



## **Open Dream Ensemble**

### *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie Classroom Study Guide* **3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades**

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*Open Dream Ensemble is a project of the Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts, a privately funded program of the North Carolina School of the Arts.*

Dear Educator,

This study guide provides suggestions for classroom activities and lessons that tie into our original production, *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie (AAAM)*. Included is a character list, questions for pre- and post-AAAM viewing, information and activities that are centered around AAAM characters and adventures, and an extensive bibliography.

Please send your comments and suggestions regarding this study guide to:  
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***The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie** – An original story that dramatizes the power of one child’s courage and imagination.*

“What did Benjamin Franklin tie to his kite in his legendary experiment with electricity?” Answering this question incorrectly at school leaves twelve-year-old Anna Marie flustered and vowing never to answer another question. But then, through the magic of dreams, she embarks on an adventure that includes a storm at sea, dancing crickets, a Mad Hatter’s riddle-filled tea party, a luck dragon, a magical doorway, and a final revelatory encounter with Benjamin Franklin.

### ***Open Dream Ensemble***

The Open Dream Ensemble (ODE) is comprised of professional artists trained in dance, drama, design & production, filmmaking and music at the North Carolina School of the Arts. Using the diverse skills of ensemble members, ODE presents original performances that are tailored to meet requirements of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study (NCSCS).

ODE’s educational outreach varies from single-session workshops to long-term residencies. Trained as teaching artists by some of the most highly regarded instructors in the field, ODE members are dedicated to creating educational sessions that have a lasting impact. Workshops and residencies tie into the NCSCS and can be tailored specifically to the needs of schools and classrooms.

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### **Character list**

*Anna Marie* - a twelve-year-old girl, bright, imaginative, curious, and kind. She has a great love of science, art, and reading. When she grows up she wants to be a scientist.

*Scout* – Anna Marie’s sidekick. He is an explorer and is resourceful and full of questions.

*Father* – Anna Marie’s helpful father.

*Silver Sailfish* - A fish that requires a great imagination to conjure.

*Pirate Marcus Cannonblaster III* – A seafarin', sword carryin', singing pirate.

*Crick* – A brave cricket who loves to jump, meet new creatures and engage in conversation.

*Hop* – A joyful cricket to whom friendship is very important.

*Mad Hatter* – The character from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. She loves to play and is very spontaneous.

*March Hare* – The character from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. She is best friends with the Mad Hatter and likes to sing and dance.

*Door Mouse* – The character from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. She is always very sleepy and is a dreamer.

*Thomas Confidence* – A man who lives in a pitch-black cave that is also inhabited by a dragon. He is very smart and industrious, loves tools and wants to be brave.

*Luck Dragon* – An angry and sad dragon who was tied up by the King of Dreams to guard the door of dreams.

*Benjamin Franklin* – Curious, bold, daring, passionate and tenacious, he is a scientist, inventor, writer and politician.

**Pre-performance questions:**

1. What is a play?
2. What elements are necessary for creating a play?
3. When have you seen dancing, acting and music together?
4. What is an adventure?
5. What is the difference between a movie and a play?

**Post-performance questions:**

1. Where did Anna Marie go on her adventure?
2. How are dancing, acting and music different when they are performed together then when they are performed alone?
3. What did the performers do to express how the characters felt (use of music, dance, gestures, facial expressions, language)?
4. What are some of the elements in a play and how do they help create the overall effect of the drama (characters, movement, language, sound, lighting, costumes, set, props)?
5. How did the actors make the jungle visible?

## VOCABULARY

Scout loves homonyms. Homonyms are words that have multiple meanings. The following homonyms are words with different meanings in music and in daily life. The definitions are from the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

**Key:** The basic scale and tonality of a composition.

**Pitch:** The highness or lowness of a tone, as determined by frequency of vibrations per second.

**Round:** A composition for two or more voices in which one voice enters after another in exact imitation of the first.

**Scale:** A sequence of tones, usually within an octave, used as the basis of a composition.

**Score:** A notation showing all the parts of a musical composition.

**Staff:** Five parallel lines on which music is traditionally written.

### *English /Literature*

1. Have your students make a list of homonyms. Challenge them to use as many as possible in writing a sequel to AAAM. Send the best to us so that we can post them on our website!
2. Below is a list of homonyms from dance and theater. Find their multiple meanings. arch, balance, direction, line, play, point, script, stage, stand.

## PIRATES

Pirate Captain Marcus Canon blaster III is the Captain of the Open Dream. He is a mischievous pirate who has been sailing the seas in search of treasure.

A pirate lives at sea and robs other ships, stealing gold, jewels, and supplies. There have been pirates all over the world for thousands of years - even in North Carolina! But the pirates we hear the most about lived 200 - 300 years ago.

### *Social Studies*

1. Research the pirate history in North Carolina and see what famous pirates sailed along the outer banks.

### *Questions about Pirates*

2. What type of clothing did pirates wear?
3. What did pirates eat?
4. What types of people became pirates?
5. Were there any female pirates?
6. Name the ocean that is located near the outer banks?
7. Name the seven islands that make up outer banks?

### *English Language Arts*

1. The Pirate in *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie* is mean, rude and doesn't like to share. Have you ever had an experience where someone was not nice to you? How handle the situation? What was the outcome? Write an essay about your experience.

2. Write your own pirate adventure and answer these questions in your story. Where are you sailing? Why have you chosen the life of a pirate? Are you a good pirate or a scary pirate?

### *Activity*

If you were going to dress up like a pirate what would you wear? Search the newspaper, magazines, or internet to find your attire. Write down the prices and add them up. Draw a picture of yourself dressed like a pirate. Discuss your pirate clothing choices and prices with your classmates.

### **CRICKETS\***

Hop and Crick are dancing and rhyming crickets. Here are some facts about crickets:

- The Snowy Tree Cricket chirps at a rate that varies according to the temperature. To calculate the temperature in Fahrenheit, count the number of chirps in 15 seconds and add 40.
- Crickets have different chirps, or songs, for courtship, fighting and warning calls.
- In order to find an appropriate mate, each species of cricket has an individual chirping sound.
- Crickets chirp by rubbing the sharp edge at the base of one front wing with the bottom side of their other front wing.
- Different insects have different types of life cycles. The cricket has a life cycle category is incomplete metamorphosis. This means that immature crickets, or nymphs, have the same appearance as adults.
- Every time a cricket molts it grows in length.
- Crickets are omnivores and are found throughout the world.

### *Science/biology*

1. Compare the life cycle of the cricket to other insects and animals.
2. There are many types of crickets. Research how and why they are different (size, habitat, behavior).
3. Crickets are pets in some parts of the world. Research how to build “cricket houses” and what captive crickets need in order to live.
4. Research and explain how crickets chirp.

### *Social Studies*

1. In many areas of Asia the cricket is kept as a pet. Why?
2. Research cricket lore and cricket stories from around the world.

### *Math*

1. If a snowy tree cricket chirps 27 times in fifteen seconds, what is the temperature?
2. Cricket A jumps 3 feet every five seconds. Cricket B jumps 4 feet every six seconds. Cricket C jumps 5 feet every eight seconds. If the three crickets were in a race for one minute, which would win?

### *English / Literature* (see cricket resource page for literature and poetry resources)

1. In *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie*, Crick and Hop speak in rhyme. Write a rhyming poem about crickets or another insect.

2. Write a short story about life as a cricket.

### **Activity**

Divide the class into groups. Have each group research a different aspect of crickets; how does the information connect with different elements of a play such as character, setting and story? Have them write a play using that information and then have them perform the play for their classmates.

### **DRAGONS\***

The Luck Dragon on Lightning Island lives in a cave and guards a magical doorway. Dragons play a role in legend, lore, and history throughout the world.

#### *Social Studies*

1. Research dragon lore and compare the European and Asian traditions of dragons.
2. Native American tribes have legends of dragons. Research and share some of these stories in your class.

#### QUESTIONS about dragons in China

1. How many different color dragons are there in Chinese lore? What do the colors symbolize?
2. What is the Pearl of Wisdom? Who/what received them?
3. How many ways can you tell if a dragon is male or female?

#### *English / Literature*

1. The Dragon in *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie* is scary and angry because he is tied up. Write about an experience you have had when you have been scared. Did you sing a song like Anna Marie and Scout to help you through your fear? How were you able to overcome being scared?
2. Write a story about a dragon that has been guarding a treasure for one thousand years. Address these issues in your story: What is the treasure? Why is it being guarded? Where does the dragon live? How does the dragon feel? What are some of the things that have happened to the dragon during the thousand years? Is there something the dragon would rather do?

### **Activity**

Gather the students in a circle. Have a small ball (or other soft object) that the students will toss to one another. Start with the line, “Sylvester the dragon lived in a cave...” Have the students build the story with each student adding a sentence as they catch the ball.

### **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN\***

When Benjamin Franklin appears in *The Amazing Adventure of Anna Marie*, he is trying to figure out how to attract lightning to his kite. Like all successful scientists, he knows that the only way to achieve the desired outcome is to ask questions, work hard and keep experimenting.

Benjamin Franklin (1706 – 1790) was born in Boston, Massachusetts, the 15<sup>th</sup> of 17 children. As a boy he learned the soap and candle-making trade from his father. When he was twelve, Benjamin became an apprentice to his older brother and learned to be a printer.

Even though Benjamin was only able to attend school for two years, he loved to learn and taught himself many subjects including: algebra, geometry, navigation, logic, grammar, Latin, French, Italian, Spanish, and German. He also loved music and played the violin, guitar and harp. He even invented an instrument called the glass armonica (sometimes referred to as glass harmonica).

In 1723 Benjamin Franklin moved to Philadelphia where he pursued printing as his profession. By 1730, at the age of 24, he was able to open his own print shop. His business printed *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, one of the most popular newspapers in the colonies. He also wrote and printed *Poor Richard's Almanac*, which contains many of his most witty and widely quoted sayings.

In addition to his work as a printer, Benjamin Franklin began his career as a civic leader in 1736 when he became clerk of the Pennsylvania Assembly. He served as deputy postmaster general for the colonies and helped the postal system become more efficient. He also helped establish the world's first subscription library, America's first fire insurance company, a public hospital for the poor and mentally ill, and an academy for higher education that became the University of Pennsylvania. In 1788, Franklin became president of the first anti-slavery society in America. His last public act was to sign an appeal to Congress urging the abolition of slavery.

Although he was never elected to government office, Benjamin Franklin was active and respected in politics. He served the colonies as a diplomat in London where he negotiated with the British government in attempts to avoid war. Although Franklin was well respected by the British, the negotiations failed and he returned to Philadelphia as the Revolutionary War began. He was later sent to France where he was able to persuade the French government to aid the colonies in the fight against Great Britain. Benjamin Franklin is the only person to have signed all four of the major documents that were key to building the United States: the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain and the Constitution of the United States.

Benjamin Franklin was also a scientist and inventor. His most famous experiment proved that lightning is electricity. This discovery led to his invention of the lightning rod. He also invented bifocals and the Franklin Stove.

### *Social Studies*

Research the following things and discuss how they are related to Benjamin Franklin:

*Poor Richard's Almanac*

Franklin Stove

Declaration of Independence

Treaty of Alliance with France

Treaty of Peace with Great Britain

Constitution of the United States

Glass Armonica

Questions to ask about Benjamin Franklin:

Where was he born?

What kind of music did Ben like? Could he play an instrument?

What is *Poor Richard's Almanac*? How is it connected to Ben?

Can you name two of Ben's inventions?

How was Ben involved in the birth of America?

### **QUOTES:**

Ben Franklin was a wise and witty man. He is famous for his short sayings.

What do you think these mean?

**What is serving God?**

**Tis doing Good to Man.**

*When the well's dry, we know the worth of water.*

**Little strokes,**

**Fell great oaks.**

**Well done is better than well said.**

*All would live long, but none would be old.*

**Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.**

*Hide not your talents, they for use were made. What's a sun-dial in the shade?*

**Never leave that till tomorrow which you can do today.**

*Science*

Questions about inventors:

1. What are some differences and similarities between invention and discovery?
2. What are some character traits important to being an inventor?
3. What is something you can see in the room that had to be invented?
4. What would you invent? Why? How would it be used?

### **RESOURCES**

\*sources for the information presented in this study guide

PIRATES

<http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/pirates.html>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/pirates/>

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/kids-topics-pirates.htm>

Fiction

Nonfiction

*The Best Book of Pirates*, Barnaby Howard  
*The Great Pirate Activity Book*, Deri Robins and George Buchanan  
*Pirates (Single Subject References)*, Philip Steele

## CRICKETS

[www.uky.edu/Agriculture/Critterfiles](http://www.uky.edu/Agriculture/Critterfiles) \*  
<http://insected.arl.arizona.edu/cricketinfo.htm> \*

### **Fiction** (listed from younger to older readers)

*Quick as a Cricket*, Audrey Wood  
*Old Cricket*, Lisa Wheeler  
*The Cricket in Times Square*, George Sheldon  
*Chester Cricket's New Home*, George Sheldon  
*The Cricket Warrior: A Chinese Tale*, Margaret Chang  
*The Cricket's Cage*, Stefan Czernechi ( a legend from the Forbidden City)  
*Cricket Never Does: A collection of Haiku and Tanka*, Myra Livingston  
*The Cricket on the Hearth*, Charles Dickens

### **Nonfiction**

*Big Book of Bugs*, DK Publishing \*  
*Insects*, DK Publishing (also available in e.guide version)  
*Grasshoppers and Crickets*, Melvin Berger  
*Crickets and Grasshoppers*, Ann O. Squire  
*Listening to Crickets: A Story about Rachel Carson*, Candice F. Ransom

### **Music**

The Four Seasons, Spring, final section, Vivaldi  
El Grillo (The Cricket), Josquin des Prez (Flemish Renaissance music)

## DRAGONS

<http://www.dragnix.net/Basic/> \*  
A history of dragon lore.  
<http://www.colba.net/~tempest/> \*  
site with many links dedicated to dragon studies, lore, the physics of dragon design, etc.  
<http://www.crystalinks.com/chinadragons.html> \*  
Dedicated to the role of dragons in Chinese culture  
<http://www.chinapage.com/dragon1.html> \*  
Links to visual images of dragons throughout Chinese history (drawings on vases, sculpture, etc.)  
<http://webtech.kennesaw.edu/jcheek3/dragons.htm>  
Extensive site with activities, information and crafts suitable for students 1-6  
<http://www.blackdrago.com/index.html>  
Site dedicated to dragon lore and information, suitable for upper grades (5-6)  
<http://www.cdli.ca/CITE/dragons.htm>  
Extensive site designed especially for elementary students 1-6  
[http://www.abcteach.com/directory/theme\\_units/funkids/dragons/](http://www.abcteach.com/directory/theme_units/funkids/dragons/)

Site filled with many activities related to dragons, suitable for K-2

#### Books

##### Grades 3 -6

*Dragonology (Ologies)*, Ernest Drake

*How to Train Your Dragon*, Cressida Cowell

*The Book of Dragons*, Michael Hague

*The Sons of the Dragon King: A Chinese Legend*, Ed Young

*Dragons of Deltoa Series*, Emily Rudda

##### Grades 4-6

*Discovery of Dragons*, Graeme Base

*Dragon Rider*, Cornelia Funke

##### Grades 5-7

*Jeremy Thacher, Dragon Hatcher*, Bruce Coville

*Eragon*, Christoher Paolini

*Eldest*, Christopher Paolini

##### Grades 6+

*The Enchanted Forest Chronicles*, Patricia Wrede

*The Dragonlance Series*, Jeff Sampson

#### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

<http://sln.fi.edu/franklin/rotten.html> \*

The Franklin Institute site. Includes timelines, quotes, factoids and a short movie. Also links to electricity and science information related to Ben Franklin.

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/B/bfranklin/frankxx.htm> \*

Focuses on his life and role in American history.

<http://www.ushistory.org/franklin/> \*

Good source of information about all aspects of Ben's life. Includes links to his experiments, quotes and games for students based on Ben's life and science, and short video with Ben.

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/benfranklin/> \*

Specific site for students K – 12, with sites for parents/teachers (Check out the kites at the top of the web page) Ben's guide to the U.S. government and more

<http://library.thinkquest.org/22254/home.htm?tqskip1=1> \*

Site for older students with links to Franklin's written works, biography, etc.

<http://www.incwell.com/Biographies/Franklin.html> \*

site designed for students

[http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Benjamin\\_Franklin/](http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Benjamin_Franklin/) \*

quotes by Ben

#### Bibliography for Extended Readings (listed in order of difficulty)

*Ben Franklin and His First Kite*, Stephen Krensky

*Ben Franklin and the Magic Squares*, Frank Murphy  
*Shh! We're Working on the Constitution*, Jean Fritz  
*What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?*, Jean Fritz  
*How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning*, Rosalyn Schanzer  
*Ben and Me*, Robert Lawson  
*The Story of Benjamin Franklin*, Margaret Davidson  
*Ben Franklin of Old Philadelphia*, Margaret Cousins  
*The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, B. Franklin  
*Wit and Wisdom from Poor Richard's Almanack*, B. Franklin  
*The Ben Franklin Book of Easy and Incredible Experiments*, Franklin Institute Science Museum