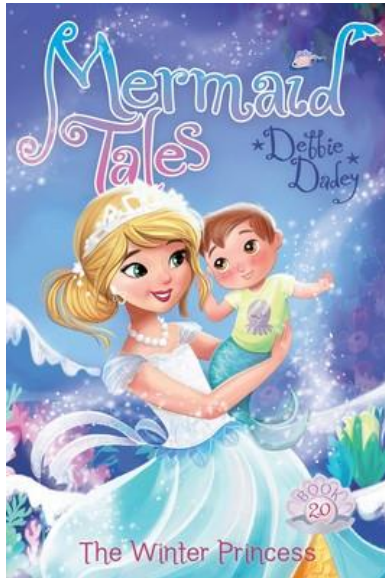


Mermaid Tales

A Teaching Unit

The Winter Princess



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www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey

Books in the Mermaid Tales series include (also available in hardback and digital):

Trouble at Trident Academy ISBN-13: 978-1442429802

Battle of the Best Friends ISBN-13: 978-1442429826

A Whale of a Tale ISBN-13: 978-1442429840

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea ISBN-13: 978-1442429864

The Lost Princess ISBN-13: 978-1442482579

The Secret Sea Horse ISBN-13: 978-1442482609

Dream of the Blue Turtle ISBN-13: 978-1442482630

Treasure in Trident City ISBN-13: 978-1442482661

A Tale of Two Sisters ISBN-13: 978-1481402576

The Polar Bear Express ISBN-13: 978-1481402606

Wish Upon a Starfish ISBN-13: 978-1481402637

The Crook and the Crown ISBN-13: 978-1481440752

Twist and Shout ISBN-13: 978-1481440783-

Books vs Looks ISBN-13: 978-1481440813

Flower Girl Dreams ISBN-13: 978-1481440851

Ready, Set, Goal! ISBN-13: 978-1481487085

Fairy Chase ISBN-13 978-1481487115

The Narwhal Problem ISBN-13 978-1481487146

The Winter Princess ISBN-13 978-1481487184

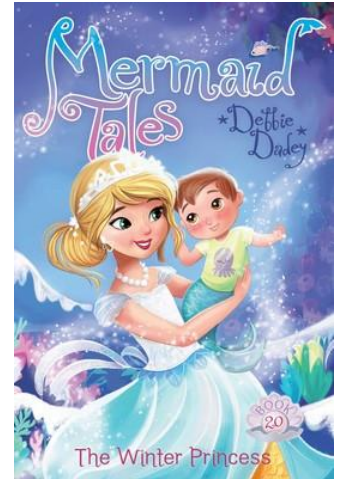
Illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Book Summary:

Pearl is so excited to be selected to be this year's Winter Princess, but there's a huge problem! Will Pearl's new baby brother destroy everything for her?



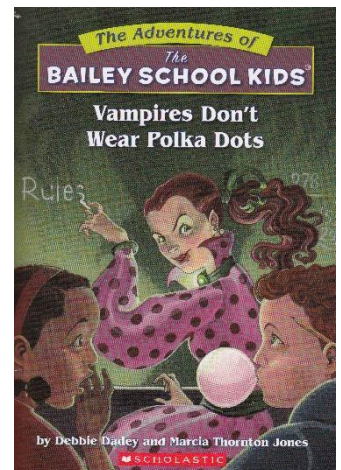
Meet the author:

Debbie Dadey is the author and co-author of 166 children's books, including The Mermaid Tales and The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids books. A former librarian and teacher, Debbie and her husband, Eric, live in a log cabin in the Smoky Mountains. They have three children, one of whom is adopted just like Rocky and Pearl's brother.

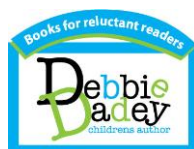


Photo credit to Don Fields

Debbie's first book was Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots, which she wrote with Marcia Jones. Find out more about Debbie at www.debbiedadey.com and www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey. You can also find Debbie on Twitter and Pinterest. She would love to visit or Skype with your classroom.



www.debbiedadey.com



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Mermaid Tale book illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

Mermaid Tales

DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit www.debbiedadey.com

Ghosts Don't Eat Potato Chips

Wish Upon a Star Fish

Werewolves Don't Run for President

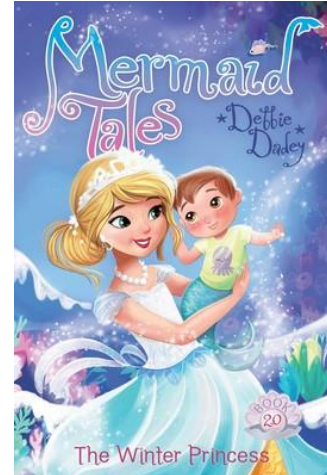
Will Rogers Larger Than Life

The Worst Name in Third Grade

This Side of Magic

Dragons Don't Throw Snowballs

Books vs Looks



Pre-reading activities: Before reading **The Winter Princess** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills. The next two pages have pre-reading activities to try as well.

1. Let students vote in a secret ballot for their favorite season of the year. Tally the scores on the board or using the following sheet. Make a bar graph of the results.
2. Let each student give a 30 second speech on why a season is their favorite.
3. Let students make posters or mini videos to show what they love about their favorite season.
4. Take another vote in a secret ballot for each student's favorite season of the year. Tally the scores on the board or using the following sheet. Did the numbers change? Discuss why students think any changes may have occurred.
5. Tell students they are going to read a book about a winter festival. Discuss if anyone has ever been to such a festival. What did they see there?

Mermaid Tales



THE WINTER PRINCESS

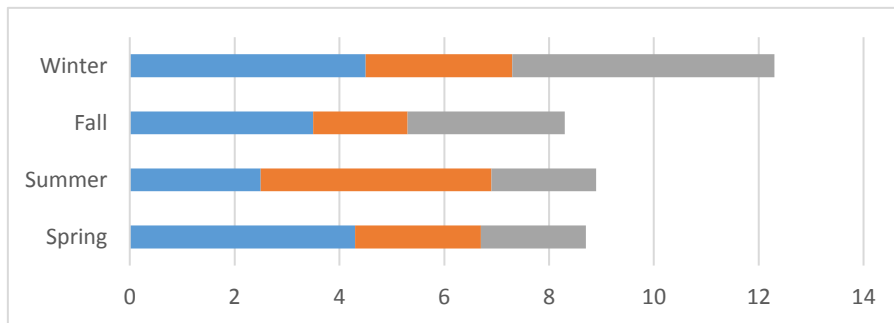
Pre-reading activity/tally votes

Name:	Date:
-------	-------

Spring:	Summer:
Fall:	Winter:

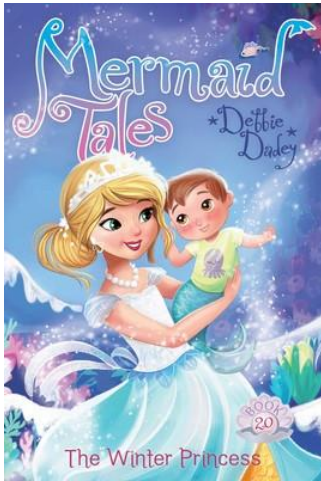
WHICH SEASON WON? WHY DO YOU THINK IT WON?

ON THE BACK DRAW A BAR GRAPH OF THE SEASONS USING THE DATA ABOVE.



CCSS.Math.Content.2.MD.D.10

ANSWERS WILL VARY. ABOVE IS AN EXAMPLE OF A BAR GRAPH.



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS Pre-reading activity

Campaign for your season

What is your favorite season? _____

Name three reasons why you like that season.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Make up a campaign slogan to promote your season to your class.

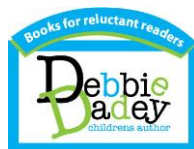
What is your least favorite season? _____ Name one thing that is similar about it and your favorite season. Name one thing about your least favorite season that is totally different from your favorite season.

1. _____
2. _____

Use your slogan to make a mini poster or on the back to prove your season is the best!

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10)

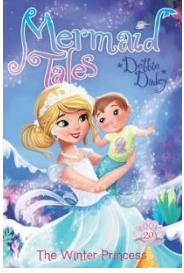
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[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.9](https://www.illustrations.com/CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.9) Answers will vary

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Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Pre-reading activity

New words To Learn for The Winter Princess

Chapter 1

academy	adopting	craft
museum	hobby	Daughter

Chapter 2 and 3

headache	trumpet	squeezed
instrument	brothers	diapers

Chapter 4 and 5

squeal	Infants	electric
department	attention	Assignment

Chapter 6 and 7

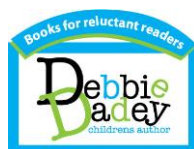
adorable	squalled	rumbling
estimate	huddling	muffs

Chapter 8 – 11

woven	silvery	ushered	compliment
carpet	museum	gorgeous	hovered
vision	apartment	necessary	attendants

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](https://www.debbiedadey.com)

E/LA Common Core Standards for Reading Grade 3 RL.3.4

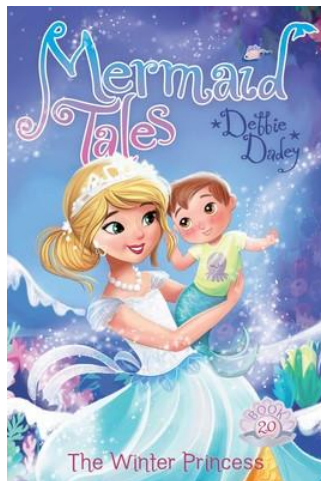


Mermaid Tales

FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS FOR THE WINTER PRINCESS

- Fill a tray with whipped or shaving cream (pretend snow) and let students practice writing the vocabulary words with their fingers in the snow.
- Let students cut out their own snowflakes and put a vocabulary word on each one. Use them to decorate the classroom door. Upon entering the room students must touch a snowflake and say a word.
- Have a word race. Call out the word and let students race to find the word in the chapter.
- Let students divide the back of this page into four squares. Challenge them to create a cartoon strip using at least one of the vocabulary words.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 1/comprehension

NAME:

DATE:

In chapter one of Mermaid Tales #20 Pearl is excited to tell her mom that she has been selected to be the Winter Princess. What happens?

Does Pearl get to share her news with her mother? _____

Why not?

What is her mother's news? _____

Is Pearl excited about her mother's news? _____

Name a time when you have been excited about something.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10](#)

Answers will vary

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 2/music

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Write about four different musical instruments in the cards below. There are four types (or families) of instruments strings, woodwind, brass and percussion. Which of the four is your favorite?

_____ [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10](#)

Mermaid Tales

Name an instrument: _____

What family does it belong to? _____

Describe or tell one interesting thing about this instrument: _____

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Mermaid Tales

Name an instrument: _____

What family does it belong to? _____

Describe or tell one interesting thing about this instrument: _____

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Mermaid Tales

Name an instrument: _____

What family does it belong to? _____

Describe or tell one interesting thing about this instrument: _____

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Mermaid Tales

Name an instrument: _____

What family does it belong to? _____

Describe or tell one interesting thing about this instrument: _____

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Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS Chapter 3/predicting, sequencing, and researching

NAME:

DATE:

BEFORE READING CHAPTER THREE: In *The Winter Princess*, Kiki tells about things she did with her brothers. Can you predict some things they did?

AFTER READING CHAPTER THREE: Put these events in order by putting a number at the front of each sentence.

___ Kiki tells about her brother playing pranks on her.

___ Pearl says she doesn't want to change poopy diapers.

___ Wanda says her little sister blew bubbles and squeezed her finger.

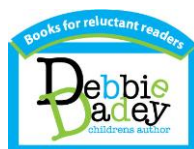
___ Pearl is going to tell her parents she wants a quiet baby.

Here is a list of some of the animals in our story. Select one. Cut two eight inch heavy paper circles. Divide one into eights. Research your animal and write a different fact in each section. Cut out a one eighth section from the other circle, decorate it, and place it on top of the first circle. Attach the two circles. Now you have a fact wheel to share with your class.

black marlin catfish gray heron killer whale mauve stinger jellyfish sea horse
trumped fish spotted eagle ray

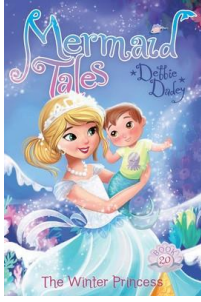
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1](https://www.illustrations.com)

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Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS Chapter 3 predicting, sequencing, and researching

NAME:

Answers

DATE:

BEFORE READING CHAPTER THREE: In *The Winter Princess*, Kiki tells about things she did with her brothers. Can you predict some things they did?

_____ answers will vary _____

AFTER READING CHAPTER THREE: Put these events in order by putting a number at the front of each sentence.

___1___ Kiki tells about her brother playing pranks on her.

___4___ Pearl says she doesn't want to change poopy diapers.

___3___ Wanda says her little sister blew bubbles and squeezed her finger.

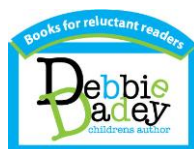
___2___ Pearl is going to tell her parents she wants a quiet baby.

Here is a list of some of the animals in our story. Select one. Cut two eight inch heavy paper circles. Divide one into eights. Research your animal and write a different fact in each section. Cut out a one eighth section from the other circle, decorate it, and place it on top of the first circle. Attach the two circles. Now you have a fact wheel to share with your class. **Answers will vary**

black marlin catfish gray heron killer whale mauve stinger jellyfish sea horse
trumped fish spotted eagle ray

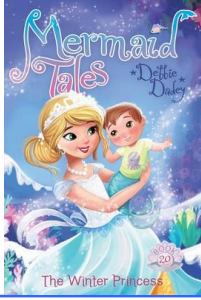
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Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 4/parts of speech

NAME:

DATE:

There are two basic parts of sentences, nouns and verbs. Nouns are a person, place, or thing. Underline the nouns in the sentences below. Pronouns are words that stand for nouns, such as I, us, we, me, you, and she. Circle any pronouns. Put a square around the verb showing how merpeople move. An adjective is something that describes a noun. Put a star around the adjective that tells how babies can smell! Put a star around an adjective that is a color word.

1. Mrs. Swamp put a hand to her mouth.
2. Pearl couldn't wait any longer.
3. We need to get you a lovely new dress.
4. Pearl knew it was time to say something about stinky babies.
5. Her mother looked up from a pretty green gown.
6. Pearl's mother was interrupted by her father.
7. Mr. and Mrs. Swamp held hands and floated toward the infants' section of the store.
8. She hadn't gotten her dress, and her mother had forgotten all about her again!

Name two things that could be good about having a brother or sister.

1. _____

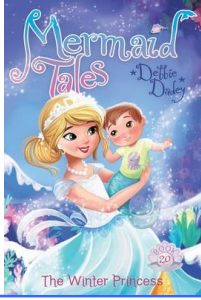
2. _____

Name two things that could be good about having a brother or sister.

1. _____

2. _____

E/LA Common Core Standards for reading Grade 3 RI.3.9 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.1.b



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 4/parts of speech

NAME:

answers

DATE:

There are two basic parts of sentences, nouns and verbs. Nouns are a person, place, or thing. Underline the nouns in the sentences below. Pronouns are words that stand for nouns, such as I, us, we, me, you, and she. Circle any pronouns. Put a square around the verb showing how merpeople move. An adjective is something that describes a noun. Put a star around the adjective that tells how babies can smell! Put a star around an adjective that is a color word.

1. Mrs. Swamp put a hand to her mouth.
2. Pearl couldn't wait any longer.
3. We need to get you a lovely new dress.
4. Pearl knew it was time to say something about stinky babies.
5. Her mother looked up from a pretty green gown.
6. Pearl's mother was interrupted by her father. (Pearl describes Mother here, but could be accepted).
7. Mr. and Mrs. Swamp held hands and floated toward the infants' section of the store.
8. She hadn't gotten her dress, and her mother had forgotten all about her again!

Name two things that could be bad about having a brother or sister. **Answers will vary**

1. _____

2. _____

Name two things that could be good about having a brother or sister. **Answers will vary**

1. _____

2. _____

E/LA Common Core Standards for reading Grade 3 RI.3.9 **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.1.b**

Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 5/comprehension and research

NAME:

DATE:

Read chapter five and then answer true or false to these questions to test your stingray knowledge.

1. The spotted eagle ray is a terrible swimmer. _____
2. You should approach a stingray by yourself. _____
3. The Atlantic torpedo ray has a pretty pink belly. _____
4. Electric rays make enough electricity to shock a person. _____
5. Stingrays are usually square-shaped. _____
6. There is only one type of stingray. _____

Pick a type of stingray and name five things about it. _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

E/LA Common Core Standards for reading Grade 3 RI.3.9 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.7

Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 5/comprehension and research

NAME:

answers

DATE:

Read chapter five and then answer true or false to these questions to test your stingray knowledge.

1. The spotted eagle ray is a terrible swimmer. _____ **false** _____
2. You should approach a stingray by yourself. _____ **false** _____
3. The Atlantic torpedo ray has a pretty pink belly. _____ **false** _____
4. Electric rays make enough electricity to shock a person. _____ **true** _____
5. Stingrays are usually square-shaped. _____ **false** _____
6. There is only one type of stingray. _____ **false** _____

Pick a type of stingray and name five things about it. **answers will vary** _____

1. _____

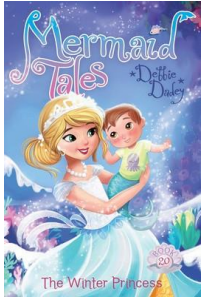
2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

E/LA Common Core Standards for reading Grade 3 RI.3.9 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.7



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 6/narrative

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

In *The Winter Princess*, the mer-students are supposed to write a narrative story where they pretend to be a type of ray. Pick a type of ray and write your own narrative in the space below. Remember to tell the story from the point of view of your ray (you are the ray!) Think of a problem your ray could have and have fun with the adventure! Use the back if you need more space. Bonus: Draw your ray on the back!

Type of ray I picked: _____

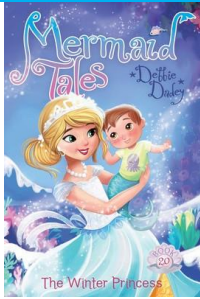
Problem my ray will have: _____

My ray's name: _____

Title of my story: _____

My story:

Answers will vary CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3.A CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3.B



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 7/[CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.A.3](#)

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

In The Winter Princess, Pearl and her father shop for a new dress. Pretend you are shopping and have 200 shells to spend! What would you buy if you have to spend it all at MerLinda's?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Things to buy at MerLinda's.

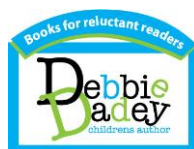
New book 20 shells	Fancy dress 50 shells
Fancy suit 100 shells	Diamond necklace 150 shells
Best toy ever 20 shells	A bag of your favorite candy 20 shells
Best shoes ever 10	A present for someone 50

Use the space below to add up your purchases. Did you spend almost all or all of your 200 shells? Use the back if you need more space.

Answers will vary

[CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.A.3](#)

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Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 8/CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.9 CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.MD.A.2

NAME:

DATE:

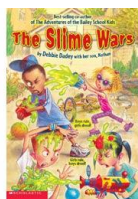
In the Winter Princess, Pearl gets slimed by her little brother! Author Debbie Dadey wrote about slime in another book as well. She wrote Slime Time with her son. Read both stories and then compare and contrast them in the space below. Put how they are different in the space above each book and how they are the same in the middle section. But first, make some slime using the recipe below! **Answers will vary**

Slime Recipe!

Mix 1 teaspoon of borax in $\frac{1}{4}$ liter of water, stir until dissolved.

In a separate container, mix 100 ml (4 oz.) white glue with 160 ml water. Add food coloring, if desired.

Mix together to make slime. You may need to adjust the amounts.





Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 9/geography and research

NAME:

DATE:

In *The Winter Princess*, the characters visit a museum. Use your research skills to match these famous museums with the country where they are located. Circle the museum if you've ever visited it. Ask your teacher if you can do a field trip (or a virtual field trip) to a nearby museum.

Louvre

United Kingdom

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

France

Vatican

United States

British Museum

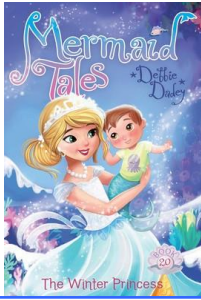
Vatican City

Pick one of the museums above and list some things that are found in that museum.

My museum: _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1](#)



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

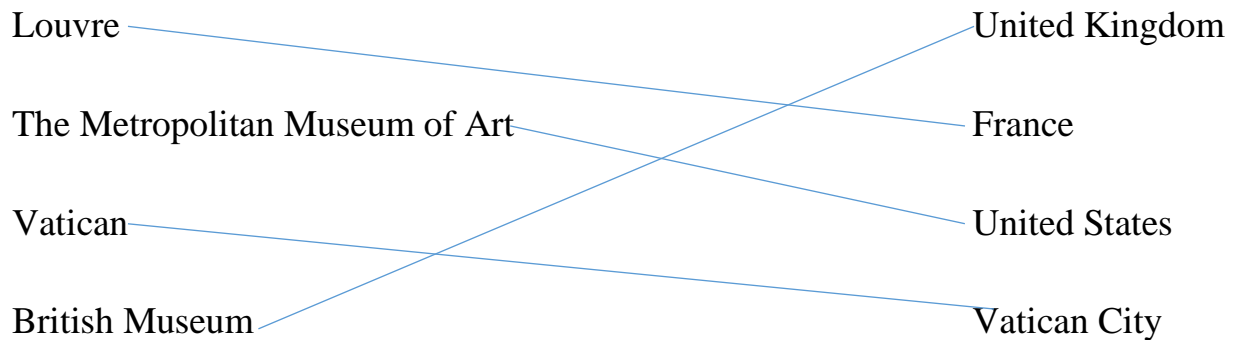
Chapter 9/geography and research

NAME:

answers

DATE:

In *The Winter Princess*, the characters visit a museum. Use your research skills to match these famous museums with the country where they are located. Circle the museum if you've ever visited it. Ask your teacher if you can do a field trip (or a virtual field trip) to a nearby museum.

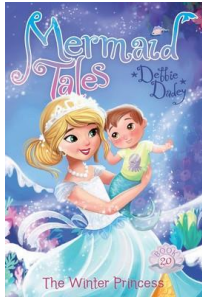


Pick one of the museums above and list some things that are found in that museum.

My museum: _____ answers will vary

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1](#)



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 10/manners

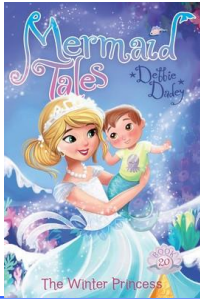
NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Can you guess which of these are proper manners? Mark these actions real or crazy!

Real or crazy manners?

1. It is proper manners (behavior) to stand when a lady enters the room. _____
2. Always introduce the younger person to first. "Mary, please meet my mother." _____
3. When you meet a king or queen, you say, "How do you do, Your Majesty." _____
4. You should interrupt your friends and parents whenever possible. _____
5. You should say "Thank you" when you receive a compliment. _____
6. It is best to play on your phone the entire time you eat. _____
7. Thank you notes are so out of style. _____
8. Gentlemen should open a door for a lady. _____
9. You should always hang a napkin around your neck to avoid spills. _____
10. It is okay to talk during movies, especially quiet ones. _____
11. Gentlemen should wait for ladies to be seated first. _____
12. Hats should be worn all the time. _____
13. It is okay to talk about poop when eating lunch. _____



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 10/manners

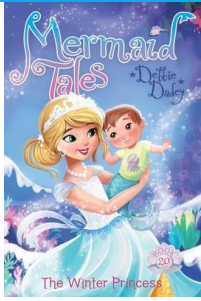
NAME: _____ answers

DATE: _____

Can you guess which of these are proper manners? Mark these actions real or crazy!

Real or crazy manners?

1. It is proper manners (behavior) to stand when a lady enters the room. **Real. This is tradition.**
2. Always introduce the younger person to first. "Mary, please meet my mother." **Crazy, the oldest person should be named first.**
3. When you meet a king or queen, you say, "How do you do, Your Majesty." _____ **Real**
4. You should interrupt your friends and parents whenever possible. _____ **Crazy**
5. You should say "Thank you" when you receive a compliment. _____ **Real**
6. It is best to play on your phone the entire time you eat. _____ **Crazy**
7. Thank you notes are so out of style. _____ **Crazy**
8. Gentlemen should open a door for a lady. _____ **Real. This is tradition.**
9. You should always hang a napkin around your neck to avoid spills. _____ **Crazy**
10. It is okay to talk during movies, especially quiet ones. _____ **Crazy**
11. Gentlemen should wait for ladies to be seated first. _____ **Real. This is tradition.**
12. Hats should be worn all the time. **Crazy. Traditionally men remove their hats inside.**
13. It is okay to talk about poop when eating lunch. _____ **Crazy**



Mermaid Tales

THE WINTER PRINCESS

Chapter 12/Community

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

In *The Winter Princess*, the Winter Festival is a fundraiser to help needy families.

It is actually a lot of work to put on a fundraiser. You must get sponsors, giveaways, entertainment, and a way to make money. If you could put on your own fundraiser who would you ask for donations? *Answers will vary.*

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

If you could put on your own fundraiser who would you ask for giveaway?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

If you could put on your own fundraiser who would you ask to entertain you?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

If you could put on your own fundraiser how would you make money?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

If you could put on your own fundraiser where would you give the money?
