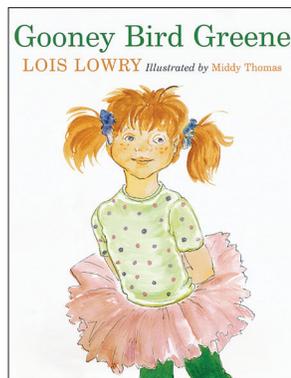
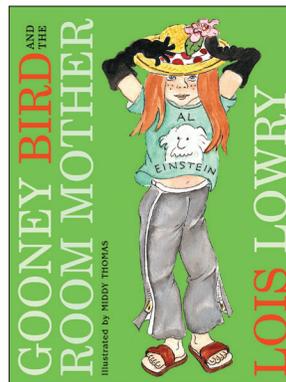


Gooney Bird Greene

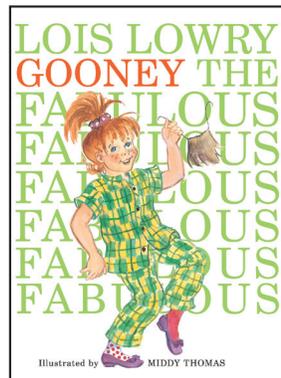
by Lois Lowry
illustrated by Middy Thomas



Gooney Bird Greene



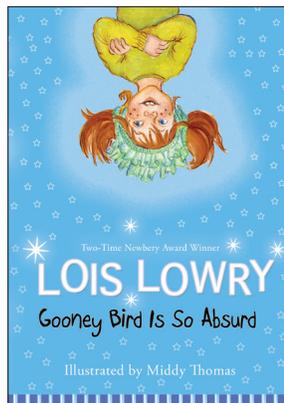
Gooney Bird and the Room Mother



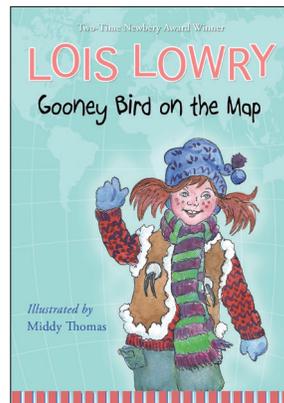
Gooney the Fabulous

About the series:

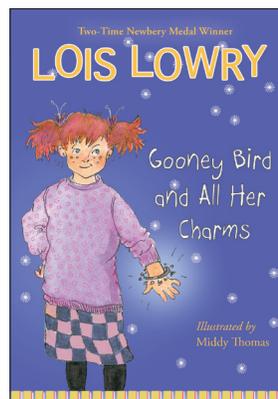
Gooney Bird is not your average second-grader. First there are her marvelous outfits—like the pajamas and cowboy boots she wore on her first day at Watertown Elementary. But there are also the amazing stories she tells and her excellent ability to accessorize, all while being a good friend. Join Mrs. Pidgeon's classroom and learn along with Gooney Bird and her colorful classmates.



Gooney Bird Is So Absurd



Gooney Bird on the Map



Gooney Bird and All Her Charms

About the author and illustrator:

The two-time Newbery Award-winning author Lois Lowry has been friends with the illustrator Middy Thomas for many years. They laughed so much and for so long while working on the Gooney Bird Greene books that they had a hard time getting them completed! The pair are thrilled to share these books with children.

Common Core curriculum standards:

This guide is aligned with the standards for second grade. To find the grade-level equivalent for your students, visit the Common Core website at www.corestandards.org.

Reading Standards for Literature: Key Ideas and Details

RL1: Ask and answer such questions as who, what, when, where, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

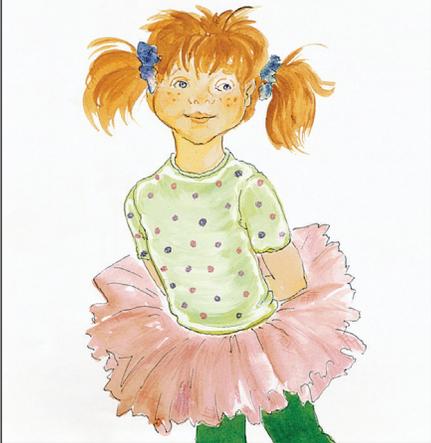
RL 3: Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.

Craft and Structure:

RL 5: Describe the overall structure of the story, including describing how the beginning introduces the story and the ending concludes the action.

Gooney Bird Greene

LOIS LOWRY *Illustrated by Middy Thomas*



Gooney Bird Greene

Gooney Bird Greene

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

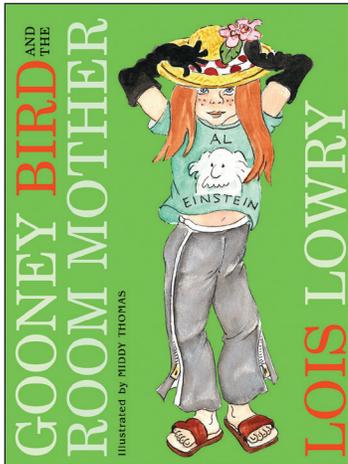
1. Describe Gooney Bird Greene. How would she fit into your class? Do you, like Gooney Bird, like to be “smack dab in the middle of everything”?
2. Mrs. Pidgeon’s class is talking about how to write or tell a good story. What do all stories need?
3. What makes Gooney Bird Greene a great storyteller? Is there a difference between good storytelling and good writing?
4. Which of the stories that Gooney Bird tells is your favorite? Why?
5. Who are the main characters in this story? How do you get to know them?

As you read *Gooney Bird Greene* complete the following graphic organizer based on the stories that she tells.

Story	Characters in the story	In the beginning...	In the middle...	In the end...
How Gooney Bird Greene Got Her Name				
Magic Carpet Ride				
Prince, Palace and Diamond Earrings				
Why Gooney Bird Was Late For School				
Catman Consumed by a Cow				

Project:

Find out the story of how you got your name. Then, as a class, take turns sharing your stories. Be sure that each one has all the important parts of a story!



Gooney Bird and the Room Mother

Gooney Bird and the Room Mother

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

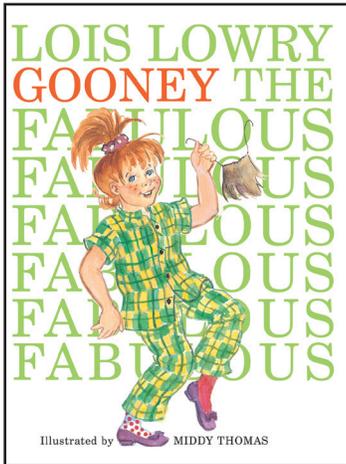
1. What holiday is Mrs. Pidgeon's class preparing for?
2. What problem does Mrs. Pidgeon's class have? How does Gooney Bird Greene solve it?
3. Would you like to have a lead role in a play or not? Why?
4. How did the second grade class get new dictionaries?
5. Do you know how to look up words in a dictionary? Give three tips on how to find words.

There are lots of new words in this Gooney Bird book! As you read, color or place a check mark in the box that best describes how well you know the word.

New Word:	This word is brand new to me!	I have heard this word before.	I could use this word in a sentence:
Ennui			
Obsolete			
Enterprising)			
Indefatigable			
Mural			
Weary			
Dissatisfied			
Cajole			
Admonition			
Reward			
Incognito			
Authentic			
Fiasco			
Slapdash			
Provide			
Imitation			
Underestimate)			
Interpreter			
A word you found:			

Project:

Try to use three of the new words from the list above in the next week. Be prepared to share an example of when you used them with the class! Or, illustrate the meaning of three of the words.



Gooney the Fabulous

Gooney the Fabulous

DISCUSSION GUIDE:

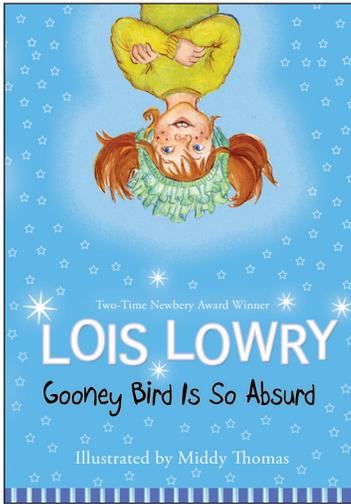
1. What is a fable? What animal would you choose to write a fable about? What animal name starts with the same letter as your name? What lesson or moral would you try to teach?
2. Barry says that having a teddy bear is a “baby thing.” How do Mrs. Pidgeon and the class set him straight? Do you have a special animal too?
3. How did the second graders in Mrs. Pidgeon’s class help Beanie and Barry to revise their fables? What did each of them need?
4. How did the Chihuahua fable have an open (or ambiguous) ending? Do you like these kinds of endings?
5. What was Nicholas so upset about all week? How did Gooney Bird help him solve his problem?

As you read *Gooney the Fabulous* fill out the following graphic organizer about the fables as you read them.

Animal	Retell in one sentence	Moral of the story
Panda	Ex: Panda leaves the woods to eat a new food with deer but then feels sick and scared.	Sometimes what you already have is the best thing.
Kangaroo		
Bear		
Flamingo		
Tyrannosaurus rex		
Bunny and Tortoise		
Bison		
Chihuahua		
Mandrill		
Gnus		

Projects:

Write your own fable. Be sure that it has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Try to use dialogue and build suspense. Don’t forget to use the word **SUDDENLY!**



Gooney Bird Is So Absurd

Gooney Bird is So Absurd

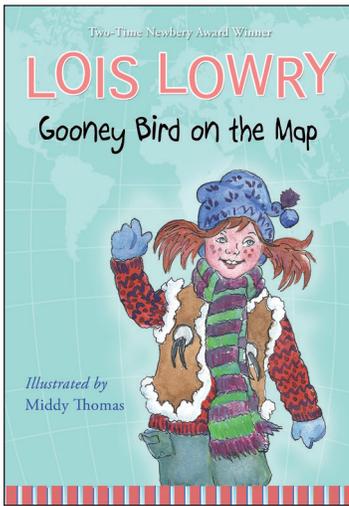
DISCUSSION GUIDE:

1. Describe Gooney Bird Greene's fashion choices. What is the most surprising? Would you wear a brain-warming hat or not?
2. What is a couplet? How does each couplet tell us something about the writer? Can you write one too?
3. Mrs. Pidgeon brings in the poems her mother wrote as mentor texts for the children. What other poets do you like to read?
4. Which of the poetic forms (list, haiku, or limerick) is your favorite? Why? Which poem from the story is your favorite?
5. Why does Mrs. Pidgeon miss school? How do the children help?

Type of poem	Definition	Helpful writing tips
Limerick		
List poems		
Haiku		

Project:

Try your hand at a haiku, a list, and a limerick. After revising, choose your favorite poem and illustrate it for a bulletin board display.



Gooney Bird On the Map

Gooney Bird On the Map

PRE-READING QUESTIONS

Brainstorm everything you can remember about Gooney Bird Greene. How would you describe her? Would you like to be friends with her?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is February an exciting month for the second-graders at Watertower Elementary? What are they studying in Mrs. Pidgeon's class?
2. Gooney Bird tells her teacher, "I like to be different." Do you? Why do you think some children like to stick out while others prefer to blend in? Is there a right or a wrong way to be?
3. How do the candy hearts that Mrs. Pidgeon shares with the children at lunch seem to match the children and adults who get them? What would you like your candy heart to say?
4. Describe the project that Gooney Bird comes up with out in the snow. Why does it not work out? How do they revise the project to be more beneficial?
5. Explain how this lesson teaches not just geography but how it's not good to gloat (e.g. about vacation plans.)

VOCABULARY ACTIVITY

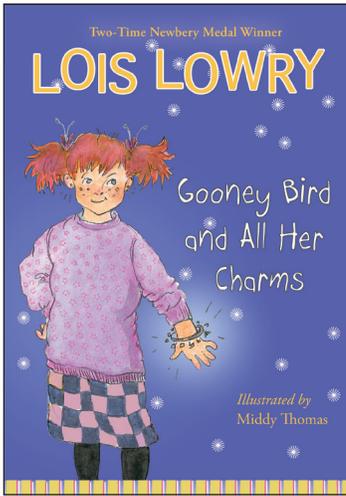
Give each student a copy of the table below so they can use these words from the book in new ways!

New word:	A synonym for the word:	A picture that will help me remember what it means:
Occasional		
Daub		
Fashionable		
Latitude		
Tentacles		
Exasperated		
Glumly		

GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITY

Create a map on a large sheet of bulletin board paper (especially if you don't have snow) and have children recreate the geography program from the book. Or, research states that they would like to visit!

Tracie Vaughn Zimmer, a reading specialist and children's author, created this guide.



Gooney Bird and All Her Charms

Gooney Bird and All Her Charms

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. How and where does this story begin? What is Mrs. Pidgeon’s class preparing to study in science? How does a visit from Gooney Bird’s great-uncle help make that more fun and exciting?
2. What is the first system of the body that they study? Where do they place Napoleon in the school to share what they’ve learned with other classes?
3. Where does he go next? Why? How do they dress Napoleon for the occasion? What’s the most interesting fact you learned when he visited this location?
4. Where do the children take Napoleon after his last visit? What does he wear? What did they learn about the body now? Which part of the body do you think is the most important? Why?
5. What terrible thing happens to Napoleon? How do the children react? Who solves the mystery and how? List three things Mrs. Gooch still needs to learn. Why does she need to learn these things?
6. How would this story be different if it was told through the eyes of Napoleon instead of the children in the second grade? What event concludes or ends this story? What details relate it back to the beginning?

Gooney Bird and All Her Charms cont.

Good readers know how to summarize or retell the big events and ideas in a story or chapter. As you read or listen to Gooney Bird’s story, stop and summarize in one sentence what happened in each chapter. Then make a prediction about what will happen next based on what you know about the characters, the story, and clues that have been dropped into the story along the way (also what good readers do).

Story	Summary	Prediction	Clues from the text that make you think so.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			