

## ***THE BOXCAR CHILDREN***

### **COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY:**

*The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner is represented by the abbreviation **BC**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first lines of the week's daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **DAY 1**, **DAY 2**, **DAY 3** and **DAY 4** abbreviations. **The chapter study questions, chapter vocabulary and glossary are located in the Elementary Literature Study Question booklets available for purchase from Kolbe Academy.** Answers should be given in complete written or oral sentences. We suggest reading the weekly written assignment to the student at the beginning of the week. The student should write the assignment down on a note card (to be used as a bookmark) so that he can think about the assignment as he reads. The written assignments are suggested to be started on Thursday after the reading is done and completed by the following Monday. As the teacher, be sure to review the final exam **now** to ensure all concepts are covered with your student as he reads the book.

*The Boxcar Children* was written in 1942, and its popularity inspired a whole series of mysteries. It is about four orphans who live on their own in an abandoned boxcar because they think there is no one who cares for them. Their love for one another and willingness to work allow them to enjoy their time on their own. Eventually they find that there is someone who can care for them.

**Extra Credit for the Course:** Read one of the Boxcar Children Mysteries that was not written by Gertrude Chandler Warner after you complete this first one. Can you tell the difference in the style and theme? Incorporate a comparison of the two books into your book report at the end of the course.

### **Characters:**

**Henry James Alden:** The oldest of the four children, responsible and kind

**Jessie Alden:** The older girl, who acts as mother to the younger children

**Violet Alden:** The younger girl, who helps Jessie run the house

**Benny Alden:** The little boy, who makes everyone laugh

**Watch:** The dog who finds the children in the boxcar

**James Henry Alden:** The children's grandfather, who is very rich

**Dr. Moore:** The kind doctor who gives Henry a job

**Mrs. Moore:** The doctor's mother

**The Baker's Wife:** The woman who is mean to the children

◆ COURSE PLAN ◆

WEEK 1			
Book	Weekly Breakdown	Goals and Notes for the Week	
BC	Chapter 1 – 4 Written Assignment	Have the student look up all the vocabulary words for Chapters 1-4 in the glossary prior to reading. You may want to have the student write each one in a sentence. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed.	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 50px; float: left; margin-bottom: 5px;">Notes</div>    			
Student Daily Assignments		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parent Daily Guidelines
DAY 1	BC Chapter 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have the student <b>read Chapter 1 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 1.</b> The children go to a bakery and buy some bread. They ask the baker’s wife if they can stay there for the night. She lets them, but only because she wants to keep them to work for her and send the youngest off to a children’s home. When they hear her say this, they escape.
DAY 2	BC Chapter 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have the student <b>read Chapter 2 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 2.</b> The children walk all night. When morning approaches, they sleep in a haystack. The next night, they continue to walk, and manage to hide from the baker and his wife. The next day, they sleep on pine needles by a drinking fountain.
DAY 3	BC Chapter 3 & 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have the student <b>read Chapter 3-4 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 3.</b> When Jessie wakes up, it is about to rain. She finds an abandoned boxcar where they can have shelter. They decide to live there. Henry goes to town. <b>Chapter 4.</b> A dog comes out of the woods, and Jessie takes a thorn out of his foot. They decide to keep him. They find a blueberry patch and pick berries. Henry comes back with food. The children eat, make beds of pine needles, wash, and go to bed.
DAY 4	BC Written Assignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have the student complete the written assignment, due Monday. <b>Written Assignment:</b> The book does not exactly tell us which child is oldest and which is youngest, but we can tell by the way they act. Describe the aspects of each child’s personality which show where they stand in the birth order.

◆ COURSE PLAN ◆

Week 1 Grade Book				
Assignments	Include <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(A) Points Earned	(B) Possible Points	A/B x100 =% (C)
Glossary Sentences	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Study Questions	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Written Assignment	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Week 1 Average</b>	<b>Add up column C &amp; divide by number of included <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> assignments =</b>			<b>%</b>