

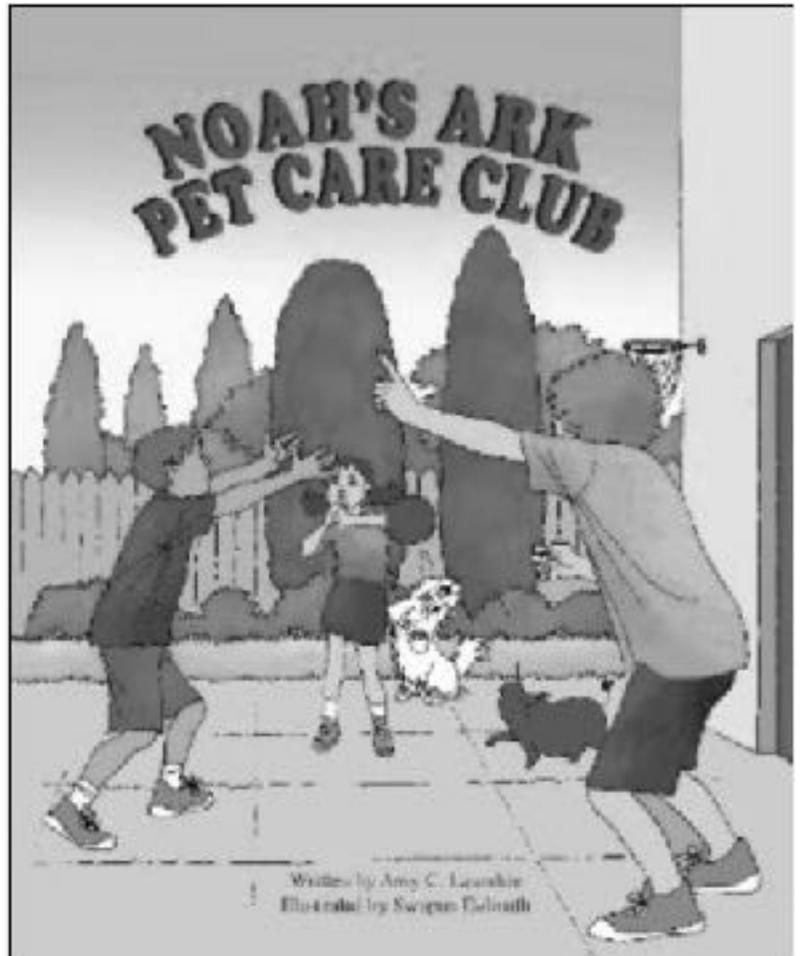
# Noah's Ark Pet Care Club

By Amy Laundrie

Illustrated by Swapan Debnath

Mugsy, Natalie, and Denver want to go to Adventure Land, the water park where they can plummet down rides like the Belly-Buster. To earn money, they form Noah's Ark Pet Care Club. But they aren't anywhere near ready to care for a pampered pekingese, a sneaky pig, or a homesick goose.

Surprises and laughs overflow as the friends scramble to ride herd on their "clients" and earn enough money for the adventure of a lifetime.



Place the qualities for each character under the proper name.



Mugsy	Natalie	Denver

Word Play

Rewrite the malapropism, or mixed metaphor, so it's the real expression.

“Tom peeper” should be

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“in one nostril and out the other” should be

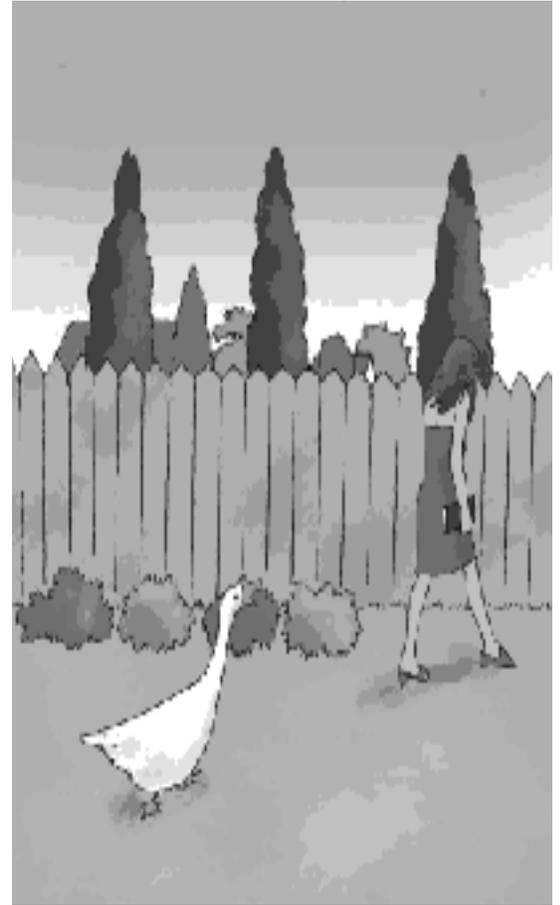
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“a worm a day keeps the doctor away” should be

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“the camel that broke the straw’s back” should be

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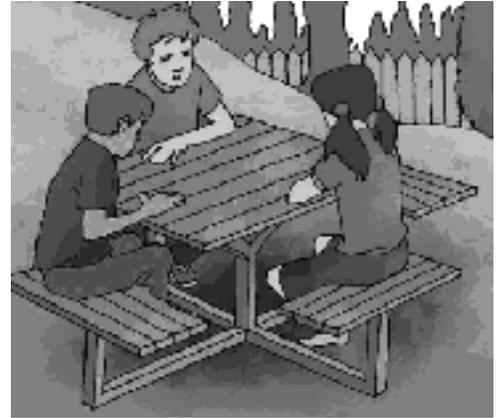
Comprehension

List three ways you would choose to earn money.

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In a four sentence paragraph, describe what happens when Natalie grabs Neon the anole.



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There is more than one way to be smart. Explain two ways Mugsy was smart.

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The club charges \$3.00 per day.

1. Mrs. Horn, Peaches' owner, was gone for twelve days so she owes \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Mr. Cole dropped Chatter off and was gone nine days. He owes \$\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Mike left Python for seven days. He owes \$\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Julie was gone five days. Julie owes \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Neon's care.
5. Gertrude got so homesick she was only gone about twenty-four hours. Rosa gave the club \$2.00 more than she owed or \$\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Mr. Martin paid double, \$6.00 per day. He also tipped them. He gave them three bills: a twenty, ten, and a five or a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
7. In order to find the total collected, add the following:

Peaches \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chatter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Python \_\_\_\_\_  
 Neon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gertrude \_\_\_\_\_  
 Porkchop \_\_\_\_\_  
  
**Total** \_\_\_\_\_



1. Adventure Land will cost each of the three kids \$35 or a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
2. After they pay their tuition, how much did they have to spend on snacks? \_\_\_\_\_

**Prewriting**

What animal would you like for your pet or if you know your parents won't allow it, what animal would you like to help your friend get? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where would you or your friend get this pet? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What are three reasons parents won't allow you or your friend to have the pet?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



Prepare counter arguments for these reasons.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

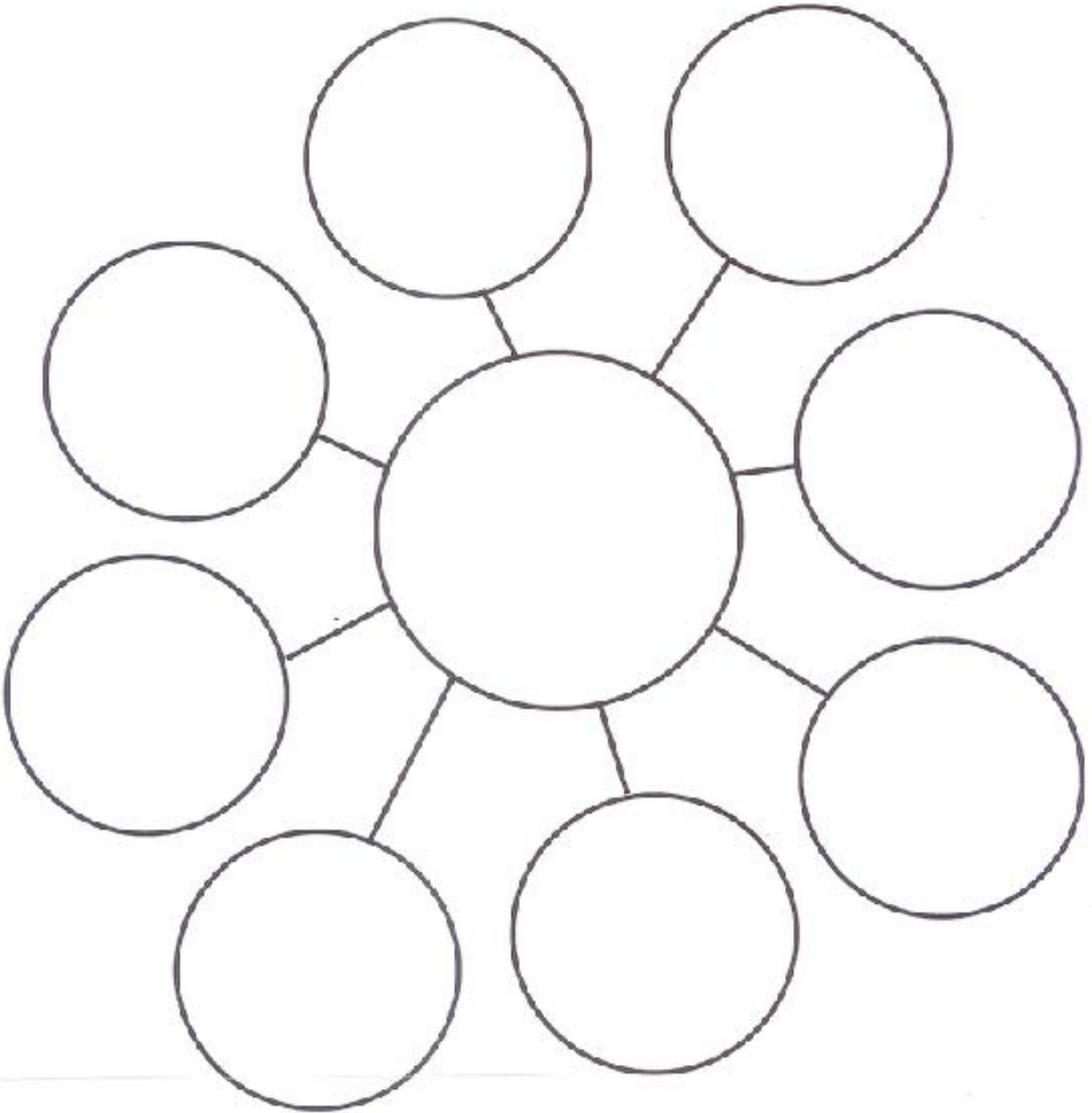
**Writing**

1. Look at a sample of the correct format for a friendly letter. Write your letter.
2. Edit your letter so it looks professional.
3. Rewrite or type it.



Writing

Write an additional scene to Noah's Ark Pet Care Club. Brainstorm all the other pets Mugsy, Natalie, and Denver could get. Choose one, and write it in the center of the word web. Then brainstorm all the funny or dangerous things that could happen. After finishing the word web, you're ready to begin your rough draft. Open with a sentence that will make your readers want to finish your story. Have a middle and an end. Polish your first draft then share your story.



In a well-written paragraph that is indented, starts with a topic sentence, uses details, and ends with a conclusion, write about a pet you've had or would like to have. Your paragraph might be funny, tell about a pet's trick, or include emotions like fear, embarrassment, or happiness.

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Grade your paragraph by drawing a smiley face (it could be an animal's smiley face) after those you achieved.

I indented.

I have a topic sentence.

I used at least two details.

I ended with a conclusion.



Draw Peaches the pekingese on the map of China. The pekingese is an ancient breed dating back as far as 2,000 B.C. The dogs were worshiped in Chinese temples. They were a beloved pet of the Emperor. Peaches seemed to know she was royalty.

One of the five original dogs was presented as a gift to Queen Victoria of England. Research this breed to find out why it walks bowlegged and why many Chinese pekingese were killed.

Label and color China.



## Art

Cut out “peek out windows”. Staple or tape a white piece of paper underneath. Finally draw Peaches, Neon, Chatter, Python, Porkchop and Gertrude underneath. Color and display.

## Science observation

The color of the anole's skin is a combination of colors. One of the most common misconceptions about lizards such as chameleons and anoles is that they change their skin color as a form of camouflage. Most lizards change their color either to regulate their temperature, or as a form of communication.



Chameleons such as anoles have a transparent outer skin, with several skin layers underneath it that contain special cells. These cells contain sacks of color pigments that can contract and expand in response to internal signals. For example, if a chameleon became excited, he might become red by causing the red cells to fully expand, blocking out the other colors beneath them. Once this chameleon calmed down, he would become green again by allowing the red cells to contract, and letting some of the blue-reflected light show through from the cell layer below.

One way to imagine this is to think about a black horse in a blizzard. When the snow on its back melts, the horse goes back to being black.

1. Gather a colorful magazine, lamp, and magnifying lens. A close-up photo or a real anole would be a plus.

2. Place a colored magazine photo under the light of a lamp. Look at it with a magnifying lens. Can you see the various colors?

3. Examine a green anole and you'll see something similar.

## Quiz

1. Mugsy, Natalie, and Denver want to earn money by pet sitting so they can
  - a. give it to a homeless shelter
  - b. save for college
  - c. buy a video game
  - d. go to Adventure Land
  
2. Peaches is a pampered pekingese. Pampered means
  - a. spoiled
  - b. naughty
  - c. poofy
  - d. mean
  
3. Natalie's personality shows she
  - a. is shy
  - b. doesn't want to do fun things
  - c. is competitive and likes to win
  - d. is unfriendly
  
4. Chatter's owner, Mr. Cole, loves
  - a. order and cleanliness
  - b. books
  - c. money
  - d. water parks
  
5. Natalie grabs Neon the anole who has escaped. She screams when
  - a. it bites her
  - b. it crawls up her pant leg
  - c. she breaks off its tail
  - d. she hurts it

6. Mike owns the snake, Python. Mike is glad
  - a. to get a break from his pet
  - b. that his snake escapes
  - c. when he returns and can take Python home
  - d. that the club has asked him to join.
  
7. Rosa's pet goose has imprinted on her. Imprinting means the goose
  - a. thinks Rosa is her mother
  - b. can do tricks
  - c. wants to lay eggs
  - d. makes tracks in the mud
  
8. Porkchop the pig is missing. Natalie finds her
  - a. in the woods
  - b. downstairs by the computer
  - c. on the porch
  - d. in Mugsy's mom's bed
  
9. The animals attack the thief in the living room then chase after him in the woods. The thief got in through
  - a. an unlocked door
  - b. the porch door
  - c. a window his wife had secretly unlocked when she'd been giving a cleaning estimate
  - d. the basement
  
10. Adventure Land is thrills and spills until Mugsy goes down the Belly-buster and loses his red trunks. Mugsy surprises everyone when he
  - a. steps out of the pool wearing a second pair of trunks
  - b. runs for cover
  - c. cries
  - d. swims after his trunks.

11. Adventure Land was fun but the club realizes they had as much fun caring for the pets. They plan to

- a. continue to pet sit for free
- b. try to convince their parents to let them each have a pet
- c. open a pet store
- d. pet sit and give the money they earn to the Humane Society

12. By the end of the book Mugsy is

- a. embarrassed because he always mixes up phrases or misuses words
- b. feeling good about himself
- c. in trouble for chasing the thief
- d. angry at his friends



Answers to the math page:

1 \$36;

2 \$27

3 \$21

4 \$15

5 \$5

6 \$35

7 \$36, \$27, \$21, \$15, \$5, \$35, \$139

1. \$105

2. \$34

Answers to the quiz:

1 d

2 a

3 c

4 b

5 c

6 c

7 a

8 d

9 c

10 a

11 d

12 b