



CHAMP

A Novel By

Marcia Thornton Jones

~2010 Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award Winner

~2008 KIND Children's Honor Book

~2007 Scholastic Book Fairs Feature Book

Theme Activities for You and Your Students!

Competition: Champ proves that there is more than one way to be a winner. So can you!

- For most competitions, there are more losers than there are winners. Write an instruction brochure for 'how to lose with grace'.
- Write a script demonstrating good sportsmanship. Perform it for primary students.
- What does it take to be a winner? Make a two-column chart. On one side write three long-term goals for yourself. On the other side, list mini-steps that would help you achieve your three big goals.
- "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game!" Research your favorite team sport by studying the newspaper and using the Internet. Analyze data statisticians keep on players and teams. Based on what you learn, develop criteria for choosing the most valuable player of the season.

Building Bridges: Riley likes to build bridges with toothpicks. That's not the only kind of bridges he builds!

- Research and sketch different kinds of bridges. Try building your own toothpick bridge!
- Research a region of the world. Determine the impact bridges had on the cultural, economic, and environmental development of the region.
- Some bridges can't be seen! Read the newspaper and identify rifts between people, communities, cultures, and/or countries. If you were in charge of the world, how would you help build a 'bridge' between the two conflicting sides?
- List ten different ways to say or show, "I'm sorry".

Perspective: CHAMP is told from Riley's point of view.

- Rewrite chapter one in the form of a monologue spoken from the point of view of Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Lerner, Riley's father, and /or Champ. How would knowing their points of view change the story?
- If dogs could talk...What would Champ say to Mrs. Lerner? To Riley? To Riley's father? Write a dialogue between Champ and other characters in the story.
- Research famous artists. How do they show perspective in their work?
- What does the agility course look like to a mapmaker? To Champ? To a snail? Draw pictures showing the different perspectives.

For more information and fun activities visit www.MarciaTJones.com