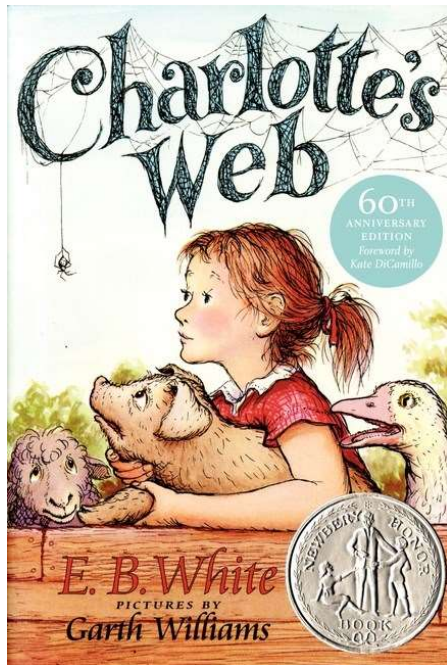




Family Fun Pack



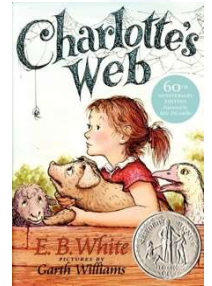
Charlotte's Web by E. B. White





Read-Aloud Tips For Families

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



- ✓ **Make reading time a priority** – Sit down as a family and decide on a daily reading time, and then consider it an appointment that needs to be kept. Some families might find that right before bed is the best time, but early risers might enjoy reading at breakfast. For younger listeners, bath time can be great! Build it into your daily routine and soon you will find that everyone is ready and waiting to hear what comes next in the story.
- ✓ **Show emotion that matches the story** – All of the books from **Read to Them** capture a range of emotions over the course of the story. When reading aloud, mirroring the emotions felt by the characters will make the story more meaningful to your listener.
- ✓ **Vary your rhythm** – Have fun with the language in your book. During suspenseful sections, *slow down* and let the suspense build. During a particularly meaningful moment, *pause* and let the impact settle. During emotion-packed scenes, drop your voice to a *whisper*. When you are reading aloud, you are performing the story. Authors don't want their stories performed in monotone!
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to be silly** – Accents, funny voices, and sound effects are all great tools to use to make reading aloud more engaging. Character-specific voices or mannerisms also help listeners follow the dialogue. It might be a challenge, but it's worth the effort to make your story come alive.
- ✓ **Stay engaged with your listener throughout your reading time** – Stop from time to time to explain an unfamiliar vocabulary word, discuss an important point, or ask your child to make a prediction. You don't want to derail the story too much, but you do want to make reading together interactive.
- ✓ **Expect some fidgeting** – Listening during reading time does not have to be a stationary activity. Some listeners will sit still as stones with eyes and ears fixed on you, and that's great. But other listeners stay more engaged with something in their hands like a small toy, some crayons, or a stuffed animal. Some children might listen better if allowed to walk around the room, or even bounce on the bed a bit. Work together to find the way that works best for your child.

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B

Use the [Connection Guide](#) to contact the publisher and let them know you're reading *Charlotte's Web*!

Discuss your favorite scene.

Create a scrapbook page profile of one of the characters from the book.

Read a picture book listed on the [Next Book Connections](#) sheet at the back of this packet.

Build a reading fort together!
bit.ly/readfort

I

Organize your home library.

Come up with distinct voices for the different characters in the book. Try using them in your home!

Get your whole family to read together in your pajamas!

Design a new cover for the book.

Find a picture book about pigs at your public library or local independent book store.

N

Write a poem about your home. Try a haiku, acrostic, or limerick!

Get out of your house and read a chapter out "in the wild" together!



Learn about the author of this book. What else did he write?

Learn three new facts about spiders.

G

Draw a spiderweb.

Find a quote in the book that's worthy of being shared. Put it on a banner, poster, or t-shirt!

Play charades!
Reenact a scene from the book without using words.

Try out one of the activities in the [Family Fun Packet](#).

Write a book review of *Charlotte's Web* for your teacher or school librarian.

O

Make bookmarks together!

Tell a friend or family member why they should read this book.

Write a letter to one of the characters in the book.

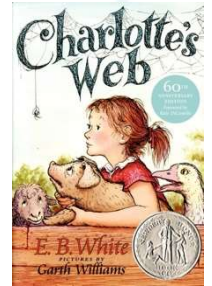
Make a list of new words you discover while reading together and learn their definitions.

Share a picture of your family reading with [@readtothem](#).





Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



Family Fun Cards

Pages 1-54

What do you know?

When Wilbur was little, what was his favorite thing?

What does Mr. Zuckerman offer Wilbur to lure him back to the barn?

What word does Charlotte use to say, "Hello"?

What do you think?

Wilbur reflects on the "gamble of friendship" and thinks about how different he and Charlotte are. What was your first impression of your best friend? Has time changed how you view your friend? What are two or three words you'd use to describe them?

What can you do?

Rain Plan

"Rain upset Wilbur's plans." (p. 15)

On Zuckerman's Farm, Wilbur finds himself getting lonely and bored—especially on rainy days that interrupted his usual routine. How does rain affect your plans? Plan some fun activities that your family can do the next time it rains. Be detailed and write out the fun indoor things you can do at home. If your plan involves games or craft ideas, make a plan to gather the things needed for them, and set them aside with your written plan. Then, the next time the rain interrupts your family's outdoor plans, consult your written plan and have fun together indoors!

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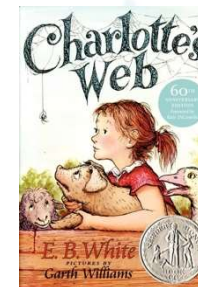
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Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



Family Fun Cards

Pages 55-117

What do you know?

Who took possession of the rotten goose egg?

Why is Mrs. Arable worried about Fern?

Who says, "If I can fool a bug, I can surely fool a man"?

What do you think?

Fern tells her parents about how Zuckerman's barn animals talk, causing her mother to worry about her health. Is there any reason that Mrs. Arable should be concerned? Why or why not? If someone told you they could understand animals, would you believe them? Is there any animal in particular you'd like to speak with?

What can you do?

Goosey Gab

"It's my idio-idio-idiosyncrasy." (p. 86)

The goose has a unique way of speaking. Sometimes she says something twice or even three times over, and sometimes she repeats the ending of a word. As she explains to Charlotte, "It's my idio-idio-idiosynrasy." Have a Goosey Gab Day where everyone in your family tries to emulate the goose's speech. You can all wake up with a "Good morning-orning-orning!" and sit down to a bowl of *cere-ere-ereal*. Be sure to check the *weather-eather-eather* before getting *ready-eady-eady* for the day. Keep it going and have fun with it! It'll be a *hoo-hoo-hoot!*

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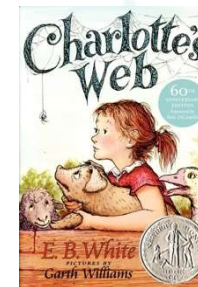
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Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



Family Fun Cards

Pages 118-184

What do you know?

What is the gander's idio-idio-idiosyncrasy?

Who says, "Children pay attention better than adults"?

What is Charlotte's *magnum opus*?

What do you think?

The Arables, Zuckermans, and the assortment of barnyard animals are all eagerly awaiting the fair. What is an event you've been very, very eager for? Describe it. Were you able to go to sleep the night before or were you too excited to get some rest?

What can you do?

Word Webs

"Bring me back a word!" (p. 138)

Charlotte sends Templeton on a mission to find the right word for her web to describe Wilbur. Do the same with your family! Scour through old mail, magazines, and catalogs to find the right words that describe others in your family. Or, come up with the words on your own and look for each of the letters to spell them out. Draw a spiderweb design on a piece of construction paper, and then glue the words to it. Feel free to add more than one word. When everyone is finished, give the webs to the person described to let them know how you see them.

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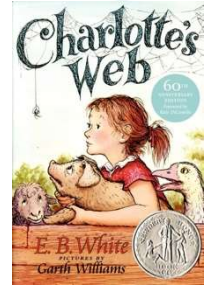
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Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



Family Fun Cards Answer Key

Pages 1-54

When Wilbur was little, what was his favorite thing?

A bottle from Fern

What does Mr. Zuckerman offer Wilbur to lure him back to the barn?

Slops

What word does Charlotte use to say, "Hello"?

"Salutations!"

Pages 55-117

Who took possession of the rotten goose egg?

Templeton, the rat

Why is Mrs. Arable worried about Fern?

Because she says the animals can talk

Who says, "If I can fool a bug, I can surely fool a man"?

Charlotte

Pages 118-184

What is the gander's idio-idio-idiosyncrasy?

He always repeats things.

Who says, "Children pay attention better than adults"?

Dr. Dorian

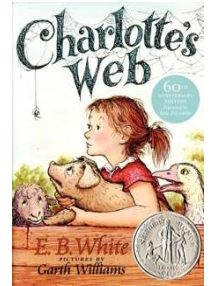
What is Charlotte's magnum opus?

Her egg sac



Connection Guide

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



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Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, & Pinterest: [@readtothem](#)

Email: programs@readtothem.org

Website: <https://www.readtothem.org/>

Connect with the publisher, HarperCollins

Facebook: [@harpercollinschildrens](#)

Instagram: [@harperkids](#)

Pinterest: [@HarperKidsBooks](#)

Twitter: [@HarperChildrens](#)

Website: www.harpercollins.com/childrens

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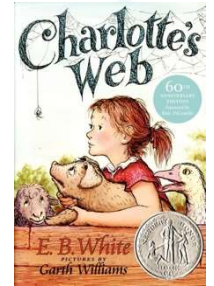
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Next Book Connections

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



If you loved *Charlotte's Web*, here are some other books your family might enjoy reading together...

Other books written by E. B. White:

- *Stuart Little*
- *The Trumpet of the Swan*

Picture books with similar themes:

- *I'm Trying to Love Spiders* – Bethany Barton
- *Spiders* – Nic Bishop
- *The SheepOver* – John Churchman
- *The Little Pig, the Bicycle, and the Moon* – Pierrette Dubé
- *Bear Out There* – Jacob Grant
- *Rabbit and the Motorcycle* – Kate Hoefler
- *The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig* – Steve Jenkins
- *On the Farm, At the Market* – G. Brian Karas
- *A House in the Woods* – Inga Moore
- *Everyone Gets a Say* – Jill Twiss
- *Together We Grow* – Susan Vaught
- *An Edible Alphabet* – Carol Watterson

Novels with similar themes:

- *The One and Only Ivan* – Katherine Applegate
- *Whittington* – Alan Armstrong
- *The Wild Robot* – Peter Brown
- *Moo* – Sharon Creech
- *Thimble Summer* – Elizabeth Enright
- *The Spider* – Elise Gravel
- *Vilonia Beebe Takes Charge* – Kristin L. Gray
- *The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City* – Jodi Kendall
- *Babe: The Gallant Pig* – Dick King-Smith
- *The Adventures of a South Pole Pig* – Chris Kurtz
- *Rabbit Hill* – Robert Lawson
- *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse* – Charlie Mackesy
- *Bridge to Terabithia* – Katherine Paterson
- *Pax* – Sara Pennypacker
- *Gooseberry Park* – Cynthia Rylant
- *Gone Crazy in Alabama* – Rita Williams-Garcia

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