CARDINAL FOR KIDS PRESENTS

Charlotte's Web

Student Study and Activity Guide


**Story**

The story opens with eight-year-old Fern Arable saving Wilbur the pig, the runt of his litter, from her father’s axe. Under Fern’s care, Wilbur quickly grows strong enough to live on his own in the farm across the road. There, he becomes friends with many barnyard animals - cows, sheep, geese, a rat, a horse, and a spider named Charlotte.

Wilbur has a problem, though. He is what the farmers call a “spring pig,” a pig that ends up on the dinner table before winter. With the support of their newfound friends, Wilbur and Charlotte hatch a plan to make sure everyone knows that this “terrific” and “radiant” pig deserves a long life on the farm.

**Main Characters**

- **Wilbur**: Energetic and friendly pig, the runt of his litter
- **Fern Arable**: Courageous and kind-hearted girl who saves Wilbur
- **Charlotte**: Resourceful and sacrificing spider, Wilbur’s best friend
- **Templeton**: Gluttonous rat, helps Wilbur and Charlotte for food

**New Vocabulary**

- Runt
- Slops
- Salutation
- Terrific
- Radiant
- Humble
- Sacrifice
- Triumph

**Themes**

- **Friendship**: What makes a good friend? What kinds of things do friends do for each other?
- **Loyalty**: What does it mean to be loyal? Who or what is Charlotte loyal to? Wilbur? Templeton?
- **Determination**: How can you tell if someone is determined? What have you been determined to do?
Word Search

G M N P Y W R Z Y X L C H K N
Q Q R O I B E T N C A R Y F P
O I I L T G T Z Q U N L S Z H
O Y B B R E D I P S I U W P O
L U Z Q S M L S Y F D T M E N
R F A R M G D P Y Z R V Y J C
Q J S Y Q C D G M D A S H I D
E T T O L R A H C E C N F U U
R D M J M K E W M W T I R M A
H A T M M E Z L K F R N A E P
S Y L R B D P D B R Q N D G E
T H E A T E R I E M R G I A U
E Q A G M R J T G E U I A T N
D D M R X O Q L F D K H N S N
Q I Z S P C W R X O G H T E X

CARDINAL  STAGE  THEATER  CHARLOTTE
WILBUR  FERN  TEMPLETON  FARM
PIG  SPIDER  SOME PIG  RADIANT
HUMBLE  TERRIFIC
Connect the Dots