Teacher and Parent Lesson Guide

“Molly Bell and the Wishing Well” Extension

The following extension activities are designed for use with 3rd-5th grade students in conjunction with the middle grade novel “Molly Bell and the Wishing Well”. Its suggested use is as follows:

* *3rd Grade:* Whole class with teacher support or as a guided reading activity with advanced readers
* *4th Grade:* Guided reading activity with average or advanced readers or as a literature circle activity
* *5th Grade:* Independent or partner/small group activity

Each chapter has its own response page and should be distributed separately as the student finishes reading the corresponding chapter. This is deliberate so that students will not look ahead at future chapter questions that may reveal upcoming events in the story.

Both the vocabulary word study and response questions included in this extension support the following ELA Common Core Standards:

*3rd Grade:*

* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1:** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3:** Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

*4th Grade:*

* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.4.A:** Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.4.4.C:** Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation and determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases.

*5th Grade:*

* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.3:** Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
* **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.4:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

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“Molly Bell and the Wishing Well” Extension

Chapter 1

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 5 | **Mischievous** |  |  |  |
| 8 | **Procession** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** How do Molly and Henry differ in how they feel about their parents getting married? Why do you think this is so?

**Response Question 2:** Why was it more difficult for Molly to walk down the church aisle at her father’s wedding than at her mother’s funeral?

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Chapter 2

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| Page # | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 10 | **Precariously** |  |  |  |
| 13 | **Commenced** |  |  |  |
| 16 | **Immaculate** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:**  Why doesn’t Molly want to sit at the head table at the wedding reception? Would you feel the same way in her situation? Why or why not?

**Response Question 2:**  What is your impression so far of Faith? Give evidence from chapter 2 in the text to support your opinion.

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Chapter 3

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 24 | **Sensational** |  |  |  |
| 25 | **Haphazardly** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why didn’t Molly want to dance with Uncle Frank at first? What made her change her mind?

**Response Question 2:** How do you think Molly’s dad, John, is feeling when he says goodbye to Molly at the end of the chapter? Why do you think so?

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Chapter 4

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues? | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 30 | **Accustomed** |  |  |  |
| 36 | **Gruesome** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** On page 33, what do you think Grandpa Cody means when he says “The light has gone out in that girl’s fire.”?

**Response Question 2:** Make a prediction. Do you think Henry will enjoy his visit with Grandma Saige and Grandpa Cody on the farm? Why or why not?

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Chapter 5

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 39 | **Bewildered** |  |  |  |
| 40 | **Exasperated** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why do you think Grandma Saige and Grandpa Cody have the rule that Molly and Henry must eat what is served or go hungry? What about the no games at the table rule?

**Response Question 2:** Grandma Saige tells Henry that Grandpa Cody “doesn’t take it easy on anyone he cares about”. Do you agree that this is a good thing? Why or why not?

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Chapter 6

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 47 | **Daunting** |  |  |  |
| 49 | **Smitten** |  |  |  |
| 50 | **Burdening** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1**: Why do you think Shelby approached Molly even though she doesn’t trust other people?

**Response Question 2:** What is it about being on the farm do you suppose is helping Molly feel more relaxed and at ease?

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Chapter 7

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 57 | **Relentless** |  |  |  |
| 61 | **Renegade** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** How do you think Grandpa Cody’s feelings about Henry have changed after the runaway pig incident? Why?

**Response Question 2:** Why do Grandma Saige and Grandpa Cody feel differently about the wishing well?

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Chapter 8

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 69 | **Maneuver** |  |  |  |
| 73 | **Maintain** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** If you were Molly, would you have snuck outside by yourself in the middle of the night to find the wishing well? Why or why not?

**Response Question 2:** Imagine if Molly’s wish of her mother returning to life comes true. What kind of consequences would there be for the other characters in the story?

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Chapter 9

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 79 | **Jubilant** |  |  |  |
| 80 | **Mutual** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Do you think that Molly would have given in and played soccer if it had been a person who wanted to play instead of Shelby? Why or why not?

**Response Question 2:** One of Molly’s wishes comes true. Do you think this happened because of the wishing well or another reason? Why?

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Chapter 10

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 86 | **Resigned** |  |  |  |
| 90 | **Grimaced** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why do you think Henry prefers helping Grandma Saige rather than joining Molly and Grandpa Cody?

**Response Question 2:** Molly is confused by Grandma Saige’s advice not to focus so much on making wishes, when it was Grandma Saige who encouraged Molly to go to the well in the first place. Why do you think Grandma Saige is growing concerned with Molly’s obsession with the wishing well?

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Chapter 11

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues? | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 99 | **Vintage** |  |  |  |
| 101 | **Retreated** |  |  |  |
| 103 | **Consoled** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** What did Thelma say that Molly liked so much? Why do you think most people never talked about Molly’s mom in front of her?

**Response Question 2:** Describe the different way that Henry reacts when he tastes his root beer float in Chapter 11 compared to how he behaves when he sees unwanted food in Chapters 2 and 5. What do you think has changed in him that has caused him to treat people more respectfully?

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Chapter 12

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 106 | **Overruled** |  |  |  |
| 109 | **Distressed** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** How does Grandma Saige treat Grandpa Cody when he is having his flashback? What do her actions reveal about her character?

**Response Question 2:** Why do you think Grandpa Cody became so angry when he realized the children saw him having his flashback?

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Chapter 13

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 112 | **Intently** |  |  |  |
| 116 | **Convicted** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why do Molly and Grandpa Cody both blame themselves for Henry running away? What advice does Grandma Saige give to them both?

**Response Question 2:** Do you think that Molly would have been so upset about Henry running away if it had happened in the beginning of the story? Why do you think her feelings have changed?

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Chapter 14

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 120 | **Hysteria** |  |  |  |
| 123 | **Grudge** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why do you think Molly wanted to make a cheesecake for Faith?

**Response Question 2**: Why was it easy for Molly to say goodbye to the wishing well?

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Chapter 15

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 125 | **Lingered** |  |  |  |
| 126 | **Shenanigans** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Even though Molly doesn’t care much for jewelry, she likes the necklace her dad and Faith give her. When you receive a gift, is it more important to you what the gift is, or who is giving it to you? Why?

**Response Question 2:** Why do you think it was important that Faith was the one who wanted Molly to keep Shelby? How does this change the relationship between Molly and Faith?

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Chapter 16

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| Page #: | Vocabulary Word: | Write the complete sentence with the word from the text: | What do you think the word means based on the context clues: | Look it up! Give the definition of the word using a dictionary: |
| 132 | **Forgo** |  |  |  |
| 133 | **Antics** |  |  |  |

**Response Question 1:** Why do you think Molly is not bothered as much by Henry’s silly behavior at the end of the story compared to the beginning of the story?

**Response Question 2:** Why was it for the best that Molly and Aunt Joan’s wishes didn’t turn out exactly as they had hoped?