



TeachersFirst **READING TREKS**

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

[TeachersFirst Reading Treks Link](#)

Synopsis of Book

This fantasy adventure by Kate DiCamillo tells of the travels of Edward Tulane, a china rabbit, who is the favorite toy of the young girl Abilene. Told from Edward's point of view, the story follows Edward from his comfortable life to the mishap that sends him overboard the Queen Mary. After many years at the bottom of the ocean, Edward washes ashore and a fisherman rescues him. He spends a long time traveling from one owner to another, learning many lessons about life and love until miraculously reuniting with the adult Abilene.

Using a TeachersFirst Reading Treks to Explore This Book

TeachersFirst Reading Treks are a way of creating a virtual field trip of resources about a piece of literature or text. To motivate and enrich student reading, teachers and students can reference this visual collection of web resources and images as they relate to a book.

TeachersFirst has done the hard work for you! Use the activities in this Instructional Guide and the accompanying Google Map as you and your students explore this book. And, if you feel inspired, you (or your students) can create your own Reading Trek about this or another book!

Grade Level & Content Areas

Grades 3-5 English Language Arts, English, reading, literature, social studies, including history and geography
RL = 4.5, Lexile = 700.

Common Core State Standards for Grades K-6

Reading

- **Informational Text** (key ideas and details and craft and structure)
- **Literature** (key ideas and details and craft and structure)

Writing

- **Text Types and purposes**
- **Research** (to build and present knowledge)

ISTE: Student Standards

(1) Empowered Learner: Students leverage technology to take an active role in choosing, achieving and demonstrating competency in their learning goals, informed by the learning sciences.

(3) Knowledge Constructor: Students critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others.

(6) Creative Communicator: Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.

Using the Reading Trek in Class

1. Introduce the book to the whole class using an interactive whiteboard or individually research more about the book using the Reading Trek as a web quest.
2. Using the layers for each character that finds Edward, make charts or character maps of other humans in the story using the Reading Trek layers for background information.
3. Although many of the places are not named, use the different layers of the Reading Trek to explore Edward's journey and the places he might have lived in his travels. This can be done together as a class, in a small groups, or individually.
4. Using the layers of the map, especially "Edward's Travels" and "Memphis and Beyond" to learn about the 1930s. Discuss or make comparison charts of childhood then and now.
5. For math and geography skills, using the places on the map, have students trace Edwards' journey, compute mileage and explore the different areas of the country where he lived.
6. Have students Have students tell the story from one of the character's points of view as a writing assignment using the Reading Trek for more information.
7. Abilene's Grandmother has sayings and stories. Pick one and write about what it means in your life.

Additional Activities

1. Use the Reading Trek for stimulating further discussion, asking questions, or writing prompts.
2. Individually or in small groups, create Reading Treks of the book or a particular passage or topic about the book.
3. Use one of the tools explained in this webinar [OK2Ask: Go to the Edge: Tour of TeachersFirst Edge Tools](#) to create a timeline, mind map, or character map for one aspect of the book.
4. Students, individually or in groups create Reading Treks about historical events, places, and people related to the book and share with the class.
5. Discuss information about the author, places in the story, characters, important events, discussion questions, related reading, or read-alikes.

6. Create a comic strip of Edward's travels using an [online comicstrip creator](#).

Helpful Resources

- [Candlewood Press Teacher's Resources Guide](#)
- [TeachersFirst CurriConnects Book List - Maps](#)
- [OK2Ask: Mapping Across Content Areas with Google](#)
- [Ok2Ask: Seeing is Believing: Make Literature Come Alive with Google Lit Trips](#)