

Level 1-10
The Selfish Giant

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

The Selfish Giant is a story about a giant who learned an important lesson about love and sharing.

A selfish giant had a beautiful garden. He went away for a long time, and children began to play in his garden. When he came back, he told the children to go away.

The giant built a high wall. No one could go into the garden. Spring could not enter the garden. Only Winter could enter it. There were no flowers or birds.

Then, things changed. The children secretly came back into the garden, and they brought Spring with them. The flowers and birds came back. One tree was still covered in ice. A little boy was crying under it because he could not get up in the tree. The giant picked the boy up and put him in the tree. Then that tree had flowers, too.

The giant was not selfish anymore. He let the children come into his garden. But the little boy the giant had helped did not come back to the garden.

The giant got old. One day, the little boy came back to the garden. He had blood on his hands and feet. The giant was angry and wanted to kill the person that hurt the boy.

The boy told the giant that the blood was from his love. He asked the giant to come to Heaven with him.

The giant died. The children found his body covered in flowers. The little boy took the giant to Heaven.

2. Section Summary

► **Pages 6-11:** The selfish giant did not want children to play in his beautiful garden. He built a high wall to keep them out. No one could go into the garden except for Winter. It was very cold and lonely. Then, things changed.

► **Pages 12-15:** The children secretly came back into the garden. They brought Spring, and Spring brought flowers and birds. The garden was beautiful again. The giant was not selfish anymore. He let the children play in his garden, but he noticed that one little boy did not come back.

► **Pages 16-18:** The giant got old. One day, the little boy returned to the giant's garden. The boy had blood on his hands and feet. He said it was from his love. He invited the giant to come to his garden. The boy's garden was Heaven. The giant died, and the boy took him to Heaven.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Selfishness:** People who are selfish do not want to share their things with others. They want to keep everything for themselves. But when they do that, they quickly find themselves all alone. The giant was selfish. He didn't want to share his garden with the children. He sent them away. But when he sent them away, he was left with nothing but a cold, ugly garden that he could not enjoy.

★ **Love:** Our lives are empty and lonely without love. Love brightens our world and brings happiness to our lives. When the giant did not have love, his garden was cold and lonely. When he let love in and loved others, his garden became beautiful and full of life.

★ **Jesus:** Jesus loves people unconditionally. People treated him badly, but he gave his life so others could be saved. He is the way to Heaven. The little boy in the story is Jesus. The blood on his hands and feet was from where he was nailed to the cross. He loved people so much that he died for everyone.

★ **Seasons:** Spring is a season of new life. Winter is a season of death. When Spring was allowed in the giant's garden, there were many birds and flowers. When Spring was not allowed in, Winter took over, and the garden was cold and lifeless.

★ **Children:** Children are a blessing. Their innocence and love bring people a lot of joy and happiness. The giant learned how special children are. When he let them play in his garden, his life was full of love. The little boy showed the giant love, too. He returned to the garden and took the old giant to Heaven with him.

Answer Key

Part A. Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. It can be found in *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*.
2. It is about a selfish giant and love.
3. He is Jesus.

► Characters

1. The Giant	2. The Little Boy	3. The Children
<u>selfish</u> had a <u>beautiful</u> garden sent the <u>children</u> away	did not <u>return</u> had <u>blood</u> on his hands and feet took the giant to <u>Heaven</u>	played in the <u>garden</u> brought <u>Spring</u> to the garden

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about a mean giant who doesn't like children.
2. I know Jack and the Magic Beans.
3. I would let them play in my garden.

B. Review Questions

1. They felt safe playing in it because the giant was gone.
2. He told the children to get out of his garden.
3. He built a high wall around his garden.

► Middle: Pages 12-15

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about how the children make the garden beautiful again.
2. I think people can change, but it usually takes time.
3. I would want to play in his garden because it is so beautiful.

B. Review Questions

1. The children brought Spring back into the garden.
2. He was crying because he couldn't get up into the tree.
3. They always sang.

► End: Pages 16-18

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the giant's death.
2. I think good people go to Heaven.
3. I think Heaven is like the giant's garden.

B. Review Questions

1. He was angry because he thought someone hurt the little boy.
2. He wanted to take the giant to Heaven.
3. They found the giant dead in the garden.

Mini-Quiz

a. It is no use crying over spilt milk.

→ There is no point crying about something that cannot be changed.

b. Children are the bridge to heaven.

→ Children bring great joy to the world. They love unconditionally, as God does.

c. The way to a man's heart is through his stomach.

→ Feed a man well, and he will love you.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: Where is the boy?
B: He is at his friend's house.
5. A: Where are the birds?
B: They are in the tree.

► Challenge

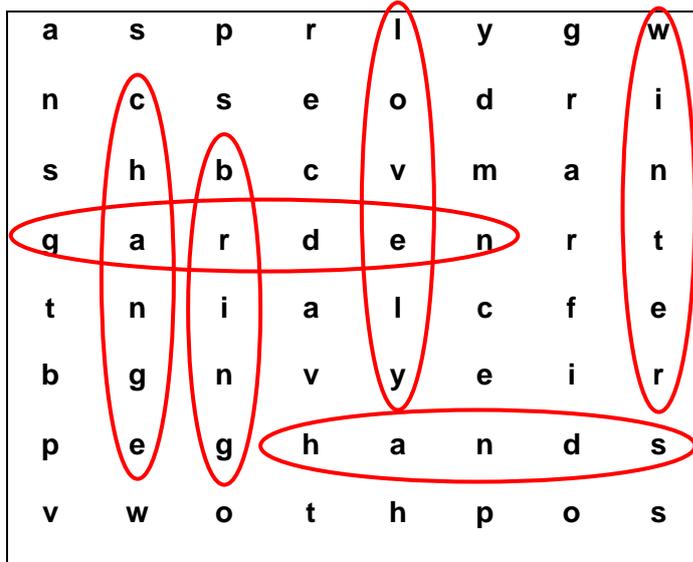
1. He was selfish.
2. It became cold.
3. He was looking for the little boy.
4. He got old.

Part B. Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

1. change
2. garden
3. hands
4. bring
5. lovely
6. winter



B.

1. b
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. a
7. b

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A.

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. F

B.

1. d 2. c 3. a 4. b

C.

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. d

► Middle: Pages 12-15

A.

1. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T

B.

1. b 2. c 3. a 4. d

C.

1. c 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. a

► End: Pages 16-18

A.

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. T

B.

1. The Giant
2. The Little Boy
3. The Little Boy
4. The Children

C.

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. b 5. a

Think and Write

1. giant
2. wall
3. Winter
4. secretly
5. Spring
6. selfish
7. died
8. Heaven

Vocabulary Review

1. The giant had a beautiful garden.
2. There were many flowers in the garden.
3. The giant was selfish.
4. The giant built a high wall.
5. The children missed the lovely garden.
6. One tree was covered in ice.
7. "Where is the little boy?"
8. The giant put the boy in the tree.
9. The boy had blood on his hands and feet.
10. The children found the giant.

Summary

A.

2	4
3	1

B.

1. The selfish giant did not want the children to play in his garden.
2. Only Winter could come into the garden.
3. The little boy did not come back.
4. The giant died and went to Heaven.

Book Report

Story d → b → e → a → c