish to practice your drawings on a separate piece of paper.

1	2
3	4
5	6