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Let's Get Ready to Read!

Dear Parents and Educators,

This guide will help your reader explore, examine, and engage with the novel *Good Crooks: Dog Gone!* by Mary Amato. The included activities will strengthen their reading comprehension skills and provide them with opportunities to write and talk about the text. Your young reader will develop their own points of view on the book and its characters as they analyze the text in more structured and detailed ways. Help your reader on their reading journey by periodically checking in with them while they are reading the book, asking and answering questions along the way, and offering guidance and support, as needed. Be sure to read through the following page for helpful instructional ideas.

On this page, you will find discussion questions to ask your reader when they have finished the book as well as some fun activities to help foster your young reader's love of reading!

Just 4 Fun!

- Work with other parents or teachers to arrange a book club meeting so your reader can discuss the book with peers. Provide a comfy, cool setting and some yummy treats!
- Set up a book nook! Find a quiet corner. Add a few blankets and pillows. Maybe grab a beanbag chair or poof! Be sure there is a lamp or overhead light and—*voila!*—you have a nifty nook any reader would love.
- Challenge your reader to become one of the characters in the book for an interview. Have your reader dress the part. Then, have them answer your questions as that character.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think the author is trying to tell us with this book?
2. Could this story be true? Could it really happen?
3. Do you like the main characters? Could you be their friend?
Why or why not?
4. What is your favorite part of the story? Tell me all about it!
5. Would you recommend this book to your friends? What would you tell them to get them to read it or not to read it?

Name: _____

DURING READING

Character Comparison

Directions: Billy and Jillian are twins. They share some character traits, but they have their differences, too! As you read *Good Crooks: Dog Gone!*, use this graphic organizer to help you keep track of their similarities and differences. Include both physical (outside) and emotional (inside) traits.

A graphic organizer for character comparison. At the top, two boxes labeled 'Billy' and 'Jillian' have arrows pointing to a large central oval. The word 'Compare' is written above the oval. Inside the oval are five horizontal lines for notes. Below the oval, two arrows point to two separate rectangular boxes. The word 'Contrast' is written between these two boxes. Each rectangular box contains eight horizontal lines for notes.

Billy

Jillian

Compare

Contrast
