

Honey Butter - Reading Guide



Jamie Johnson is a seven-year-old girl with an annoying older sister, a short attention span, and an odd hobby of collecting paint sample cards.

Laren Lark is an almost-thirteen-year-old girl with a love of books, a talent for poetry, and a past full of road school adventures.

This book is a whimsical story about what happened to them one fateful summer, with a pound of friendship, a gallon of family, and a ton of everyday joy.

Honey Butter is written for children ages 7-13, and is a Finalist in the Reader's Favorite Book Awards.

It's a great read-aloud for families, bookclubs, Homeschool Co-ops, and Schools. This guide includes some ways to enhance the reading experience for any of these groups, or even for a personal read.



To find out more about this book and its author, please visit millieflorence.com

Activities

- Pick out a few paint cards at a hardware or paint store. Kids will enjoy playing with the cards while an adult reads the book aloud. Make the wheel of complimentary colors, form patterns with the cards or use them for crafts like making bookmarks or collages.
- Make up your own paint card titles. You can use your imagination, or make a list of words and arrange them in different ways to come up with titles.
- Use sidewalk chalk outside to create your own chalk flower garden just like Jamie and Laren do. Work together as a team to make one big garden, or make your own separate gardens.
- Try writing some poetry as Laren does. If you want, go on a quest for inspiration like Laren and Jamie. Go to the park or into your own backyard. Bring some paper and pencils, and maybe a few simple snacks. Spend some time writing or reading poetry together.
- Make a calendar with funny holidays like those mentioned in the book. You can visit <http://holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/index.htm> to find out what holidays are celebrated which days. This is the website the author used to find funny holidays while writing Honey Butter.

Discussion

These are some questions to go through after reading the book. There are no right or wrong answers. Think of them as conversation starters.

- Why do you think Jamie likes paint cards so much?
- Why do you think Jamie and Erica can't get along?
- Why does Jamie want to be friends with Laren?
- How are Jamie, Laren, and Erica alike? How are they different?
- Who was your favorite character and why?
- Why do you think Erica said that she hated Jamie?
- Why do you think Jamie broke Erica's bracelet?
- Why do you think Jamie gave her paint cards back to the store in the end? Was that a good choice?
- Did you like the guests at Erica's party? Why or why not?
- What do you think will happen to the characters now that the story is over?

Food

Eating food that is involved in a story enhances the experience of reading the book. You're able to bring a part of it alive, making the story more immersive and real, especially to children. Plus, making and eating new dishes is just plain fun! The recipes here are suggestions, but feel free to find your own to make.

Laren's Sunbeam Tea

"Sitting on the step next to her was a cup full of something, most likely tea, but the way the light fell over it, it looked more like a cup of liquid sunbeams."

Make chamomile tea with teabags, according to the box's instructions. Drink hot or iced. Or, if you're feeling up to a challenge, try this recipe: <http://www.beginningwithbergamot.com/home/magic-golden-wellness-tea>

Raspberry Cream Pie

"My family made raspberry pie yesterday, actually. You know, because it was National Raspberry Cream Pie Day. And I don't think I've ever had raspberry cream pie before, let alone heard of a day for it. But it was scrumptious."

For a special treat, make this delicious chilled pie. A perfect summer treat!
<https://thepioneerwoman.com/cooking/raspberry-cream-pie/>

Jamie's Monster Cookie

"Before long, Jamie and her mother were seated at a table near the window in the corner. The smell of cinnamon sugar wafted around them and soft music was playing. Jamie was eating a monster cookie and her mom had gotten a lemon and orange scone."

Mrs. Johnson knows that cookies are the way to Jamie's heart. Make this fun recipe together after reading this special mother-daughter bonding moment.
<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/paula-deen/monster-cookies-recipe-1916744>

Digging Deeper

Are you reading Honey Butter as a book club? School class? Homeschool Co-op?

Well, you're in luck! Millie Florence offers free Skype appearances at all of the above! Email her at author@millieflorence.com to set up the event. Kids can ask questions, share opinions, and learn about what it takes to write a book.

Just reading it as a family? No problem! You can still contact Millie Florence with your questions, comments and any other media, such as fan art or book reports.

If you enjoyed the book, please consider leaving a review on Amazon or Goodreads to help the story reach more readers. Or, if you would like to look at other books by Millie Florence, visit her website at millieflorence.com