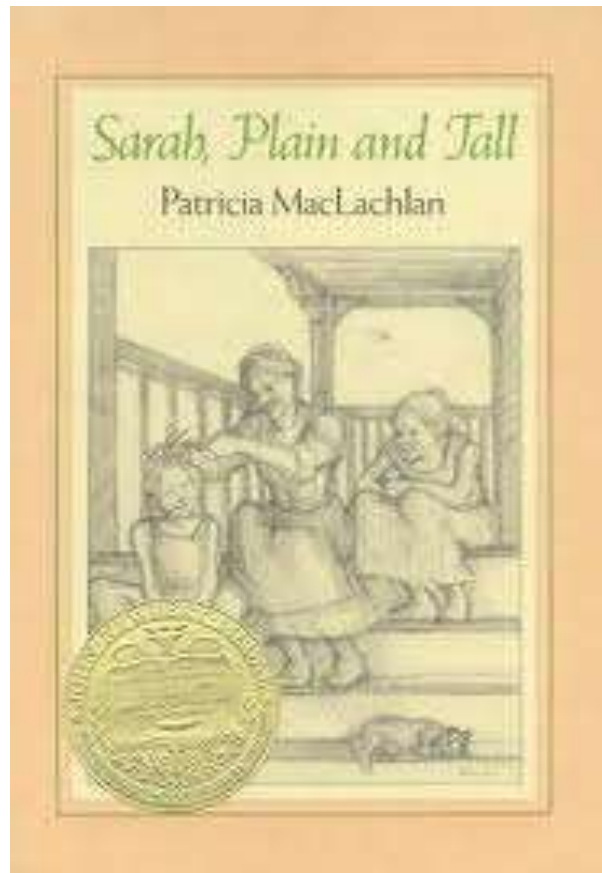


Sarah, Plain and Tall

by Patricia MacLachlan



Question Booklet

Name _____ Date _____

Expanded and revised by Christine Ammirati, March 2011

Chapter One

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

hearth: floor of a fireplace

dusk: partial darkness after sun sets and light fades in the sky

dough: flour or meal mixture stiff enough to be kneaded or rolled

wretched: miserable

1. What question does Caleb keep asking Anna?

2. Who is Anna?

3. What happened to their mother?

4. Who is telling the story?

5. Why did Papa place an advertisement in the newspaper?

Chapter Two

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

flounder: a type of flat fish

pesky: irritating, annoying

stall: an area for an animal in a barn

1. Read all the letters and describe your favorite one.

2. Who is Jacob?

3. What important message did Papa show his children at the bottom of Sarah's letter?

4. When you read Sarah's letters, how do you feel about her? Why?

5. Do you think Sarah will get along with the children? Why or why not?

Chapter Three

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

fetch: to go or come after, to bring or take back

clattered: made a rattling sound

preacher: a minister

flax: a plant with pale blue flowers

1. How do we know that Papa is expecting to meet someone special?

2. Why are the children so quiet as they do their chores?

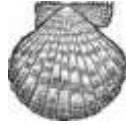
3. How can we tell that Caleb is very young?

4. Mention one or two things that Sarah brought with her from Maine? _____

5. Why do you think Sarah's hands were rough? _____

6. What did Anna see in Sarah's face that make her believe that she might not stay? _____

Chapter Four



scallop

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

scallop: a mollusk or the shell of this mollusk

conch: a mollusk or the shell of this mollusk

stew: mixture of meat or fish and vegetables with stock

rustle: a dry, crackling sound



conch

1. What did Anna mean when she said that the dogs loved Sarah first?

2. Why was Sarah so sad when she listened to the shell?

2. Why did Caleb lean against Anna?

3. Why did Caleb smile at the name of the flowers hanging from the ceiling?

4. What does *Ayuh* mean? _____

5. How did Sarah describe the seals?

Chapter Five

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

coarse: rough to the touch

buzzard: vulture

charcoal: black porous material

dune: ridge of sand created by the wind

mica: small, glistening particle in a rock

canvas: heavy, closely woven fabric used in a tent, clothing, or sail

1. How do we know that Sarah was a kind and caring person?

2. What were the first words uttered by Caleb, Anna and Sarah?

3. What kind of dune did Papa show them?

4. Why did Caleb smile when Sarah said the words, "our dune"?

Describe the emotions you feel while you are reading this story. How does the author allow you to experience these feelings?

Chapter Six

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

plough: farm tool with a sharp blade for cutting or turning earth

sums: math

tumbleweeds: plants that break off the ground and are blown by wind

biscuits: baked bread like a roll

sputter: to spit out or spray

killdeer: a kind of bird with a high, piercing cry

1. Why did Papa teach Sarah how to plow the fields?

2. Why does Papa tie a rope from the house to the barn?

3. According to Sarah, how are the barns different in Maine?

4. Why do you think Anna and Caleb never learned to swim?

5. Why is Sarah such a good swimmer?

6. How did Sarah describe the sea?

Chapter Seven

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

whicker: to whinny, to make a sound in excitement

banty: a small kind of chicken

primly: in a precise, proper manner; neat and trim

hitch: to fasten with a loop or hook

1. What are they planning to plant in the new fields?

2. Where did the daisies come from that were in Sarah's hair?

3. Why did the chickens fly onto the porch roof?

4. Why did Sarah's eyes fill with tears when she was talking to Maggie?

5. What did Maggie insist that Sarah must have to cheer her up?

6. Why was Anna convinced that Sarah will not eat the chickens?

Chapter Eight

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

overalls: type of clothing that usually used as protective clothing

crisply: clear and brisk

squall: brief, sudden, violent windstorm

mill around: wander, move in a confused manner

1. What was Sarah's response when Caleb said that women don't wear overalls?

2. What did Sarah tell Papa when he mentions that the roof needs fixing?

3. Why did Caleb think that Sarah might want to go to town?

4. How do we know that Anna likes Sarah?

5. What were Sarah and Papa carrying when they returned to the barn doorway, wet to the skin?

6. What did Anna call the hail?

Chapter Nine

Due: _____

Vocabulary:

groom: care for one's appearance

scuttling: moving in a hurry

stern: strict and serious

windbreak: hedge or fence of trees that lessen the force of wind

squint: to look with eyes partly closed, as in bright sunlight

reins: long narrow leather strap used to control a horse

1. Describe the scene after the storm.

2. What methods did Caleb suggest to keep Sarah from leaving?

3. Give at least two reasons why you think Sarah is planning to return to the farm.

4. Why did Sarah choose only certain colors when purchasing the pencils?

5. Describe what you liked most about the story.

Grade for "Sarah, Plain and Tall" AR test _____