

SUGGESTED LEARNING STRATEGIES: Oral Reading, Close Reading, Marking the Text, Quickwrite, Skimming/Scanning, Think-Pair-Share

### GRAMMAR & USAGE

A **verb** is the part of speech that expresses existence, action, or occurrence.

**Vivid verbs** provide a very specific depiction of an action.

Verbs that are not vivid:  
The dog *barked* and *ran* after the cat.

Vivid verbs: The dog *growled* and *sprang* after the cat.

*Active and passive verbs:*  
For most writing, use the active form of a verb rather than the passive.

Active: The dog growled at me.

Passive: I was growled at by the dog.

Read the narrative *Kira-Kira*, by Cynthia Kadohata, and mark the text as directed below.

1. In paragraph 4, highlight or mark the sentence that explains the **significance** of the incident—that is, why it was important.
2. In the same paragraph, find the beginning of the sequence of events in the incident and write a number “1” in front of it. Determine the rest of the sequence of events that make up the incident that Katie is telling, and number each event in sequence. You should be able to visualize a scene or picture for each part that you number. Record these on the graphic organizer following the text.
3. After you have read the narrative, go back to the beginning. In the My Notes area next to each scene you have numbered, write a noun or an adjective describing Katie’s feelings during the scene. On your graphic organizer use the word in a complete sentence.
4. Beginning with paragraph 14, highlight all the vivid verbs in the next two paragraphs. List the verbs used and write a sentence explaining the image they create for you as a reader. Next, find three examples of irregular verbs. Consult the Grammar Handbook to check the forms of the irregular verbs. Choose two more irregular verbs from the Handbook and record the forms. Finally, create several sentences for Step 6 using regular and irregular verbs that vividly convey your incident from your Memory Map.
5. Highlight one sentence of dialogue you think is most significant to this narrative.
6. After you have finished reading this narrative about Katie and her sister, go back to the incident you recorded on your Memory Map, or the incident with a brother, sister, relative, or friend. Write one of the following:
  - A short, dramatic dialogue from that incident (no more than four or five lines).
  - A short narrative of your incident using vivid verbs and sensory details.

Save your work in your Working Folder.

7. **Writing Prompt:** What is the significance of this incident for Katie? In other words, how has Katie changed as a result of this incident? Write a sentence in which you make a statement about the significance of this event for Katie.



# Family Stories


## My Notes

- 5 After Lynn ran into the field, I couldn't see anything but corn.
- 6 "Lynn!" I shouted. We weren't that far from our house, but I felt scared. I burst into tears.
- 7 Somehow or other, Lynn got behind me and said, "Boo!" and I cried some more. She just laughed and hugged me and said, "You're the best little sister in the world!" I liked it when she said that, so I stopped crying.
- 8 The dog ran off. We lay on our backs in the middle of the road and stared at the blue sky. Some days nobody at all drove down our little road. We could have lain on our backs all day and never got hit.
- 9 Lynn said, "The blue of the sky is one of the most special colors in the world, because the color is deep but see-through both at the same time. What did I just say?"
- 10 "The sky is special."
- 11 "The ocean is like that too, and people's eyes."
- 12 She turned her head toward me and waited. I said, "The ocean and people's eyes are special too."
- 13 That's how I learned about eyes, sky, and ocean: the three special, deep, colored, see-through things. I turned to Lynn. Her eyes were deep and black, like mine.
- 14 The dog burst from the field suddenly, growling and snarling. Its teeth were long and yellow. We screamed and jumped up. The dog grabbed at my pants. As I pulled away, the dog ripped my pants and his cold teeth touched my skin. "Aaahhhh!" I screamed.
- 15 Lynn pulled at the dog's tail and shouted at me, "Run, Katie, run!" I ran, hearing the dog growling and Lynn grunting. When I got to the house, I turned around and saw the dog tearing at Lynn's pants as she huddled over into a ball. I ran inside and looked for a weapon. I couldn't think straight. I got a milk bottle out of the fridge and ran toward Lynn and threw the bottle at the dog. The bottle missed the dog and broke on the street. The dog rushed to lap up the milk.
- 16 Lynn and I ran toward the house, but she stopped on the porch. I pulled at her. "Come on!"
- 17 She looked worried. "He's going to cut his tongue on the glass."
- 18 "Who cares?"



# Family Stories

In the graphic organizer below, identify the scenes in the order in which they happened in the incident. Write a sentence that explains what Katie may have been feeling. Sketch or describe a graphic to accompany the scene. Event 1 is completed for you

Event Number	Explanation of the Event	Katie's Feelings About the Event	Graphic That Represents the Event
Event 1	A gray dog runs out of the field. Katie watches Lynn chase the dog into the cornstalks.	Fear Katie is fearful that her sister has disappeared forever.	
Event 2			
Event 3			
Event 4			
Event 5			
Event 6			
Event 7			
Event 8			
Event 9			
Event 10			