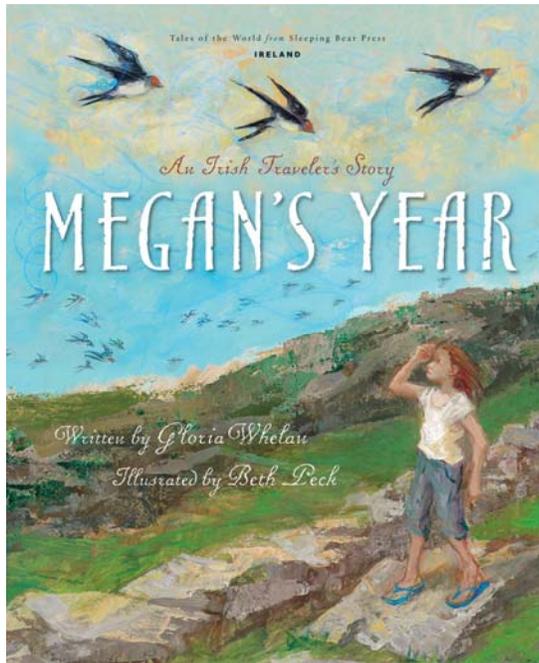


Teacher's Guide



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Author: Gloria Whelan

Illustrator: Beth Peck

Guide written by Jillian Hume

**This guide may be reproduced with this express written consent
of Sleeping Bear Press**

Published by:

**Sleeping Bear Press
315 E. Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 200
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
800-487-2323**

www.sleepingbearpress.com



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

5 W's Chart



Below is a "5 W's" chart. After reading *Megan's Year*, fill out the chart. Be sure to use complete sentences.

Who are the characters?	
What is the main idea of the story?	
Where does the story take place?	
Why were the characters doing what they did?	
When did the story take place?	

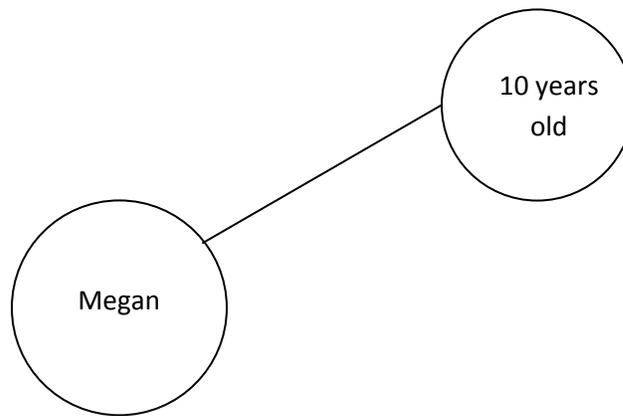


Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Character Web



After reading *Megan's Year*, create a character web for Megan. List physical traits, personality traits, hobbies, likes, dislikes, and any other facts about Megan that you can find.





Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Secret Code



Use the secret code below to solve the questions below.

Example: R A I N
18 1 9 14

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. What does Megan's dad do in Dublin during the winter to make money for their family?

8 5 19 5 12 12 19 19 3 18 1 16 13 5 20 1 12

2. Why do they leave Mr. O'Connor's field?

8 5 2 15 21 7 8 20 1 13 1 3 8 9 14 5

20 15 3 21 12 20 9 22 1 20 5 8 9 19

3 18 15 16 19



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Reading the Temperature

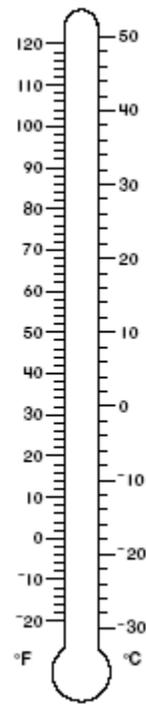
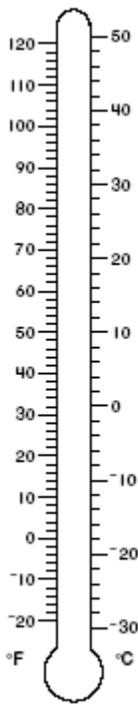
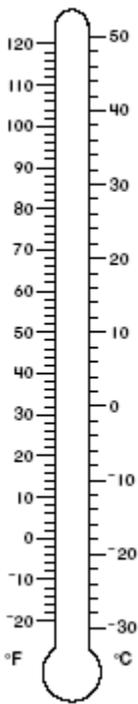


For each thermometer below, a temperature is given. Color in the thermometer to show the correct temperature, then write the equivalent temperature in Celsius. On the lines below the thermometers, describe an outfit that you might wear during each temperature.

1. $35^{\circ}\text{F} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}^{\circ}\text{C}$

2. $72^{\circ}\text{F} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}^{\circ}\text{C}$

3. $-5^{\circ}\text{F} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}^{\circ}\text{C}$



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

True or False



After reading *Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story*, read the statements below. If the statement is true, write "T" on the line before the sentence. If the statement is false, write an F on the line and rewrite the sentence to make it true.

1. _____ Travelers never know where they are going to go next, so when they see other Travelers they are never sure if they can trust them or not.

2. _____ *Gammon* is the Travelers' secret language. Travelers never tell a non-Traveler what a Gammon word means.

3. _____ The Travelers sat around the campfire telling stories of the old days so that someone could record them and write them in a history book.

4. _____ The Flynns pay the children to pick raspberries.

5. _____ Megan's mom is happiest in the city, and her father likes the life of a Traveler the best.

6. _____ While in the city, Megan and her family live in a tigin. Although each tigin looks the same, everyone in her family has their own bedroom



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story
Math Word Problems



1. How many different outfits can Megan wear if she has one yellow shirt, one pink shirt, one green shirt, one pair of blue jeans, and one skirt? Draw each outfit combination in the space below.
2. Megan and the kids go fishing in the stream. Mr. Flynn lets them keep half of what they catch. The other half goes to him. Fill out the table below to find out how many fish Mr. Flynn got in total.

		Mr. Flynn
Megan	6	3
Maeve	4	
Mary	10	
Tim	8	
Jimmy	12	
TOTAL FISH:		

3. Mr. Flynn pays the kids to pick raspberries. He pays them \$1.50 per pound. If they pick four pounds all together, how much do they get paid?
4. If the school day at St. John's National School starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m., how long is the school day?
5. In the summer, Megan spotted swallows flying in the sky above her. They were flying in groups of eight. There were six groups. Draw a picture to show what they may have looked like. How many swallows were there in all?

Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Test Like Questions



After reading *Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story*, circle the correct answer to each question below.

1. Megan and her family travel around the country of _____.
 - a. The United States
 - b. Europe
 - c. Poland
 - d. Ireland
2. Why don't they stay by the pond?
 - a. The party was too noisy
 - b. They were not wanted there
 - c. They were running out of money
 - d. They were running out of room
3. The Travelers don't have history books, but _____.
 - a. memoirs and diaries
 - b. nothing, they only worry about the future
 - c. songs and stories
 - d. paintings and pictures
4. What does Megan's mother buy with the money she gets from selling clothes that people give her?
 - a. school uniforms and books
 - b. clothes for the children
 - c. food
 - d. a new caravan
5. Megan and her family _____ in a tingin during the winter.
 - a. shower
 - b. drive
 - c. live
 - d. cook
6. True or false, Megan wants to live on the road when she grows up.
 - a. True
 - b. False





Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story
Vocabulary



Draw a line from the word to the definition. Then, write two complete sentences using two of the vocabulary words.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1. buffers | a. the secret language used by Travelers, sometimes called <i>Shelta</i> |
| 2. caravan | b. the Irish police |
| 3. euro | c. outsiders (people with permanent homes) |
| 4. gammon | d. the currency of Ireland and of the countries in the European Union |
| 5. garda | e. dried-out peat sod used for fuel in fireplaces |
| 6. tigin | f. camper or trailer |
| 7. turf | g. the Irish word for a small hut or house |

8. _____

9. _____

Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Fact or Opinion



After reading *Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story*, tell which statements are fact and which statements are opinions. Indicate whether each statement is a fact or opinion by writing "fact" or "opinion" on the line next to each sentence.

A **fact** is something that can be proved true.

An **opinion** is someone's feelings about a particular topic.

1. _____ Summer is the best season of the year.
2. _____ Megan is ten years old.
3. _____ Fishing is fun.
4. _____ Tim and Jimmy are Megan's twin brothers.
5. _____ Everyone likes to use machines on their farm.
6. _____ Being a Traveler is the perfect lifestyle.
7. _____ In the winter, they travel to Dublin.
8. _____ Living in the city is easier than traveling.
9. _____ Megan and her sister share a bed in their tigin.
10. _____ Megan goes to St. John's National School.



Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story



Personification

Personification is giving human traits (qualities, feeling, characteristics, actions) to nonliving things or animals, so that the reader can visualize the action or emotion. Pick one noun and one verb. Write them next to each other, and create a single personification sentence.

Example: stone listens The stone listens carefully to the grass as it grows around it

List A

River
Fish
Tigin
Flower
Rainbow
Raspberries
Caravan

List B

Takes
Guides
Remembers
Brings
Reminds
Teaches
Dances

For the first sentence, you must use one word from list A, and one word from list B. For the second and third sentences, you may choose your own nouns and verbs.

#1 List A Noun: _____ List B Verb: _____

Sentence: _____

#2 Noun: _____ Verb: _____

Sentence: _____

#3 Noun: _____ Verb: _____

Sentence: _____

Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story | 9781585364497

Illustrations copyright © Beth Peck

Sleeping Bear Press | 800-487-2323 | www.sleepingbearpress.com

Contractions

In many books, including *Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story*, the author uses contractions. A contraction is the shortened form of a word with the missing letter replaced by an apostrophe (').

Write the word that each contraction stands for.



1. don't _____
2. can't _____
3. I'm _____
4. he's _____
5. you're _____
6. isn't _____
7. won't _____
8. haven't _____
9. she'll _____
10. I'd _____

Look through *Megan's Year* and find contractions. Record your answers in the chart below.

<u>Contraction</u>	<u>Word Meaning</u>

Megan's Year: An Irish Traveler's Story

Answer Key

Secret Code: 1) He sells scrap metal. 2) He bought a machine to cultivate his crops.

Reading the Temperature:

- 1) 35°F = Between 1 and 2°C (~1.67) : Boots, coat, hat, mittens
2) 72°F = Between 22 and 23°C (~22.22) : Shorts, t-shirt, sandals
3) -5°F = Between -20 and -21°C (~-20.55) : Snow pants, boots, hat, mittens, scarf, coat

True or False: 1)False: They trust each other more than they trust buffers. 2) True 3)False: They didn't have history books, they used songs and stories 4) True 5) True 6) False: Three girls sleep in one bed, two brothers in another.

Math Word Problems:

- 1) 6 outfit combinations: jeans & yellow shirt, jeans & pink shirt, jeans & green shirt, skirt & yellow shirt, skirt & pink shirt, skirt & green shirt 2) (See chart below) 3) $\$1.50 \times 4 = \6 4) 6.5 hours
5) $8 \times 6 = 48$

		Mr. Flynn
Megan	6	3
Maeve	4	2
Mary	10	5
Tim	8	4
Jimmy	12	6
TOTAL FISH:		20

Test-Like Questions: 1) d 2) b 3) c 4)a 5) c 6)a

Vocabulary: 1) c 2) f 3)d 4)a 5)b 6) g 7)e

Fact or Opinion: 1)Opinion 2)Fact 3)Opinion 4)Fact 5) Opinion 6)Opinion 7)Fact
8)Opinion 9)Fact 10)Fact

Contractions: 1) Do not 2) can not 3) I am 4) he is 5) you are 6) is not 7) will not 8)
have not 9) she will 10) I would