The Littles by John Peterson comprehension packet includes activities such as comprehension questions, vocabulary, making predictions, drawing pictures to help visual learners, and writing story endings. It asks for students to describe scenes and feelings and will test the knowledge of each chapter. This packet includes a key.
The Littles (M)
By: John Peterson

Chapter 1

1. Describe the Littles. What do they look like?

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2. Where do the Littles live?

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3. How are they different from people?

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4. How do they get the things they need?

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5. Where was the door to the Biggs' Kitchen?

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6. Do you think the Littles are thieves? Why or why not?

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7. Why was it a good thing that the Biggs had the Littles living there?

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Chapter 2
1. Name the members of the Littles family.

2. What good was Henry Biggs old red sock to the Littles?

3. What are the Littles so nervous about?

4. What are several reasons why this could be bad news for the Littles?

5. What is the worst fear they have?

Chapter 3
1. Where is the Littles’ secret look out place?

2. How does it work and why do Mr. Little and Tom spend all day there?
3. What are the Newcombs hoping to do a lot of while the Briggs are away?
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4. What is a masterpiece?
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5. What does it mean to “loaf”?
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Chapter 4
1. Why is Uncle Pete unhappy with the Newcombs?
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2. Why didn’t Mrs. Little ever learn to cook?
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3. Why does Granny think mice will come now that the Newcombs are in the house?
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Chapter 5
1. How could the Littles hear what was happening in the Biggs house?

2. What are some good things about the Newcombs?

3. What are some bad things about the Newcombs?

4. Why did the mice come?

5. How will they protect themselves?

6. What’s a crack shot?

7. How does Uncle Tim lose his life?

Chapter 6
Vocabulary- Describe what each word means.

timid-_________________________________________________________
armed-________________________________________________________
gnaw-_________________________________________________________
quiver-_________________________________________________________

Read to p. 33
What is your opinion of the Newcombs? What made you feel this way?
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Chapter 7

1. If Uncle Pete and Lucy had a narrow escape – what almost happened?
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2. How did Uncle Pete make homemade torches?
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3. What is Tom's plan?
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4. What is a “passageway”?
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5. Draw a picture of how Tom and Mr. Little got into the Biggs’ kitchen.

6. Did the plan work?

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Chapter 8

1. What is a “radiator”?

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2. On p. 51, how does the author show that Mr. Little is proud of Tom?

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3. If you have a limp, what part of your body is hurting?

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4. Uncle Pete says, “It’s not good to stick your head in the sand like an ostrich.” What does this mean?

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5. How do you think the Littles will get rid of the mice?

Chapter 9

1. What doesn’t Mr. Little find in the kitchen?

2. What is Lucy’s brave decision?

3. How was Lucy helpful?

4. Where had Tom and Uncle Pete been all this time?

Chapter 10

1. What is the Littles’ new problem?

2. What’s the plan?
3. If that fails, what's the next plan?

4. What does Granny suggest to get the plan off to a good start?

5. Simile: a figure of speech comparing two unlike things that is often introduced by like or as. For example, “the girl’s cheeks were like roses.” Write the simile on p. 67 on the lines below.

6. Write the simile from p. 70 on the lines below.

Predict: Do you think the Littles plan to tame the cat will work? Why or why not?

Chapter 11

1. What did Tom do that was brave?
2. Write the ending of the story in your own words?

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Chapter 1
1. Describe the Littles. What do they look like?
The Littles are almost like people, but smaller. They are 6 inches or less tall and have tails.

2. Where do the Littles live?
The Littles live with the Biggs in their house.

3. How are they different from people?
They are different from people because they are much smaller and have tails.

4. How do they get the things they need?
They get everything they need from the Biggs.

5. Where was the door to the Biggs’ Kitchen?
The door to the Bigg’s kitchen is through an electrical socket on the kitchen counter.

6. Do you think the Littles are thieves? Why or why not?
Answers may vary.

7. Why was it a good thing that the Biggs had the Littles living there?
The Littles keep the plumbing and electricity working.

Chapter 2
1. Name the members of the Littles family.
Tom, Lucy, Granny, Uncle Pete, Mr. and Mrs. Little

1. What good was Henry Biggs old red sock to the Littles?
The old sock provided the Littles with yarn.

2. What are the Littles so nervous about?
The Littles are nervous because the Biggs are going to be on vacation for three months and another family “The Newcombs” that they don’t know will be coming to stay at the house.

3. What are several reasons why this could be bad news for the Littles?
They could find out the Littles live at the house or they could have some bothersome pets.

4. What is the worst fear they have?
Their worst fear is that The Newcombs will bring a cat with them.

Chapter 3
1. Where is the Littles' secret look out place?
The Little’s secret lookout place is behind the lightswitch in the hallway.

2. How does it work and why do Mr. Little and Tom spend all day there?
The Littles look through a screw hole where the screw is missing. They are waiting for the Newcombs to come.

1. What are the Newcombs hoping to do a lot of while the Briggs are away?
Mr. Bigg is going to paint. Mrs. Bigg is going to write. They both plan on doing nothing else, not even taking out the garbage.

2. What is a masterpiece?
A great piece of art.

3. What does it mean to “loaf”?
To be lazy or let time pass at a leisurely pace

Chapter 4
1. Why is Uncle Pete unhappy with the Newcombs?
The house is a mess.

2. Why didn’t Mrs. Little ever learn to cook?
They always relied on the Biggs for everything they needed. Mr. Bigg was such a good cook.

1. Why does Granny think mice will come now that the Newcombs are in the house?
The house is not being cleaned and there will be crumbs.

Chapter 5
1. How could the Littles hear what was happening in the Biggs house?
The Littles could hear what was happening because their living room wall was next to the Biggs’ living room and near the ceiling there was a hold in the wall where the Littles poked holes in the wallpaper.

1. What are some good things about the Newcombs?
Some good things about the Newcombs are that they are entertaining. The Littles listen to Mrs. Newcomb read.

2. What are some bad things about the Newcombs?
Some bad things about the Newcombs are that they leave food out, don’t sweep the floors, and the garbage is overflowing.

3. Why did the mice come?
Because of all the crumbs left by not cleaning up.

4. How will they protect themselves?
They plan to use a bow and arrow.

5. What’s a crack shot?
A crack shot means you hit the target right on the first time.

7. How does Uncle Tim lose his life?
Uncle Tim lost his life during the Mouse Invasion of 35’ rescuing Mr. Little from a mouse.

Chapter 6

Vocabulary- Describe what each word means.

- timid-shy
- armed- have weapons
- gnaw- chew on
- quiver-a case for arrows

Read to p. 33
What is your opinion of the Newcombs? What made you feel this way

Answers will vary.

Chapter 7

1. If Uncle Pete and Lucy had a narrow escape – what almost happened?
Uncle Pete and Lucy almost didn’t escape.

1. How did Uncle Pete make homemade torches?
They used burnt matches.

2. What is Tom’s plan?
Tom’s plan is to make the Newcombs see a mouse by having him dress up as one and run in front of Mrs. Newcomb.
3. What is a “passageway”?
A small area or way that leads to somewhere.

4. Draw a picture of how Tom and Mr. Little got into the Biggs’ kitchen.

Answers vary.

5. Did the plan work?
Yes, Mrs. Newcomb thought she saw a mouse.

Chapter 8

1. What is a “radiator”?
A heating device which uses pipes and water.

2. On p. 51, how does the author show that Mr. Little is proud of Tom?
He has Mr. Little say, “I wish you could have seen him” and “It was something to see”.

1. If you have a limp, what part of your body is hurting?
If you have a limp, your leg is hurting.

2. Uncle Pete says, “It’s not good to stick your head in the sand like an ostrich.”
   What does this mean?
It means you can’t hide or ignore things.

3. How do you think the Littles will get rid of the mice?
Answers vary.

Chapter 9

1. What doesn’t Mr. Little find in the kitchen?
Tom, Uncle Pete or mice/micetraps.

2. What is Lucy’s brave decision?
Lucy decided to go out and help her father.
1. How was Lucy helpful?
Lucy was able to save her father by jabbing the cat with an arrow.

2. Where had Tom and Uncle Pete been all this time?
Tom and Uncle Pete had been hiding under the logs in the fireplace.

Chapter 10

1. What is the Littles’ new problem?
The Littles’ new problem is the Newcombs got a cat.

2. What’s the plan?
The plan is to get the cat into trouble by pulling down the curtains, spilling milk, making cat noises, and knocking over lamps.

3. If that fails, what’s the next plan?
If that fails, they may tame the cat.

4. What does Granny suggest to get the plan off to a good start?
Granny suggests that they give the cat a present, a ball of yarn.

5. Simile: a figure of speech comparing two unlike things that is often introduced by like or as. For example, “the girl’s cheeks were like roses.” Write the simile on p. 67 on the lines below.
Mrs. Newcomb must be mad as a wet hen by now.

6. Write the simile from p. 70 on the lines below.
Making friends with a cat is like making friends with a rattlesnake.

Predict: Do you think the Littles plan to tame the cat will work? Why or why not?
Answers vary.

Chapter 11

8. What did Tom do that was brave?
Tom was the first one to go towards the cat.

9. Write the ending of the story in your own words?
Answers vary.

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