

Junior  
Certificate  
School  
Programme

Katherine Paterson

# Bridge to Terabithia

Student Workbook



# Bridge to Terabithia

STUDENT WORKBOOK

Bridge to Terabithia Student Workbook

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**Written and shared by Denise O'Flanagan, JCSP Advisor**

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### Chapter 1

- 1) Why did Jess decide to get up then?
- 2) Who asked where he was going?
- 3) Why did Jess go running every day?
- 4) Where did Jess go to school?
- 5) How did Ellie react when he came back from his run?
- 6) Where was their mother from?
- 7) How did Ellie and Brenda get out of doing the chores?
- 8) How did Jess's mother describe him?
- 9) Who told him that people were moving in to the old Perkins place?
- 10) Why did Jess think they wouldn't last there?

**Activity: Point of view**

*We get to understand characters and other people by looking at things from different points of view. Write an account of events that morning from May Belle's viewpoint.*


*Now write an account from May Belle's mother's point of view.*


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### Chapter 2

- 1) Why do you think Jess's mother was in a bad mood that day?
- 2) What did Jess make for the children's supper?
- 3) How did drawing make Jess feel?
- 4) Why was he afraid to show his drawings to his dad?
- 5) How did Jess feel about Miss Edmunds?
- 6) Why do you think he felt this way?
- 7) How did Miss Edmunds describe him one day?
- 8) What do you think she meant?
- 9) Why did Jess ache inside?
- 10) Whom did Jess meet the next morning?

#### **Activity: Visual story**

***Jess liked to draw. In the box below draw a picture that tells us something about the story so far. Don't worry if you can't draw as well as Jess does!***



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### Chapter 3

- 1) Where did Mr. Turner bring Leslie?
- 2) Why were the other students surprised?
- 3) What was said in the upper grades about Mrs. Myers?
- 4) Why do you think that Jess did not want Gary Fulcher to see what he was drawing?
- 5) How did he stop Gary from seeing it?
- 6) Why did Jess not mind having to wait until the fourth heat to run?
- 7) Who won the first race?
- 8) How did the boys react when Leslie won the fourth heat?
- 9) On the way home, why did Jess do something he had never thought he would do?
- 10) What did the way Leslie ran make Jess think of?

**Activity:** *Imagine that you are Jess. Write down the thoughts he might have had before, during and after the race.*


**Activity:** *Imagine you are the author and you are writing your blog. Explain why you decided that Leslie would win the race.*


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### Chapter 4

- 1) Why was it a short week?
- 2) Why did Jess think that was a good thing?
- 3) What did Miss Edmunds ask Jess on Friday?
- 4) How did Leslie know that Jess had changed his mind about her?
- 5) Why had Leslie's parents moved there?
- 6) What was Leslie's favourite hobby?
- 7) How did Jess react when he heard Miss Myers read her essay to the class?
- 8) How did Jess know that the other girls were making fun of Leslie?
- 9) What does it show us about the other girls?
- 10) Why, do you think, did Leslie sit at the back of the bus that day?
- 11) How did Jess stand up for her?
- 12) Describe the creek bed behind the old Perkins place.
- 13) What did Leslie say they needed?
- 14) Why did Jess not like some parts of the woods?
- 15) What did Janice Avery do a few days later?
- 16) Why did Jess not feel comfortable in Leslie's house?
- 17) Why do you think his mother acted strangely when Leslie came to their house?
- 18) How did Jess feel about Leslie?
- 19) How did he feel in Terabithia?
- 20) Why do you think this was?

**Activity: Something about the characters**

***By now we have learned quite a lot about some of the characters. This chart will help you keep track of what you have found out so far.***

Name	Page the character first appears	Notes on the character
Jess		
May Belle		
Jess's mother		
Leslie		
Miss Edmunds		
Janice Avery		

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**Note:** *In this chapter there is a lot of foreshadowing. Foreshadowing is when the author gives us hints about things that will happen later. We will return to this later, so try to pick out some things that you think may be examples of foreshadowing. When you have finished reading the book you will be able to see if you were right.*


### **Activity: Definitions**

*Write down the definitions of these words from chapter 4. You can use your dictionary to help you. You might find searching the internet useful too.*

Labor Day	
Recess	
Suspense	
Consolation	
Melodic	
Suburban	
Slunk	
Enchanted	
Stronghold	
Dogwood	
Vigorously	
Siege	
Yearned	
Quivering	
Fossil	
String quartet	

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### Chapter 5

- 1) What would Janice Avery and her friends make the little girls do each morning?
- 2) Why did Jess tell May Belle to keep quiet about the Twinkies?
- 3) What did Leslie tell May Belle would happen to Jess if he fought with Janice?
- 4) What did they promise May Belle?
- 5) What did Leslie say girls like Janice hate most?
- 6) What did they decide to do?
- 7) How did Leslie distract Mrs. Pierce and stop her going in to the classroom?
- 8) What did Wilma Dean whisper loudly to the others on the bus that afternoon?
- 9) What did Billy Morris say?
- 10) Why were May Belle's eyes shining?

**Activity: Point of view**

**Imagine that the characters in this novel use Twitter. Write down the tweets that Janice and Wilma might have sent each other that evening.**

<b>Janice</b>	
<b>Wilma</b>	



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### Chapter 6

- 1) Why was Jess so angry with Brenda?
- 2) What present did May Belle have her heart set on?
- 3) Why did Jess think she needed a special present this year?
- 4) Why did he wish he could buy Leslie a television?
- 5) Why did he swing across the creek instead of walking?
- 6) What did Leslie name the puppy?
- 7) What did she give Jess for Christmas?
- 8) How did he feel that evening?
- 9) Why do you think Jess's father was so angry about the racing-car?
- 10) What made it feel like Christmas again for Jess?

#### **Activity: Diary**

*Imagine that you are Jess's father. Write your diary entry for that Christmas night.*

*I was looking forward to Christmas. Money was tight as usual, but.....*


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### Chapter 7

- 1) Why were Leslie and Jess spending less time together?
- 2) In what way was he afraid to spoil the magic of Terabithia?
- 3) Why did he now wish that they had never bought the doll for May Belle?
- 4) Why was Jess surprised to hear that Leslie was learning to 'understand' her father?
- 5) Do you think most teenagers would think like Jess?
- 6) What did Judy read to them while they were working?
- 7) How long had it been since they had last been to Terabithia?
- 8) What did Leslie hear?
- 9) Give two reasons Leslie knew that it was her.
- 10) Why had Janice been crying?
- 11) What was an important rule at Lark Creek School?
- 12) What advice had Leslie given Janice?
- 13) Why did Leslie feel happy?
- 14) What did May Belle tell Jess that night?

#### **Activity: Reflection**

***Think of all the information about Janice we have been given by now. It might help if you re-read some pages.***

***Why do you think the author wrote this scene? Does it help to explain anything about Janice?***


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Does what you now know about Janice change what you think of her and in what way?


Have you ever met anyone like Janice? Would what you have just read make you think again about that person? Why?


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### Chapter 8

- 1) What were Ellie and Brenda fighting about?
- 2) What does May Belle say?
- 3) What does Ellie mean when she asks why they can't charge some things?
- 4) Describe how Leslie was dressed when she was going to church.
- 5) What did they sing on the way to church?
- 6) Why was Leslie glad she had gone to church?
- 7) Why does May Belle say you have to believe the Bible?
- 8) Why is May Belle anxious?
- 9) Do you think that the author is using fore-shadowing here?  
What do you think might happen later in the book?

**Activity: Writing**

*Imagine that Leslie is describing her visit to church to her parents. Write down what you imagine she would say.*


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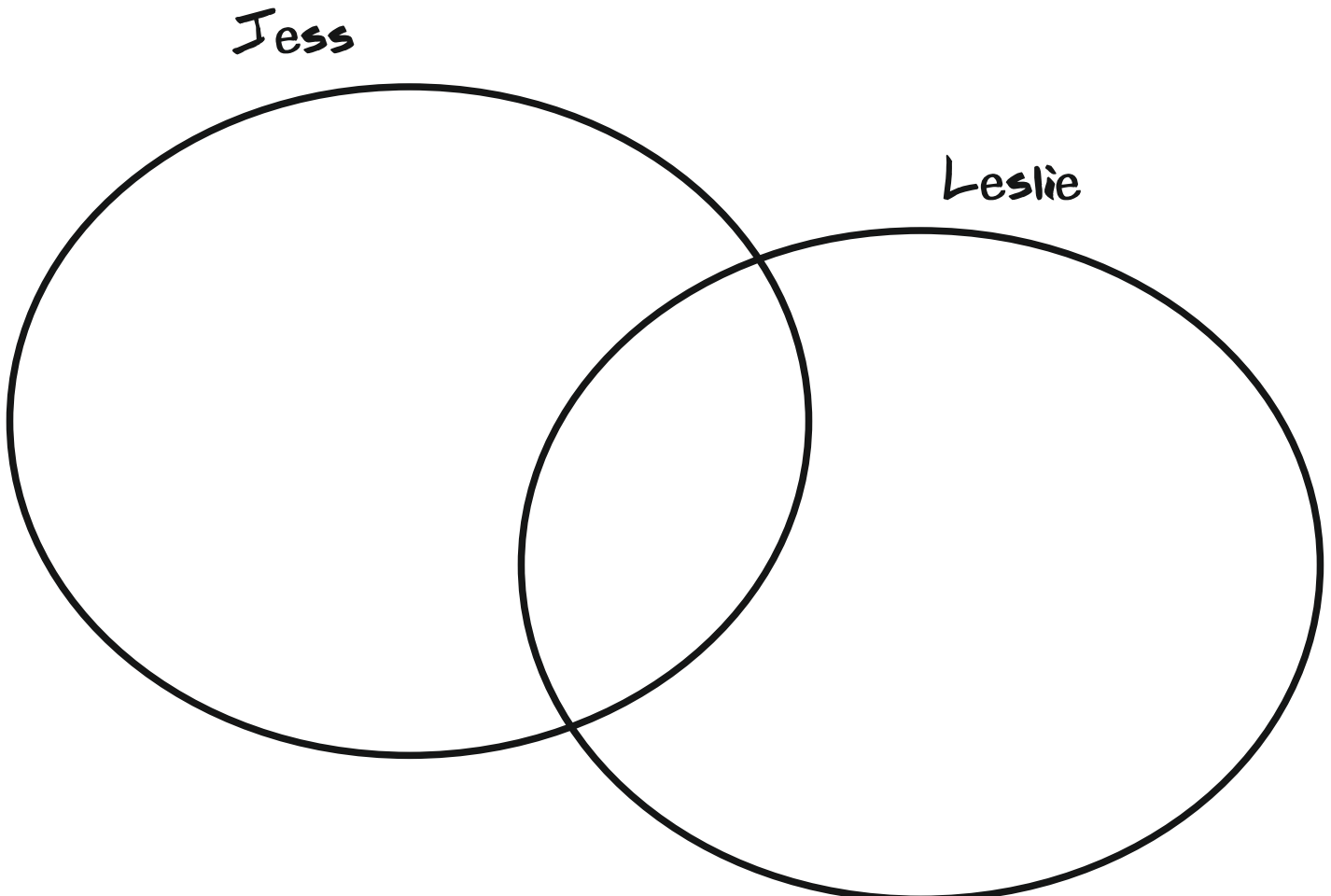
## STUDENT WORKBOOK

### Chapter 9

- 1) What does the author mean when she writes about the elements conspiring?
- 2) What did the creek remind them of?
- 3) How did Jess feel about crossing the creek?
- 4) Why did they go to the sacred grove?
- 5) Describe how the grove looked and sounded that day.
- 6) Do you think the author is trying to tell us something?
- 7) What do you think is going to happen?
- 8) Why did Jess feel he was not worthy to be King of Terabithia?
- 9) What did Jess realise in the middle of the night?
- 10) What did he decide to tell Leslie?
- 11) What did he mind?
- 12) Why did he hardly sleep for the rest of the night?

#### **Activity: Graphic organiser**

*Use the graphic organiser below to show the ways Jess and Leslie are alike and the ways in which they are different. Write the ways they are alike or characteristics they share in the intersection of the two sets.*



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### Chapter 10

- 1) Why did Jess's father leave early every morning?
- 2) What did Jess decide he would do in the summer?
- 3) Why did Miss Edmunds phone?
- 4) Why did Jess decide that it would be better if his mother wasn't fully awake when he asked her if he could go?
- 5) How did Jess feel when he was in the car?
- 6) In what ways was the gallery like the pine grove?
- 7) What did they go to see after lunch?
- 8) Where had Miss Edmunds spent a year at college?
- 9) Why do you think Jess asked Miss Edmunds to let him out on the road?
- 10) What signs showed that something was wrong?
- 11) What did his mother do when she saw him?
- 12) What did May Belle say?
- 13) What did Brenda say?
- 14) Did the title of this chapter prepare you for what was going to happen?
- 15) Why do you think the author gave it this title?

#### **Activity: Word search**

***Find these words from chapter ten in the word search below.***

overalls	creek	intently	fascinating
familiar	nonsense	landmarks	blinked
affection	permission	congressman	perfect
genuine	syllables	drizzle	beautiful
tippytoes		nightmare	awkwardly

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You can move up or down, left or right, or diagonally.

E	S	L	L	A	R	E	V	O	F	Y	L	R	S	E
R	J	E	I	M	H	S	Y	L	L	A	B	L	E	S
A	E	D	G	T	G	Y	N	L	O	O	R	H	O	S
M	N	T	Y	M	R	L	L	V	L	R	D	L	T	R
T	I	I	L	N	Y	D	N	T	G	A	K	A	Y	S
H	U	M	T	O	L	R	A	N	N	I	O	N	P	T
G	N	K	N	N	U	A	M	O	I	L	R	D	P	S
I	E	S	E	S	F	W	S	I	T	I	N	M	I	P
N	G	N	T	E	I	K	S	T	A	M	D	A	T	E
C	X	V	N	N	T	W	E	C	N	A	E	R	H	R
H	R	V	I	S	U	A	R	E	I	F	K	K	L	F
S	P	E	P	E	A	Q	G	F	C	R	N	S	K	E
O	C	J	E	G	E	B	N	F	S	S	I	O	I	C
G	I	H	O	K	B	J	O	A	A	S	L	A	S	T
N	G	J	R	E	I	I	C	R	F	S	B	D	D	C

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### Chapter 11

- 1) What is Jess's father doing?
- 2) What does this suggest to us?
- 3) What did Jess do?
- 4) Why do you think his father sat quietly in the truck when they got back to the house?
- 5) What did Jess imagine telling Leslie?
- 6) Why do you think his mother made him pancakes?
- 7) What did his father do when he came in?
- 8) What did his father suggest that they should do?
- 9) Why do you think Jess was puzzled when his father described Leslie as a little girl?
- 10) Why do you think May Belle's parents wouldn't bring her too?

#### **Activity: Points of view**

*We have learned more about Jess's parents in this chapter. Write the conversation you imagine them having that night after Jess had gone to bed.*

Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	
Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	
Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	
Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	
Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	
Jess's Father	
Jess's Mother	



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### Chapter 12

- 1) What did P.T. do when he saw Jess?
- 2) Which room did they go into?
- 3) Why do you think Jess hasn't cried yet?
- 4) Why did Bill thank Jess?
- 5) Why do you think Jess was angry at Leslie?
- 6) Why does the author put the thought that he was now the fastest runner in the fifth grade into his head?
- 7) What did he throw in to the water?
- 8) What happened next?
- 9) Why did Bill come up to the house that afternoon?
- 10) What do we learn about his mother when she lets him have P.T. in the house?

#### **Activity: The 'Five Ws'**

*Imagine you are writing a newspaper article about Leslie's death. Before you write it you will have to answer the five questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? Use what you have learned from your reading of the novel so far to answer these questions. Remember, however, some things will always be known only to Leslie and Jess.*

<b>Who?</b>	
<b>What?</b>	
<b>Where?</b>	
<b>When?</b>	
<b>Why?</b>	

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### Chapter 13

- 1) Why do you think the author chose this title for the final chapter?
- 2) Why did Jess want to do the milking?
- 3) What did he make in Terabithia?
- 4) Why did May Belle follow him?
- 5) What does this chapter show us about their relationship?
- 6) Why did Jess think he was in trouble on Monday morning?
- 7) What did Mrs. Myers say to him?
- 8) How do you feel about her now?
- 9) What does Jess feel he learned in Terabithia?
- 10) What did Bill and Judy give him?
- 11) Why was his mother nervous?
- 12) Why do you think Bill couldn't give P.T. up?
- 13) Why does Jess suggest to May Belle that she might tell the secret to Joyce Ann?
- 14) Why do you think he makes May Belle queen?

#### **Activity: Making connections**

*Sometimes when we read something it reminds us of something similar that happened to us and of how we felt. This can help us understand what we have read. Use the chart below to write about three connections you made while reading this book. Then show how the connections you made helped you understand what you read.*

Page	How this is connected to something I have read, heard about or that happened to me	How making this connection helped me to understand what I was reading

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### **Activity: Foreshadowing**

Look back at the activity you did after reading chapter 4. Were you right about anything that happened? What hints or signs did the author give us that certain things were going to happen?

**List some of them below.**

Clue or sign	What happened

### **Activity: Why do you think authors use foreshadowing?**


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### Reflections on the novel

These questions will help you to think about the novel, its characters and themes.

**1) This novel deals with important relationships.**

- (i) Name the characters in one of the relationships and describe how this relationship develops.
- (ii) Choose your favourite character in this relationship and explain why this is your favourite character.

**2) This novel may be described as containing some elements of fantasy.**

- (i) What do you understand by the word fantasy?
- (ii) Describe how the lives of at least two of the characters in this novel are changed by the elements of fantasy in this novel.

**3) Choose an important section from this novel.**

- (i) Describe what happens in this section.
- (ii) Why do you think this part is so important?  
Explain your answer with reference to the novel.

**4) Imagine that you are recommending this novel to your friend.**

Describe why you would recommend it with reference some of the following: the plot, characters, atmosphere, unexpected incidents, emotions you experienced or any other aspect of the novel you feel would be interesting to your friend.

**5) The setting of a novel is carefully chosen.**

Describe the place in which much of 'Bridge to Terabithia' is set and its importance to the characters and the way the plot develops.