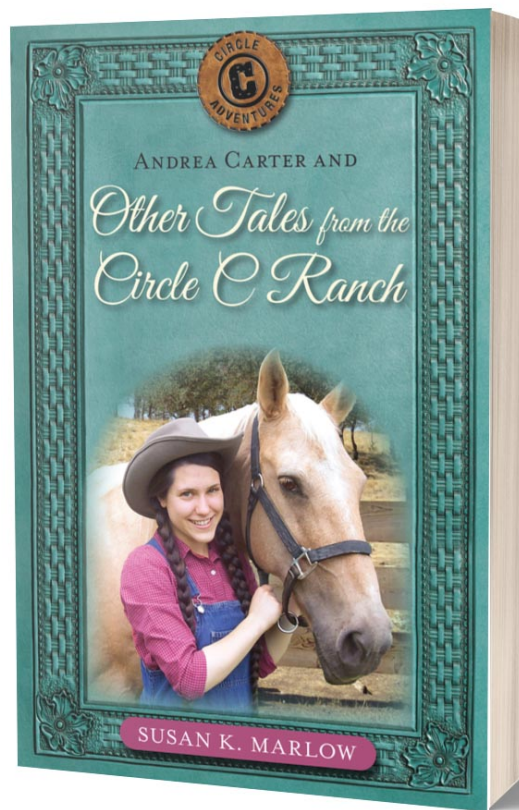


CIRCLE C ADVENTURES BOOK 7

Andrea Carter and

Other Tales from the Circle C Ranch

Study Guide



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Daily Schedule for Book 7: Other Tales from the Circle C Ranch

There is no lapbook for this short-story collection.

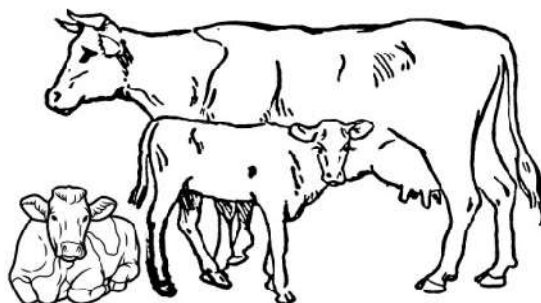
| | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 |
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| Literature Guide | Page 175 | Pages 176-177 | ----- |

Orphan Calf Chapters 1–3

Read the chapters and answer the questions.

Chapter 1

1. Andi and Cory come across a cow and her two calves. Color the calves' markings based on their descriptions on page 9.
2. Andi trips over a third calf. How is it described?



- A. a large lump of coal. B. an old, blackened piece of oak. C. an outcropping of black shale.
3. *Similes*. A simile uses “like or as” to compare one thing with another. In this simile from page 10, circle the comparing word. Then write the two things that are being compared.

Even if triplets were as common as mountain snow, Cory would not have heard about it.

4. What does Andi insist will fix any problem the triplet might have? _____

Chapter 2

5. What is another name for a turkey buzzard? _____
6. True or false (circle one)? Cory is very encouraging to Andi about the calf's chances of survival.
7. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared.



Chad and Mitch hovered over the baby as if he were the prince of Egypt.

Chapter 3

8. Color the cow's markings on the illustration above, based on her description on page 19.
9. What name does Andi give to her orphan calf? _____
10. *Think!* The creamy yellow “first milk” Chad refers to is called *colostrum*. Without it, the calf has no chance of surviving. What do you think colostrum does for the newborn? *You may need to do a little research on the Internet, with permission.*

Orphan Calf Chapters 4–6

Read the chapters and answer the questions.

Chapter 4

1. *Andi turned a deaf ear to her brothers'—and her sister Melida's—teasing about such a silly name for a bull calf.*

What does it mean to “turn a deaf ear” to someone? _____

2. Circle four things Sweetie Pie does to show Andi that his name suits him just right.

He moos when she leaves. • He stands up when he sees her. • He drinks every drop of milk.

He lets Andi hug and stroke him. • He follows Andi around. • He nuzzles her.

3. How does the calf show Andi that he's had enough and wants to rest?

A. He flops to the ground. B. He cries and pulls against the rope. C. He butts her.

Chapter 5

4. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared.

The calf sprawled out on the hay, limp as a wet rag.

5. “I applaud your perseverance, little sister, but your chores are being sorely neglected.” What does Chad mean when he tells Andi that he applauds her perseverance?

A. Chad is praising Andi for doing such a good job with the calf.

B. Chad is praising Andi for not giving up on her job of caring for the calf.

C. Chad is praising Andi for not complaining about how hard it is to care for an orphan calf.

6. What two chores, especially, has Andi been neglecting?

Chapter 6

7. Circle the breed of cow Rufus owns to nurse orphan calves. Jersey • shorthorn • Holstein

8. What keeps Andi from visiting her calf on the Rocking T? _____

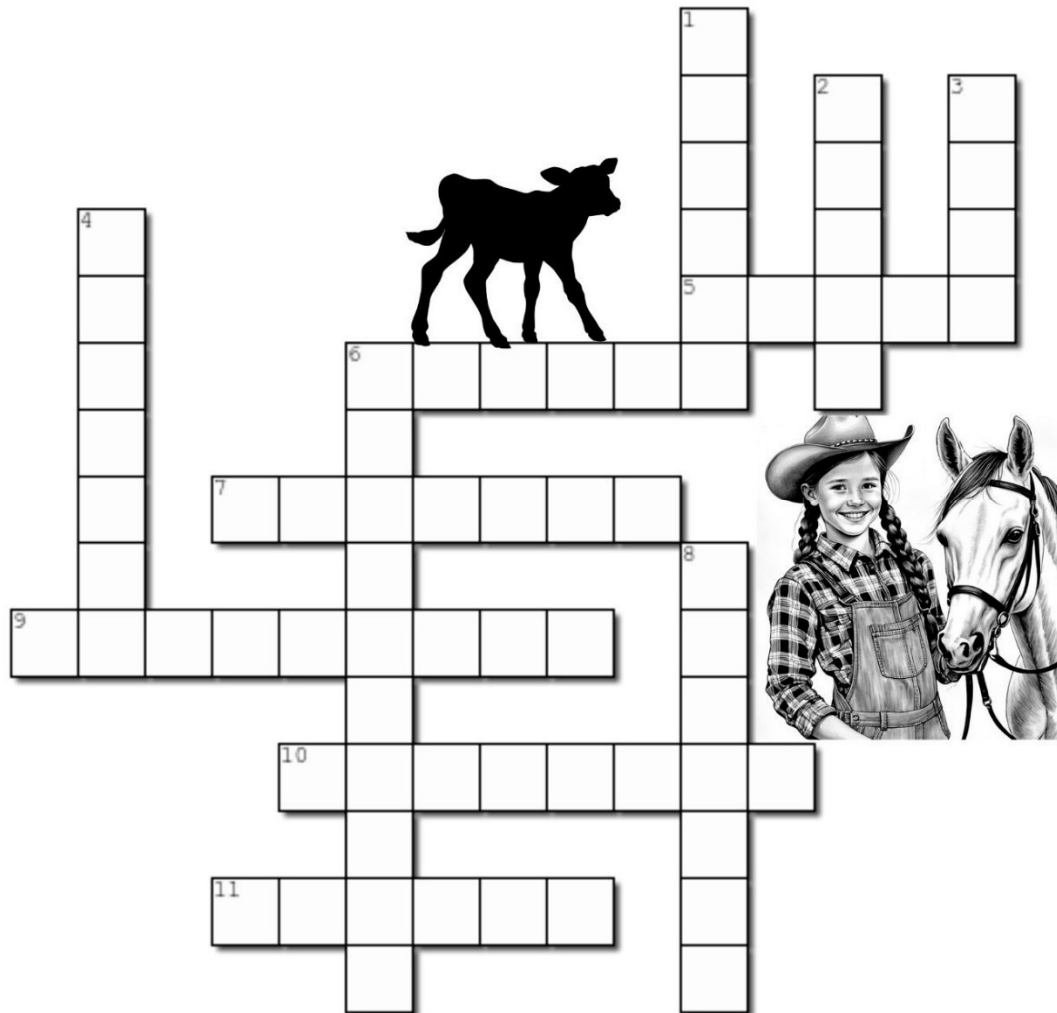
9. When is the next time Andi sees Sweetie Pie? a week later • a month later • a year later

10. “Orphan Calf” is based on a true story. Now, circle true or false about how the two stories ended: Both calves' stories ended alike. TRUE or FALSE

Orphan Calf: Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle

Use the word bank and the definitions to solve this crossword puzzle of words from the story.

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|
| blistering | lanky | rummage | funnel | paddock | defy |
| bovine | stifle | protrude | flank | tentative | smirked |



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

ACROSS

5. ungracefully tall and thin
6. another word for cattle
7. grinned
9. hesitant; uncertain
10. to jut or stick out
11. a cone-shaped tool, wide at the top and narrow at the bottom

DOWN

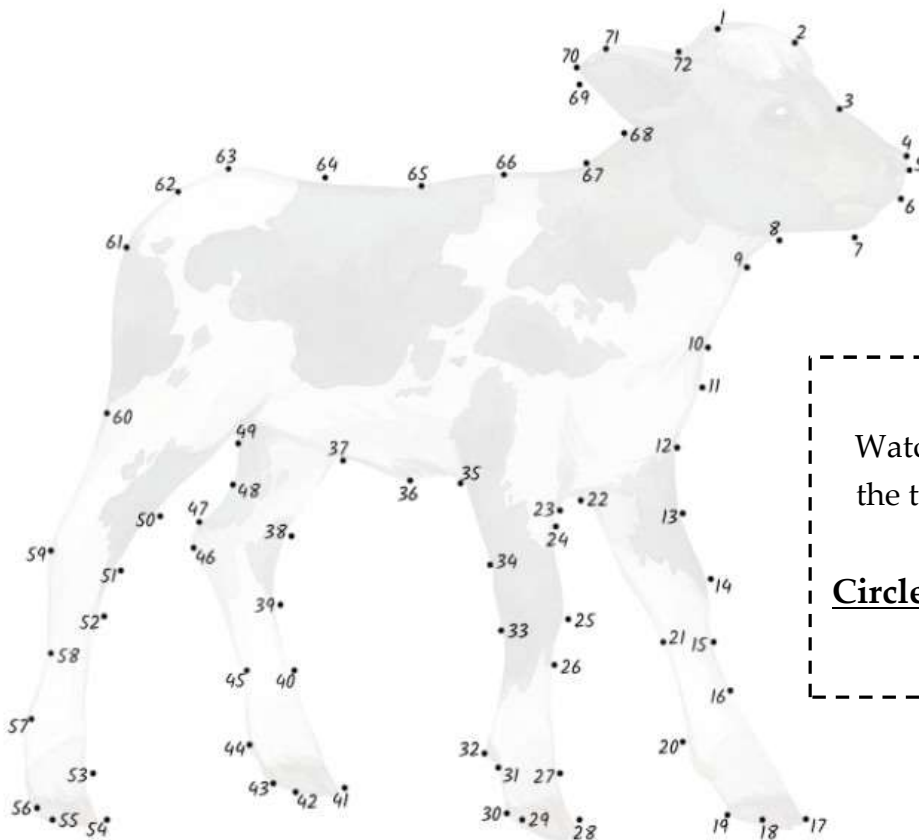
1. to hold back
2. an animal's side
3. to challenge or disobey
4. to search and dig around
6. extremely hot
8. a small enclosure for livestock

Orphan Calf: Twins and Triplets

Twin calves are rare in the ranching world, and triplets are *extremely* rare. Many triplet calves die, and even if they survive, the mother may not accept all three. She doesn't usually have enough milk to support triplets in any case.

Another interesting situation is twin calves. They are more common but still rare. Twin bull calves are fine, and twin heifers (girls) are also fine. The trouble comes when one calf is a boy and one calf is a girl. The heifer ends up being sterile (can never grow up to give birth). Why does this happen? The twin calves (male and female) grow together in the cow's womb and share the placenta (blood supply from the cow). This allows the hormones from each calf to mix with the other. While the bull calf ends up being only a little less fertile (and most bull calves are castrated anyway), the heifer calf is prevented from developing the organs she needs to become a cow and is always sterile. Female calves in a boy-girl twin situation are called "freemartin" calves. Other than being sterile, the heifer twin is perfectly healthy and can be a pet or eventually butchered.

Complete this dot-to-dot to bring this little fellow to "life." Color him and add his tail, which is missing.



Just for Fun

Watch Ellie feed Stormy Night, the true-life orphan calf, with a kitten bottle.

[CircleCBooks.com/adventures/
#tales-7](https://CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7)

More Fun

Watch this one-minute video highlighting the birth of triplet beef calves in Alberta, Canada.

CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7

Andi's Christmas Ball Chapters 1–3

Read the chapters and answer the questions.

Chapter 1

1. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared.

A final swipe across the Circle C brand on her rump, and the palomino shone as bright as a new day. _____

2. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared.

Andi's heart dropped like a stone to her stomach.

3. What unpleasant surprise does Andi receive at the breakfast table? _____
- _____

4. Why does Andi give in and agree to go to Sacramento?

- A. She doesn't want to disappoint the governor of California.
- B. She doesn't want to disappoint Mother and Justin.
- C. She realizes that she has no choice but to do what she's told.

Chapter 2

5. Governor Irwin was the real-life governor California in 1879. However, his son is a fictional character. What is the boy's full name? _____

6. At first, to whom does Andi compare this boy in her thoughts? _____

7. Later on, Andi changes her opinion about the boy. With whom does she compare him at the end of chapter 2? _____

Chapter 3

8. Andi wonders what Will wants to show her. What is it? rats • birds • bunnies • a cat

9. Name Will's pets. _____

10. Circle the positive traits of Will's pets. Cross out the traits that are not mentioned.

They are good at keeping other pests away. • They like warm baths. • They are very clean.
They shake hands with their paws. • They squeak to let their wishes be known.
They eat very little. • They stand up on command. • They jump through a hoop.

Andi's Christmas Ball Chapters 4–6

Read the chapters and answer the questions.

Chapter 4

1. Match each character with how they spend their time on the day of the ball.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ Andi | A. walking in the gardens and reading a magazine |
| _____ Justin | B. climbing a ladder and putting up Christmas decorations |
| _____ Chad & Mitch | C. going uptown to tie up some last-minute business concerns |
| _____ Mother | D. trying on gowns and later showing off Will's pets |
| _____ Melinda | E. finding something to keep busy, but it doesn't say what |
| _____ Will | F. calling on old and dear friends who live in the city |

2. When Andi dashes out the door because she and Melinda might be late for the ball, she forgets to . . . A. secure the cage. B. close the schoolroom door. C. turn down the gas lamp

Chapter 5

3. Andi relaxes when she learns the waltz music is a something she knows. What is the name of the waltz? _____

4. Listen to a short clip of this waltz (or the full nine minutes) here (scroll down to find it).



CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7



5. *Hands on his hips, Governor Irwin watched the richly decorated, most beautiful tree in Sacramento sway and shake as if a gust of wind were blowing against it.* What is causing the tree to sway and shake in such a manner? _____

6. Why does Will not want to rescue his mother's Persian cat?

- A. Precious will scratch and bite him. B. He is not tall enough. C. He is afraid of heights.

Chapter 6

7. Who does not think it's a good idea for Andi to climb the tree? _____

8. How does Andi get the cat out of the tree? _____

9. True or false? (circle one) Andi takes the blame for the misadventure with Will's escaped rats.

Andi's Christmas Ball: Missing Vocabulary Words

Use the definitions to fill in the blanks with the correct vocabulary word in each sentence. Page numbers are given if you need to look up the sentences.

1. "This will be our best week ever, " she _____ to her equine friend.
(*shared a confidence with, p. 33*)
2. A tickle of uncertainty _____ up Andi's neck.
(*moved quickly; scurried, p. 35*)
3. Mitch and Chad had _____ Andi and Melinda into the surrey . . .
(*forced someone to move quickly and without courtesy, p. 38*)
4. "Instead, I was whisked off the ranch without a _____ . . ."
(*a request for permission, p. 41*)
5. "There won't be any barn dancing . . . just waltzes and _____ and such-like."
(*a square dance performed by four couples, p. 41*)
6. "I thought I'd be stuck with a prissy, giggly girl who'd give me _____."
(*a shy or lovesick glance, p. 41*)
7. "She's spoiled and simply _____ strangers."
(*feels intense disgust and beneath one's notice, p. 43*)
8. "Sometimes I find the man quite _____."
(*slow, tiresome, and dull, p. 46*)
9. "On which floor is this _____?" Melinda asked.
(*something unusual, striking, or entertaining, p. 48*)
10. It was clear Will was used to all this _____.
(*a useless or nonsensical fuss, p. 52*)
11. They ran _____, trying to get away from . . . something.
(*disorderly haste and confusion, p. 52*)
12. She stood frozen in place, her mouth _____ at this _____.
(*wide open in surprise, p. 53*) (*disaster, p. 53*)



Choose one of the vocabulary on from this page and use it in a sentence of your own.



Andi's Christmas Ball: Persian Cats

What do you visualize when you think of a Persian cat? I see a long-haired cat with a smashed-in-looking face. Did you know that the original Persian cat was also called an Angora cat and had a normal-looking face, like all other cats? The breed was originally brought to

Europe from Persia (Iran) as a highly valued trade item in the 1500s. The Europeans loved the Persian cat's long, silky coat, and bred them to keep this special trait going. It is only the modern Persian cat (20th century) that has developed the flat, pushed-in face. This was an accident back in the 1950s, when a batch of kittens showed a genetic mutation. Some folks liked the look and kept it going. Sadly, though, this mutation has resulted in a number of health problems for the cat, like runny eyes, labored breathing, and difficulty eating, so the original Persian cat was probably healthier before all of the genetic breeding. The first Persian cats were also a solid gray color, but selective breeding has resulted in other coat colors like white, silver, and black.

Persian cats are one of the earliest "pedigreed" breeds, with the first cats arriving in the United States around 1875 (which explains why the governor's wife has one of these expensive cats). Today, Persians are the most popular breed of cat worldwide. *Here is a Persian cat to color.*



Race to the Finish Line Chapters 1–4



Read the whole story and answer the questions.

1. What holiday are the Carters celebrating in this story? _____

2. What is *your* favorite holiday? _____

Why is this your favorite holiday? List two reasons.

3. What two obstacles prevent Andi from participating in the race?

1) _____

2) _____

4. Color the thermometer to show the temperature in town (p. 64). This is read in Fahrenheit (F°) in the United States. Using the thermometer you colored, what would the temperature be in Celsius (°C)? _____

5. What is Andi's plan to save the Carter family honor? _____

6. Imagine yourself as Andi's friend. What advice would you give her about her idea to "save the day," and what reason would you include?

7. HOW'S YOUR SPANISH (CÓMO ESTÁ TU ESPAÑOL)? Match these Spanish phrases to English (p. 69)

_____ *Por favor*

A. to town

_____ *¿Pero, por qué?*

B. please

_____ *Sí, señorita*

C. good-bye

_____ *¿Adónde vas?*

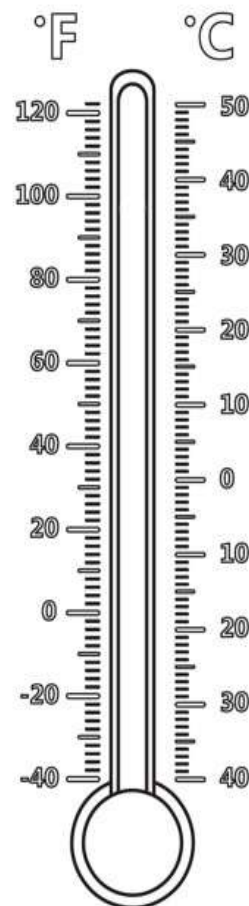
D. But why?

_____ *Al pueblo*

E. Yes, miss.

_____ *Adiós*

F. Where are you going?



Listen to (and pronounce) these Spanish words online at:

CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7

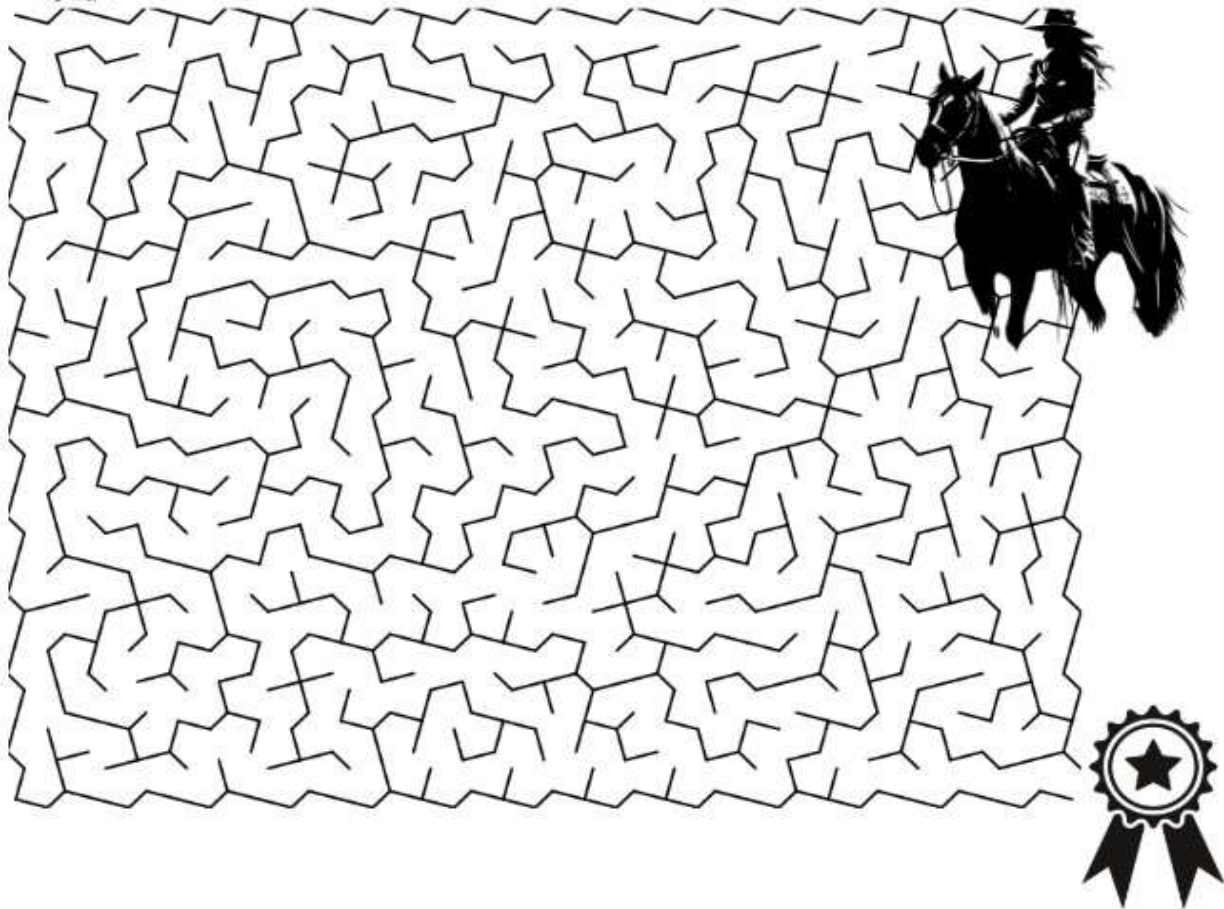
8. At the end of the day, the band played "America" and "The Star-spangled Banner." Go to the Circle C website and listen to our national anthem. CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7

Race to the Finish Line: Maze

Help Andi navigate the quarter-mile racetrack in order to win the race!



Fourth of July Race - 1880



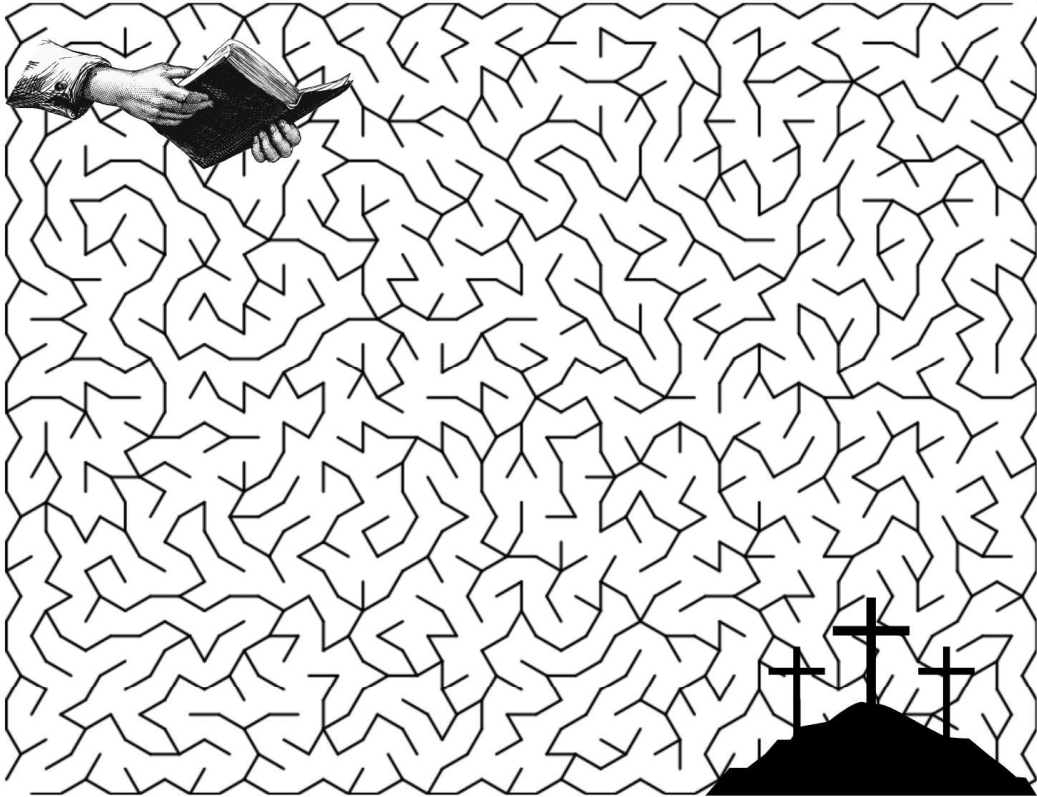
Our Race to Run: Hebrews 12:1-2a

We might not compete in a horserace like Andi, but each one of us is in a life race. Read these verses from God's Word about not giving up in our "race to the finish line" – heaven.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross . . .

Start your race on Earth below and “run your race” up, up, up to Heaven above.

Our Heavenly Race



Hebrews says to “lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily ensnares us.” On the lines below, list some “weights” or “sins” that might ensnare you and cause you to trip and fall while you “run the race” to God’s heavenly kingdom. Then pray for Jesus to help you run the race.

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Snake in a Pail Chapters 1–4

1. *Let's write!* Put yourself in Andi's situation, except instead of sitting in a desk at school, you find some kind of creature jumping out at you when you open your dresser drawer, a closet door, or another room in your house. Finish this mini-story in fifty words or less.

I yawned, stumbled out of bed, and opened the _____. To my horror,
_____ (jumped, leaped, fell, sprang) right into my _____.

2. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared.

Cory pounced on her[Andi] like a coyote on a mouse. _____

3. Circle the comparing word in this simile. Then write the two things that are being compared. *Andi saw trouble coming at her faster than a runaway locomotive.*



4. You have had practice finding similes and seeing how they are put together. On the lines below, create two similes of your own, using your imagination. Use "as," "like," or "than" to compare the two things.

1) _____

2) _____

5. The story says, "Andi only wanted to **turn back the clock** and hand Clyde over to Cory at recess like he asked." What does it mean to "turn back the clock" (p. 88)?

6. Write two interesting facts you learned about a California king snake.

1) _____

2) _____

Snake in a Pail: Vocabulary Word Search

Match these nine vocabulary words from the story to their definitions. Then find the words in the word search below.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| _____ 1. amnesia | A. quickly moved forward to attack or to seize something |
| _____ 2. uncanny | B. a confused and noisy disturbance |
| _____ 3. lunged | C. a term for memory loss, either temporary or permanent |
| _____ 4. suspicious | D. without speaking; silently |
| _____ 5. commotion | E. strange or mysterious, especially in an unsettling way |
| _____ 6. mutely | F. hindered or did not allow someone to move |
| _____ 7. hampered | G. forced into a narrow or small space |
| _____ 8. wedged | H. to store something safely and secretly in a certain place |
| _____ 9. stash | I. showing a cautious distrust of someone or something |



Snake in a Pail: Geography – The Swiss Alps



The snake distracts Andi from her schoolwork, but she goes back to her geography book and pretends to read about the Swiss Alps. What are the Swiss Alps and where are they located? The Alps are a huge mountain range in Europe. Parts of the Alps run through Switzerland (Swiss Alps) and take up about two-thirds of this small country. If you like mountains and snow, then Switzerland

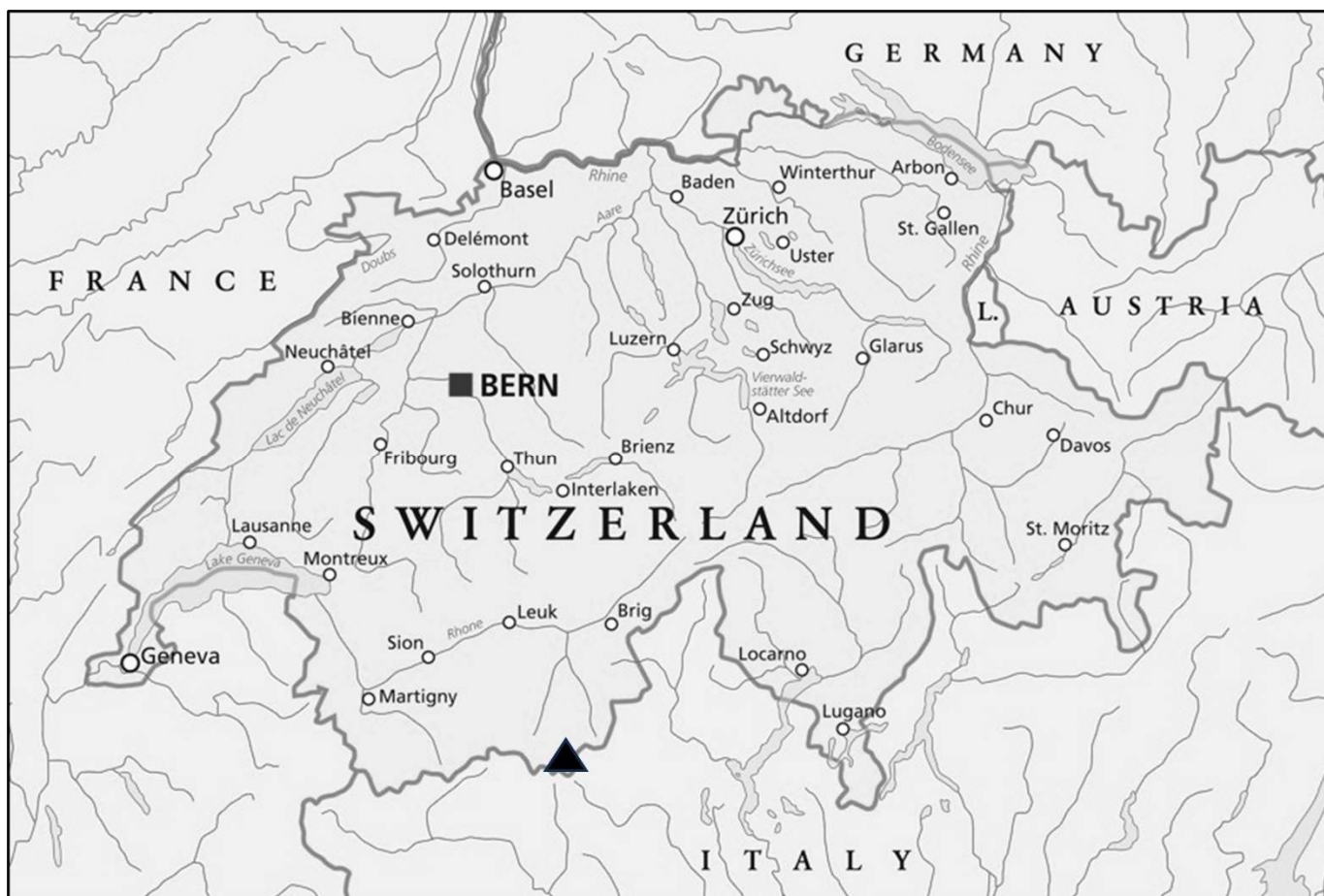
is for you! Switzerland has the highest mountains in the Alps, including the famous Matterhorn mountain peak (14,692 feet high). Use this map to answer the questions.

1. Which four large countries surround Switzerland?

2. The capital of Switzerland is shown as a square. Name it: _____

3. Label the Matterhorn. It is shown as a triangle on the Swiss/Italian border to the south.

4. Near the city of Bern, the Alps spread east, west, and south (toward Italy) and cover two-thirds of Switzerland. Color the area the Swiss Alps cover to show their location in Switzerland.



Virginia's Riding Lesson Chapters 1–5

1. *More similes.* Circle the comparing word. Then write the two things that are being compared.
Andi should have known that like a pistol going off unexpectedly, her offer would backfire.

2. "A promise was a promise, and a Carter always kept their word." What does it mean to "keep your word"? _____

3. *Think!* Remember a time when you had to keep your word, even if it was hard to follow through. Psalm 15:4 says (NIV) ". . . who keeps an oath [their word] even when it hurts, and does not change their mind." _____

4. HOW'S YOUR SPANISH (CÓMO ESTÁ TU ESPAÑOL)? Match these Spanish phrases to the English.

_____ *tu mama* (p. 94)

A. thank you

_____ *Yo sé* (p. 94)

B. I think

_____ *O, sí* (p. 94)

C. I know

_____ *Creo que* (p. 94)

D. I have a lot of work.

_____ *Lo siento* (p. 94)

E. your mom

_____ *Tengo mucho trabajo.* (p. 94)

F. horse

_____ *gracias* (p. 95)

G. Oh, yes

_____ *chiquita* (p. 98)

H. Don't worry.

_____ *caballo* (p. 98)

I. little one

_____ *No se preocupe.* (p. 98)

J. I'm sorry



5. *Let's write!* Mitch (riding on Chase) comes to the rescue in the nick of time. What might have happened if the girls were left on their own? Finish the story without Mitch's appearance.

Virginia's Riding Lesson: Vocabulary from Context

Circle the correct meaning of the underlined words in the sentences below.

1. Why had she bolted up out of her seat and told Jed that her brother Justin was his lawyer?

Bolted means . . . A. fallen B. held on tightly C. jumped up without thinking

2. Her words had spilled out in a rush of compassion.

Compassion means . . . A. kindness B. regret C. pity

3. "When will my riding lesson commence, Andrea?" Virginia asked.

Commence means . . . A. end B. be allowed C. begin

4. One look at Virginia's fancy getup threw Andi into a dilemma.

A dilemma is . . . A. a horrifying situation B. a difficult situation C. a comical situation

5. "Virginia may find that lovely outfit hot and cumbersome, especially under today's sun."

Cumbersome means . . . A. bulky B. manageable C. unfashionable

6. Virginia looked stricken that somebody on the ranch might see her legs.

Stricken means . . . A. sorrowful B. excited C. shocked

7. "As long as you're patient and don't get cocky," Andi told Virginia.

Cocky means . . . A. restless B. overconfident C. frightened

8. Andi gave the girl's backside a hefty shove, and Virginia plopped down hard in Pal's saddle.

Hefty means . . . A. careful B. sturdy C. light

9. Chad's maverick stallion was up to his old tricks, trying to gather all the mares on the range.

Maverick means . . . A. favorite B. branded C. rebellious

10. "Maybe his saddle will chafe him and drive him back to the barn," Andi said hopefully.

Chafe means . . . A. slip and fall off B. hold together C. rub and annoy

11. Well, *why not*? Andi mused.

Mused means . . . A. complained B. pondered C. hoped

12. "It was probably the most exhilarating moment of my life when you pulled me off Pal."

Exhilarating means . . . A. thrilling B. frightening C. boring

Virginia's Riding Lesson: Victorian Corsets

A corset? Under the yards of hot, heavy fabric, Virginia was wearing a corset? Andi's imagination spun in horror at the thought of Virginia riding a horse in such a tight-fitting undergarment. ~ Chapter Two

What is this “corset” that makes Andi’s mind spin in horror? It was a popular undergarment during the 1700s and 1800s (and into the early 20th century as well) that almost all properly dressed girls and women wore under their dresses to give them a certain shape. Many people were against these dangerous fashion statements (especially doctors) and said women looked like wasps—bees that have what looks like two bodies connected by just a thin thread between them. The tighter the corset was laced, the more “waspy” the style. Worse, if a girl didn’t go along with this, she was considered sloppy and not in style.



A lightweight cloth undergarment went under the corset, then the corset was laced up from the back, like lacing a shoe. The girl sucked a big breath, hung on to something (like a post on a four-poster bed), and the maid, mother, or older sister pulled. Before the girl could breathe and relax, the laces were tied up tight. Some waists were tied at 18 inches, and some girls pressed for a 13 or 14-inch waist! After the corset was laced, the girl could not take a deep breath or eat much (no room left inside her body). But the important thing was . . . the girl was now stylish!

Tight-fitting corsets rearranged a girl’s and woman’s internal organs, making them more prone to fainting, shortness of breath, digestive problems, and heart problems. Wearing a corset during pregnancy (to hide the fact she was pregnant) endangered the baby’s life, since there was less room for the infant to grow.



Most girls from good families were expected to wear a full corset by age fourteen (and even sleep in it). Young ladies’ schools included learning how to reduce a waistline to 14 inches as part of their training! Of course, this mostly affected rich city girls who were not required to do much physical labor. Farmers, ranchers, and middle-class families did not corset their girls as much.

TRY THIS: Find a sewing measuring tape and measure your waist: _____ inches.

Now, pull the tape as tight as you can and see if you can shrink your waist to 14 inches. Were you able to accomplish this? How tight could you pull the measuring tape? _____ inches.

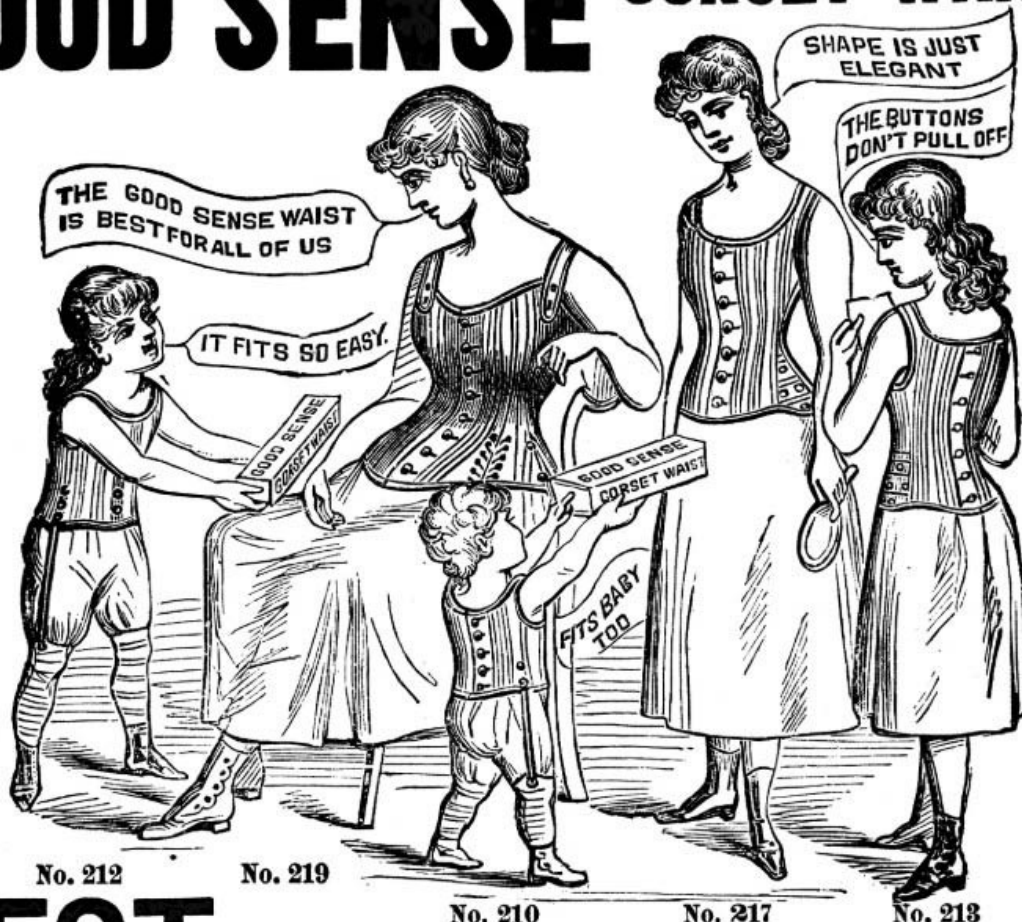
Virginia's Riding Lesson: Victorian Corsets

Can you imagine being squeezed from chest to hips to reduce your waist to 14 (or 18) inches? Look at this ad from an old Victorian magazine. Fill in the style number you would buy if you wanted a corset for these different ages. (Color the advertisement if you like to color).

1. Misses (girls) ages 7-12: Style # _____ or style # _____
2. Children ages 4 to 6: Style # _____ 3. Your baby sister: Style # _____
4. Your mother: Style # _____ 5. Teen girls ages 13-17: Style # _____
6. Which style would your mother need to order for you? _____

A NOT-SO-FUN FACT: For a time, some boys and men wore corsets as well!

GOOD SENSE CORSET WAISTS



BEST FOR HEALTH, COMFORT, WEAR AND FINISH.
MADE OF BEST MATERIAL THROUGHOUT. PERFECT IN FIT.

Style 210 for Infants.
Style 212, Children 4 to 6.
Style 213 or 216, Misses 7 to 12.
Style 217, Misses 13 to 17.
Style 219, for Ladies.

Buttons front instead of clasps. "GOOD SENSE."
Be sure your Corset is stamped

BLOOMINGDALE BROS.

and all other first-class Retailers everywhere.

FOR SALE BY **FERRIS BROS. Manufacturers, 81 White St., New York.**

Tarantula Trouble Chapters 1–5

1. Andi is eager to collect a tarantula as a new pet. She feels experienced in her ability to care for her pets. Besides Taffy, which other animals has she kept? Draw pictures of these “pets.”



2. HOW'S YOUR SPANISH (ESPAÑOL)? Match these Spanish phrases to the English (p. 118).

_____ *Es la hora de cenar.*

A. Hurry up!

_____ *¡Apúrate!*

B. I'm coming!

_____ *¡Ya voy!*

C. It's time for supper



3. List each family's reaction to Andi's news that she has a tarantula for a pet.

Justin: _____ Chad and Mitch: _____

Mother: _____ Melinda: _____

4. *Similes*. Circle the comparing word. Then write the two things that are being compared.

Silence fell like a wet, heavy blanket _____

5. *Similes*. Circle the comparing word. Then write the two things that are being compared.

Her heart dropped like a stone to her belly. _____

6. What does the simile in #5 mean? _____

7. Andi searches but does not find the tarantula. Who finds the spider? _____

Where is the spider eventually found? _____

8. What is Elizabeth Carter's favorite saying? _____

9. Why is Andi not able to return the tarantula to the foothills?

A. She finds him dead in the cage. B. She has to go to Sunday school. C. The cage is empty.

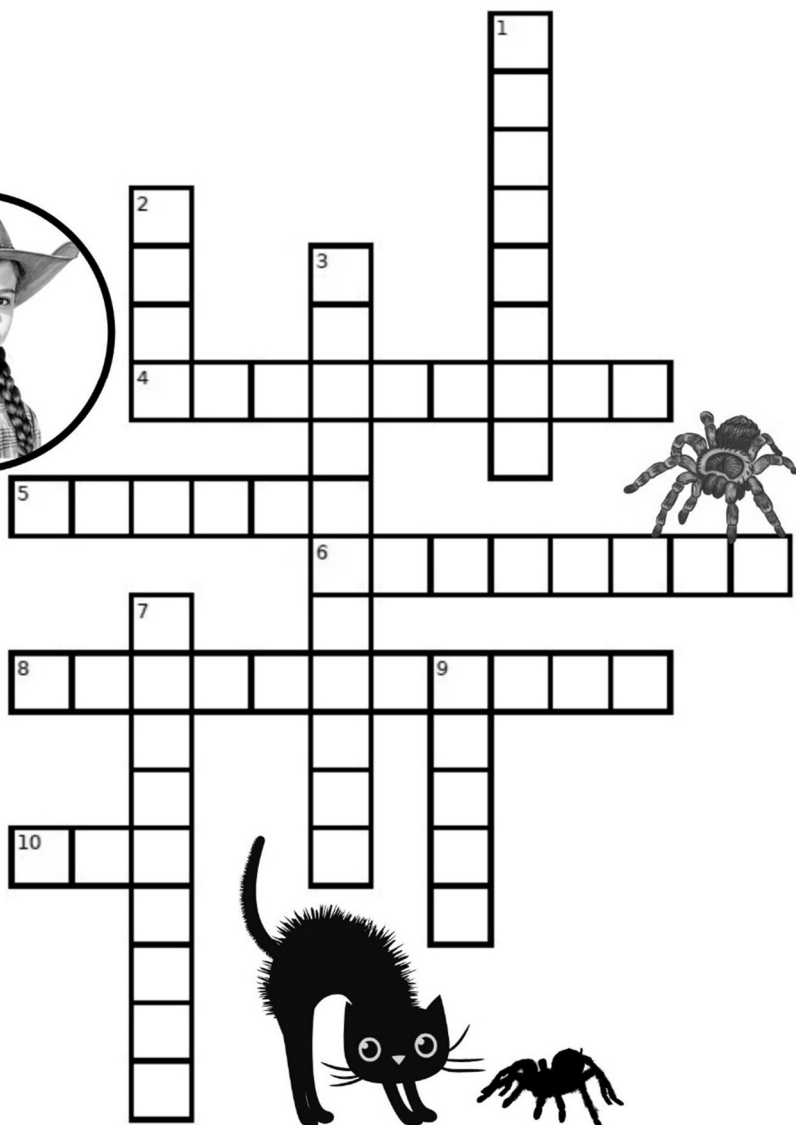
10. Cory tells Andi that his tarantula, Three-fingered Jack, “broke jail.” What does this mean?

11. Write two new things you learned about tarantulas that you did not know before.

Tarantula Trouble: Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle

Use the word bank and the definitions to solve this crossword puzzle of words from the story.

delicate acquired chum merciless snipe-hunt
awe molts jostle confinement exceedingly



ACROSS

- 4. showing no mercy or pity
- 5. to push, bump, or elbow roughly
- 6. easily damaged; fragile
- 8. trapped in captivity
- 10. a feeling of respect, mixed with wonder

DOWN

- 1. bought or obtained something for oneself
- 2. a friend
- 3. extremely
- 7. a practical joke to send someone on the hunt for a nonexistent creature
- 9. when a reptile sheds its skin for a new one

Tarantula Fun!

Watch this one-minute video showing Mrs. M and "Andi" playing with tarantulas.

CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7

Tarantula Trouble: Fascinating Tarantula Facts

Tarantulas are one of the Creator's most fascinating creatures. It's too bad some people have given these spiders a "bad rap" (reputation). Here are some fun facts that might help you decide that tarantulas should be studied and not avoided.

Circle in red the facts that you did not know. Circle in blue the fact you found the most interesting. Would you like to hold a tarantula someday? _____

- *There are over 1,000 different species (kinds) of tarantulas.*
- *Tarantulas can be as small as a fingernail all the way up to the size of a dinner plate!*
- *Most tarantulas live underground. They produce silk, which they use to line their burrows.*
- *All tarantulas are venomous but quiet and docile. Their bite is weaker than a bee sting.*
- *Tarantulas have tiny hairs on their body that they shoot off when they are afraid or threatened. These hairs can get under your skin and irritate you.*
- *Some people in South America and Cambodia roast tarantulas and eat them!*
- *The giant South American "bird-eating" tarantula eats birds. It's bite is fatal to the birds.*
- *Tarantulas come in an amazing variety of colors: black, brown, blond, cobalt blue, black with orange, etc.*
- *Tarantulas grow out of their skin and must molt as they grow larger.*
- *Their lifespan can go up to thirty years (females) and ten years (males).*
- *Many people like to keep tarantulas as pets, but they are good at escaping. They can squeeze through small holes and they are strong enough to lift a lid. They can also chew through wood, cork, and weaken metal.*
- *Tarantulas live in warm places in the savannah, grasslands, rainforest, desert, scrubland, and mountains.*
- *Tarantulas move slowly, but they are great at catching insects, frogs, toads, and mice. They catch their prey with their legs, inject their venom, and also inject an enzyme to turn their prey's bodies into liquid. They then suck it up through their straw-like mouths.*
- *Tarantulas only need to eat once a month (if it's a big meal).*
- *The female tarantula seals her eggs in a cocoon and guards it carefully for six to nine weeks, after which 500 -1,000 baby tarantulas hatch!*
- *After mating, the male tarantula runs away to keep from being eaten by the female.*

A Tarantula Molting (shedding its old skin)

Watch this one-minute video showing a beautiful tarantula spider that has outgrown its old skin molting. Out he (she?) pops and walks away.

CircleCBooks.com/adventures/#tales-7

Answer Key: Other Tales from the Circle C Ranch – 1

Orphan Calf Page 157: Chapters 1-3

Chapter 1

1. One calf should be black with a white face; one calf should be brown with white splotches (large spots).
2. B
3. “as”; triplets to mountain snow
4. warm milk

Chapter 2

5. vulture
6. false
7. circle “as” or “as if”; baby compared to prince of Egypt

Chapter 3

8. The cow should be brown with white splotches (large spots).
9. Sweetie Pie
10. *Possible answers:* Colostrum contains antibodies to help the calf fight off germs; it has more fat, protein, and carbohydrates than regular milk; it has lots of vitamins

Orphan Calf Page 159:

Vocabulary Crossword

Across:

5. lanky
6. bovine
7. smirked
9. tentative
10. protrude
11. funnel

Down:

1. stifle
2. flank
3. defy
4. rummage
6. blistering
8. paddock

Christmas Ball Page 163:

Vocabulary

1. confided
2. skittered
3. hustled
4. by-your-leave
5. quadrilles
6. sheep’s eyes
7. despises
8. tedious
9. spectacle
10. folderol
11. helter-skelter
12. agape; calamity

Orphan Calf Page 158: Chapters 4-6

Chapter 4

1. Turning a “deaf ear” means ignoring someone or not paying attention while someone is speaking.
2. He stands up when he sees her. He drinks every drop of milk. He lets Andi hug and stroke him. He nuzzles her.

3. A

Chapter 5

4. “as”; calf to a wet rag
5. B
6. mucking out Taffy’s stall; cleaning the water trough

Chapter 6

7. Holstein
8. *either one:* She is too busy. The Rocking T is far away.
9. a year later
10. false

Christmas Ball Page 161: Chapters 1-3

Chapter 1

1. “as”; palomino to a new day
2. “like”; heart to a stone
3. She is going to Sacramento to the ball.
4. B

Chapter 2

5. William Geoffrey Irwin the Third
6. Johnny Wilson
7. Cory Blake

Chapter 3

8. rats
9. Neb and Bel
10. They like warm baths. They are very clean. They shake hands with their paws. They stand up on command. They jump through a hoop.

Christmas Ball Page 162:

Chapters 4-6

Chapter 4

1. D, C, E, F, A, B
2. B

Chapter 5

3. “Blue Danube”
4. ----
5. the rats (or) the cat
6. C

Chapter 6

7. Mother
8. She drops the cat onto a tablecloth
9. true

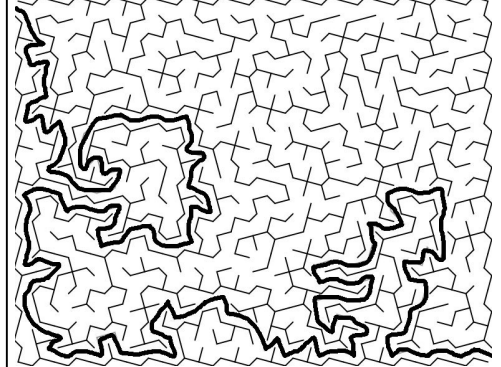
Answer Key: Other Tales from the Circle C Ranch – 2

Race to the Finish Line Page 165:

Chapters 1-4

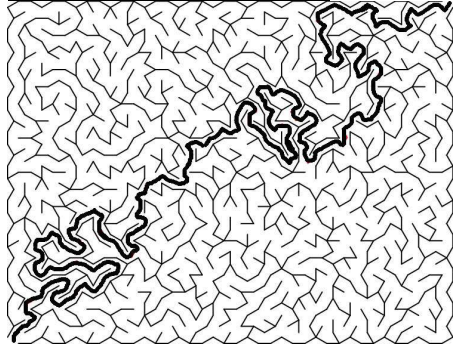
1. Fourth of July
2. Answers will vary.
3. 1) Mother does not want Andi to race against the men.
2) Chase will win anyway, so what's the use?
4. 88° F converts to about 31° Celsius.
5. She will race Taffy.
6. Answers will vary.
7. B, D, E, F, A, C
8. ----

Race to the Finish Line Page 166: Maze



Race to the Finish Line Page 167:

Our Heavenly Race Maze



Snake in a Pail Page 168:

1. Answers will vary.
2. "like"; Cory to a coyote
3. "than"; trouble to a locomotive
4. Answers will vary.
5. to go back to a situation that used to exist because the present one is unpleasant
6. two of these: makes a good pet; lives 15 years; immune to venom; eats rattlesnakes; shy and solitary; can play dead

Snake in a Pail Page 169:

Vocabulary Word Search

- | | | |
|------|------|------|
| 1. C | 4. I | 7. F |
| 2. E | 5. B | 8. G |
| 3. A | 6. D | 9. H |



Snake in a Pail page 170: Map

1. France, Germany, Austria, Italy
2. Bern
3. check map
4. check map

Virginia's Riding Lesson page 171:

Chapters 1-5

1. "like"; offer to a "pistol going off."
2. If you say you will do something, you do it.
3. Answers will vary.
4. E, C, G, B, J, D, A, I, F, H
5. Stories will vary.

Riding Lesson

page 172:

Vocabulary

1. C
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. C
11. B
12. A

Tarantula Trouble page 174:

Chapters 1-5

1. pictures of a lizard, a snake, and a frog
2. C, A, B
3. Justin – shakes his head; Chad & Mitch – smiling; Mother – frowns; Melinda – sucks in a breath and yells "no!"
4. "like"; silence to a wet blanket
5. "like"; heart to a stone
6. It means Andi is frightened or upset.
7. Mitch (or Bella) finds the tarantula in the washroom.
8. "All's well that ends well."
9. C
10. He escaped.
11. Answers will vary.

Tarantula Trouble

page 175: Crossword

Across:

4. merciless
5. jostle
6. delicate
8. confinement
10. awe

Down:

1. acquired
2. chum
3. exceedingly
7. snipe hunt
9. molts