Progeny Press

FREE SAMPLE

Literature Study Guide - 2nd Edition

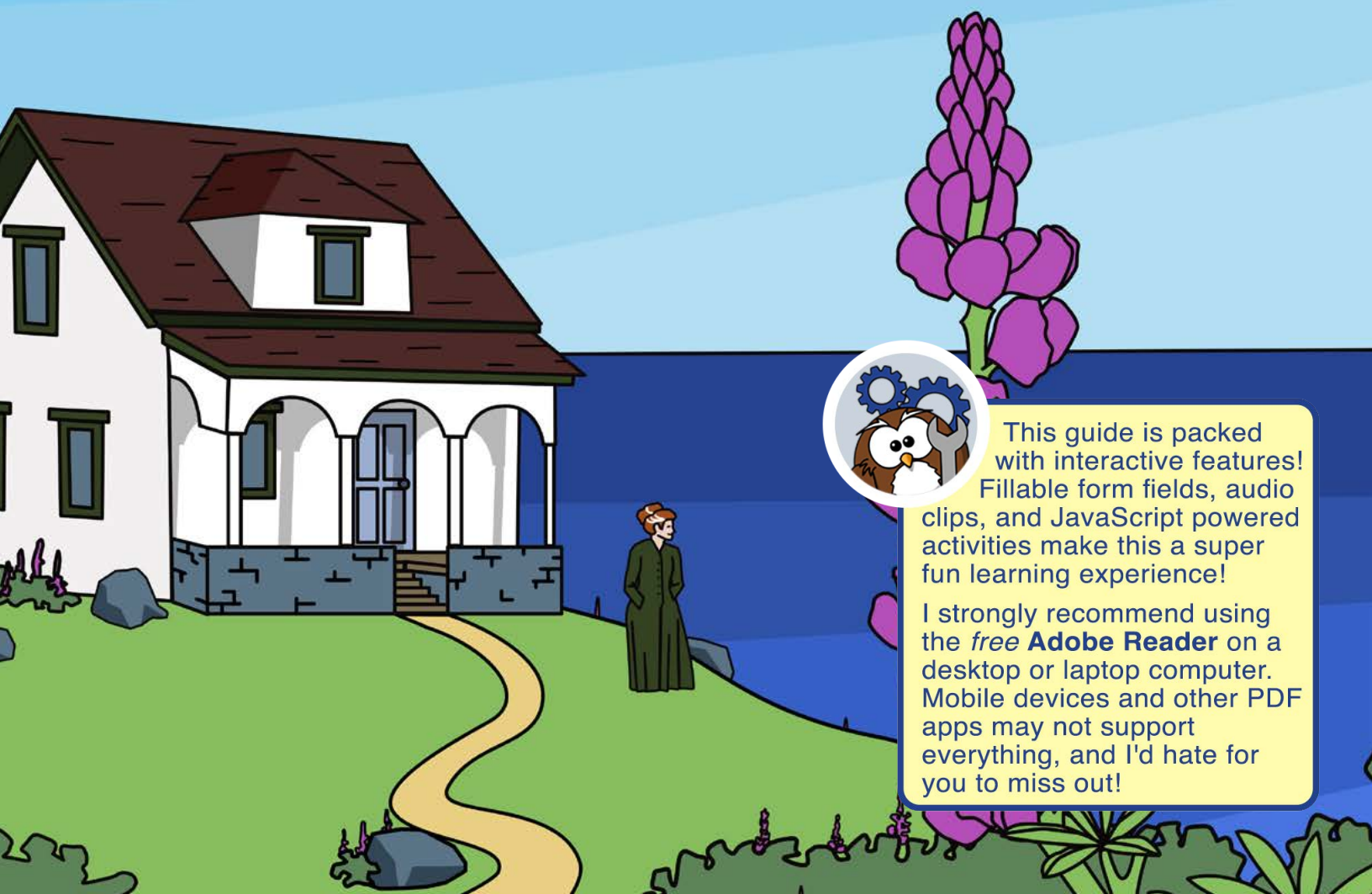
Grades 1–3 For Perusal Only

SKU: 1117DWNLD

Miss Rumphius

Revised and Expanded by
Nathan and Rebecca Gilleland
1st edition by Dory Zinkand

For the book by
Barbara Cooney



This guide is packed with interactive features! Fillable form fields, audio clips, and JavaScript powered activities make this a super fun learning experience!

I strongly recommend using the *free* **Adobe Reader** on a desktop or laptop computer. Mobile devices and other PDF apps may not support everything, and I'd hate for you to miss out!

Limited permission to reproduce this study guide.

Purchase of this book entitles an individual teacher to reproduce pages for use in the classroom or home. Multiple teachers may not reproduce pages from the same study guide.

This Progeny Press study guide may not be posted on the Internet in any form.

Exceptions:

- *Teachers may distribute this study guide file to students via email.*
- *Teachers may also, for the limited duration of a class, house files on a secure server with account-protected access and grant password-protected access to students. Students MUST have a password-protected account in order to access the files.*
- *This Progeny Press study guide may NOT be posted to or distributed via any file-share server that may be accessed publicly and/or accessible beyond the intended student class under any circumstances.*

For easier classroom or co-op use or distance learning with Progeny Press study guides, check out our form-fillable and printable digital download PDFs, available at www.progenypress.com.

Miss Rumphius Study Guide - 2nd Edition
A Progeny Press Study Guide
by Dory Zinkand
Revised and Expanded by Nathan and Rebecca Gilleland

Copyright © 2002, 2026 Progeny Press
All rights reserved.

Reproduction or translation of any part of this work beyond that permitted by Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act without the written permission of the copyright owner is unlawful. No portion of this work may be copied, reproduced, printed, or displayed in physical, electronic, or Internet media, except for reasonable review purposes, without express written permission from the publisher. Requests for permission or other information should be addressed to Reprint Permissions, Progeny Press, PO Box 100, Fall Creek, WI 54742-0100.

Product of the United States of America.

ISBN 978-1-58609-850-6 Book
978-1-58609-851-3 CD
978-1-58609-852-0 eGuide

Miss Rumphius

Table of Contents

How to Use This Study Guide 4

Synopsis 5

Background Information 6

About the Author 7

Prereading Activities 8

Section 1: Alice Sets Goals
- *Vocabulary* 11
- *Questions* 12
- *Think About It* 13
- *Dig Deeper* 14
- *Projects* 16

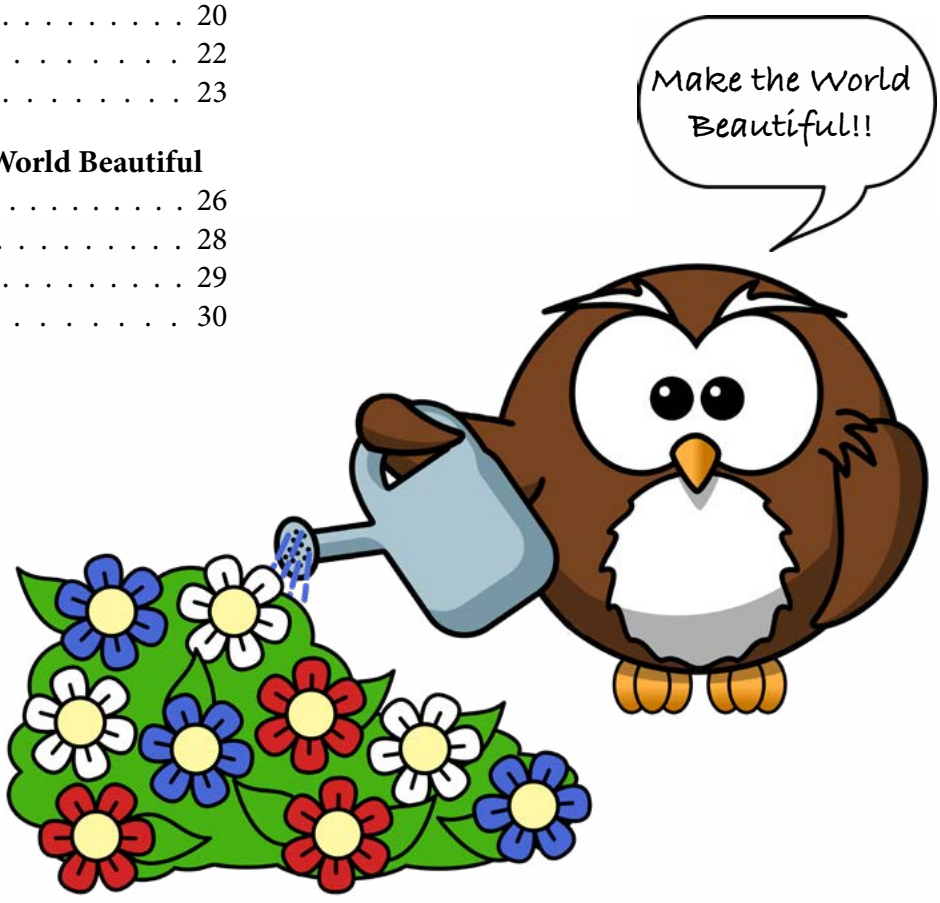
Section 2: Travel & Home by the Sea
- *Vocabulary* 18
- *Questions* 19
- *Think About It* 20
- *Dig Deeper* 22
- *Projects* 23

Section 3: Making the World Beautiful
- *Vocabulary* 26
- *Questions* 28
- *Think About It* 29
- *Dig Deeper* 30

After-You-Read Activities 32

Additional Resources 37

Answer Key 39



How to Use This Study Guide



For Early Elementary Students

Progeny Press study guides help young students engage with literature while building foundational reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. Designed for grades K–3, these guides balance structured learning with interactive and hands-on activities.

Getting Started

To effectively use a Progeny Press study guide, ensure students have the following on hand:

- A Bible (we use the NIV translation, but any version is acceptable).
- A dictionary (digital or physical) for looking up unfamiliar words.
- Their copy of the book to reference as they complete activities.

Suggested Study Schedule

Each study guide typically takes 5 to 8 weeks, depending on the student's pace and ability. At this age, it's important to introduce critical analysis gently to avoid overwhelming young learners. A little focused work done well is more effective than a lot of work done poorly and quickly.

- Week 1: Read the entire book together, incorporating simple pre-reading activities.
- Weeks 2–8: Work through one section per week, using the study guide and the book to reinforce comprehension, vocabulary, and discussion. You may slow down and take longer if this becomes difficult for your student(s).

Engagement and Activities

Early elementary guides include a variety of hands-on activities to keep students engaged. These may involve:

- Drawing, art projects, cooking, and crafts related to the story.
- Acting out scenes to reinforce comprehension.
- Simple writing exercises to develop early literacy skills.
- Exploring nature, history, or moral themes found in the book.

Assessment and Review

Unlike upper-level guides, early elementary study guides do not include formal writing or essays. Instead, parents and teachers can assess comprehension through discussions, interactive activities, and simple projects.

Using Online Resources

While supervised internet access can be helpful (and resources may be recommended or shared in the guide), the primary focus is on discussion, hands-on activities, and direct engagement with the book. Progeny Press strongly recommends previewing and monitoring any and all online access.

By following these guidelines, parents and educators can use Progeny Press study guides to cultivate a love for reading and introduce early literary analysis in a way that is engaging and age-appropriate.

©2026 Progeny Press

Name _____

Due Date _____

Total Points _____ / 91

Section 2
Travel & Home by the Sea

Vocabulary

Section Points ____/6



Literary Technique: Context

Sometimes when we do not know the meaning of a word, we can figure it out by looking at the pictures or studying the sentence it is in and deciding what would make sense. This is called looking at a word *in context.*

For each question, use the sentences and illustrations from the book to pick and Write in the blank the letter that comes closest to the meaning based on its context.

1 _____ Miss Rumphius sometimes visited a <u>conservatory</u> in the middle of the park. What is a conservatory?

a. a playground for children
b. a glass building where plants are grown inside, even during the winter
c. a museum where beautiful artwork is displayed

2 _____ When Miss Rumphius visits the conservatory, the sweet smell of <u>jasmine</u> fills her nose. What is jasmine?

a. a warm, winter hat made of fur
b. fresh, cold, snowy air
c. sweet-smelling flowers from the tropics

3 _____ Miss Rumphius visits a tropical island, where people keep <u>cockatoos</u> and monkeys as pets. What is a cockatoo?

a. a kind of dog
b. a kind of bird
c. a kind of monkey

©2026 Progeny Press

Think About It

5 points each ____ / 30

6 Once Miss Rumphius came up with her idea to make the world more beautiful, she ordered lupine seeds and began scattering them everywhere she walked. What did people begin to call her?

_____

7 The next Spring, lupines came up everywhere and it was very beautiful. What did people call her then?

_____



Literary Term: Characterization

Characterization is how we learn about a character in a story. We can learn about them by what they say, what they do, what others say about them, and how others react to them.

Example: Sarah helps others, speaks kindly, and others are happy to see her. Based on these clues, we can know that Sarah is a kind and friendly person!

For each sentence below, explain what it tells us about Miss Rumphius.

8 "She hurried home and got out her seed catalogues. She sent off to the very best seed house for five bushels of lupine seed."

_____

_____

9 "All that summer, Miss Rumphius, her pockets full of seeds, wandered over fields and headlands, sowing lupines."

_____

_____

©2026 Progeny Press