

A decorative border surrounds the central white area, featuring white line-art illustrations of various plants and flowers on a dark grey background. The top border shows leaves and stems. The left border features large, bell-shaped flowers. The right border shows a cluster of small, five-petaled flowers on a stem. The bottom border shows a variety of leaves and stems.

# **Bridge to Terabithia**

**By: Katherine Paterson**



# One: Jesse Oliver Aarons Jr.



**1. Who is our main character?**

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**2. What is his one goal this 5th grade year?**

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**3. What steps is he taking in order to achieve his goal?**

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**4. Why is Jesses' momma calling him lazy, difficult for him to hear? Do you think he is?**

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## Two: Leslie Burke



**1. Why do you think Jesse would feel so lonely, even though he has a large family?**

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**2. Because Jesse was more tired than usual, what did he need to do differently in regard to his running?**

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**3. What secret does Jesse have?**

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**4. Who is Leslie Burke?**

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## Three: The fastest kid in the Fifth Grade



**1. What is Jesse afraid to show people? Why?**

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**2. What happened at the race that was surprising?**

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**3. What did the race prove for Leslie?**

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## Four: Rulers of Terabithia



**1. At the end of the first week of school, what did they know was over? Why?**

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**2. What did Leslie say that left the class in uproar?**

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**3. Why did Janice say that Jess tripped her?**

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**4. What is the secret place that only Jesse and Leslie know about? Describe it.**

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# Five: The Giant Killers



**1. Who was the giant in Leslie's and Jesse's life?**

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**2. What happened to May Belle?**

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**3. To 'rectify' the situation, what did Jesse and Leslie do? Would you have thought to do the same thing?**

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## Six: The Coming of Prince Terrian



**1. What holiday fast approached?**

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**2. Why was Jesse so concerned about getting Leslie something?**

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**3. What gift did he end up getting her?**

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**4. What gift did he get in return?**

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**5. Who is Prince Terrian?**

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**6. Out of all the gifts Jesse received, which do you think was his favorite? Why?**

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# Seven: The Golden Room



**1. Where did the title of this chapter come from?**

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**2. Why was Jesse jealous of Mr. Burke?**

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**3. What had changed his feelings about him?**

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**4. Who is Leslie's half friend? How did that happen?**

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**5. Why did Jesse lay awake for a long time after talking with May Belle?**

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# **Eight: Easter**



**1. Just like our characters, have you attended an Easter Sunday service before?**

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**2. Why do the Aarons only go on that Sunday each year?**

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**3. What ended up being Jesse's bargaining tool, when it came to Easter Sunday church?**

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**4. What did Jesses ask for with his bargaining tool?**

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# Eleven: No!



**1. What happened to Leslie?**

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**2. What was Jesse's reaction?**

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**3. Do you think he feels guilty? Why?**

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**4. When he awoke the next day, what was off about him?**

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# Twelve: Stranded



**1. What happened to Jesse that made things finally click about Leslie? Can you relate to anything that Jesse is feeling?**

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**2. With his anger, what did Jesse do? Have you ever done anything similar?**

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**3. What favor is Jesse doing for Bill?**

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# Thirteen: Building the Bridge



**1. What did Jesse do in Terabithia for Leslie?**

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**2. Why was May Belle scared?**

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**3. When Leslie's parents went back to Pennsylvania, they told the Aaron's they could have anything. What did Jesse want? Why?**

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**4. How will Terabithia be different now?**

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## Book Extension Activities



- **Watch the movie- compare and contrast it to the book, pulling in page numbers of scenes in the story that differ from how it was depicted in the movie**
    - **use anchor charts to show similarities and differences whole group**
    - **Use a Venn Diagram or other organizational chart to organize individual thoughts**
  - **Create a flow chart of timeline of events or character relationships**
  - **Write an alternate ending, final chapter of the book**
  - **Build your own shoe box diagram of the Bridge to Terabithia**
  - **Try and build a bridge, using different materials to determine which is the most sturdy**
  - **Draw your own Terabithia- also can be done progressively as the book is being read**
  - **Examples: (can create a picture book to highlight particular events in the book)**
    - **golden room**
    - **The Perfect Day**
    - **the river**
  - **Whole group progressive drawing, each member of the group adding different elements to Terabithia... could be great for a team name, table name, theme for the unit, and artwork can be displayed around the room**
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