### Clara and the Bookwagon

**Setting:** Maryland; early 1900s

**Overview**
Clara wants to learn to read, but her Papa thinks there is no time to read on a farm. When a traveling library in a horse-drawn wagon passes by, Clara and the librarian persuade Clara’s father that reading is helpful and good.

**Chapter 1**

**To Discuss After You Read**
- Q: Does Clara know how to read?
  - A: no — there is no one to teach her, and nothing to read, either
- Q: Is it good for Clara to dream on the farm?
  - A: her Papa doesn’t think so — he thinks that unless everyone helps out, there will not be enough food

**Timeline and Map Activities**
- Maryland (map 1)

**Chapter 2**

**To Discuss After You Read**
- Q: How much do the books cost in the store?
  - A: they are lent out free of charge, because the store is a book station, like a library
- Q: Is Papa happy that Clara can learn to read?
  - A: no — he thinks reading is for the wealthy; farm people do not have time to read

**Chapter 3**

**To Discuss After You Read**
- Q: What does Clara see while she is out picking blueberries?
  - A: the book wagon — a wagon full of books that travels from place to place

### The Long Way to a New Land

**Setting:** The journey from Sweden to America in the late 1860s

**Overview**
Since no rain fell in Sweden, Carl Erik and his family have nothing to eat. Their relatives in the United States invite the family to emigrate to the U.S. So the family sells their farm and starts the long voyage. First by buggy to the port, then a short ocean voyage to England, across England by train, then the long steamship voyage to New York.

**Chapter 1**

**To Discuss After You Read**
- Q: Why is Carl Erik hungry?
  - A: they had no rain during the growing season, so they could not grow crops; neither could anyone else, so they had no food
- Q: Who has food?
  - A: relatives in America

**Timeline and Map Activities**
- America (map 1)
- Sweden (map 2)
Chapter 2

To Discuss After You Read

Q: How did the family pay for tickets to America?
A: they sold their farm and most of their possessions

Q: Who is Farmor?
A: Carl Erik’s grandmother

Timeline and Map Activities

📍 Gothenburg, Sweden (map 2)

Chapter 3

To Discuss After You Read

Q: How could a doctor see smallpox vaccinations?
A: the smallpox vaccine leaves a little pox mark in the skin — the doctor could see that

Q: How did the family journey to Liverpool?
A: they spent three days under the deck of a ship; when they reached England, they took a train to Liverpool, which took another day

Q: Who checked the passengers before they could board the boat?
A: a doctor examined them and looked for smallpox vaccinations

Timeline and Map Activities

📍 Hull, England; Liverpool, England (map 2)
Week 18—Schedule

<table>
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<th>Day 2</th>
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**Viking Adventure**

**Setting**
Norway to Wineland (or America), during the time of the Vikings

**Overview**
Growing up, Sigurd learns survival skills. He also hears stories of Lief, son of Erik, who traveled all the way to Wineland. Sigurd’s father had always hoped to go to Wineland, but Sigurd goes in his stead. Wineland is a wonderful land, but troubles with the natives, and then the murder of the captain do not make for a peaceful voyage. Sigurd eventually returns to Norway, the only one on his ship to survive. Back at home, he is the man of the house, and he decides to learn to read and write, so that his story may be preserved.

**Chapter 1**

To Discuss After You Read
Q: How did Sigurd learn to swim?
A: when he was three, his father threw him in the water, and Sigurd swam in order to live
Q: What other skills did Sigurd learn?
A: diving, horseback riding, spear throwing, shooting with a bow and arrow, climbing, running, jumping, swordsmanship

Timeline and Map Activities
- Iceland ; Scotland ; Ireland ; Spain  (map 1)
- Greenland  (map 2)

**Chapter 2**

To Discuss After You Read
Q: Where did Leif, son of Erik, go?
A: to Wineland
Q: Why did Sigurd have to train so hard?
A: adventures would come, and he needed to be ready

**Chapter 3**

To Discuss After You Read
Q: Did Leif live in Wineland?
A: no — he sailed home to bring people to Wineland, but there were problems at home, and he never returned to Wineland

**Chapter 4**

To Discuss After You Read
Q: Is Rolf a kind boy?
A: no — he does not want to be Sigurd’s friend; he merely wants to fight him

**Chapter 5**

To Discuss After You Read
Q: Is Norway at peace?
A: no — sea raiders come and raid villages
Q: What did Old Bard keep in his saddlebags?
A: books 
Jake Drake: Bully Buster

Chapter 6

To Discuss After You Read

Q: What mean thing did Link do that made Jake lose his cool?
A: Link threw water on Jake and said “Wittle Jakey had a accident!”

Q: How does this horrible scenario end?
A: Jake punches Link in the shoulder, and, although Jake doesn’t have enough strength to hurt Link, the bully acts like he’s in great pain; Link goes to the nurses’ office to get ice and kindness, and Jake goes to the principal’s

Chapter 7

To Discuss After You Read

Q: Why did Jake really not want to hit?
A: he knows it’s not good to fight, and he knows if he ever did fight, Link would win

Q: Why was Link a bully?
A: he didn’t know why — he just was

Chapter 8

To Discuss After You Read

Q: How did Link spend his research time?
A: reading Garfield cartoons

Timeline and Map Activities

Massachusetts (map 1) (see previous page)

Chapter 9

To Discuss After You Read

Q: What talent does Link have?
A: he can make perfect models

Q: How is Link’s home life?
A: pretty miserable, with a bully sister

Chapter 10

To Discuss After You Read

Q: How did Jake show compassion?
A: he didn’t mock Link when Link was terrified of speaking in front of the class; he even gave all the praise to Link, because Link’s model was so good

Q: What is the way to bust a bully?
A: keep looking for the real face, behind the bully face