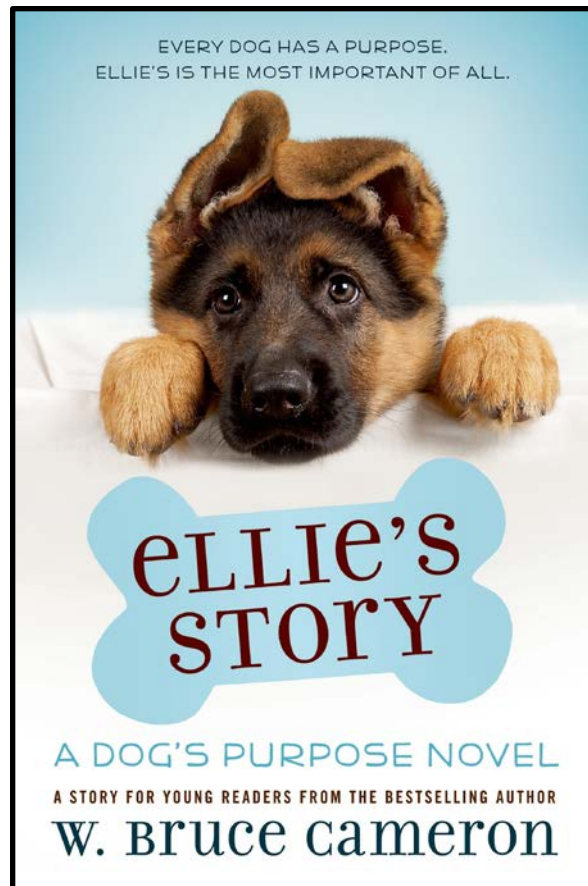


A Study Guide for *Ellie's Story*

Written by W. Bruce Cameron



Study Guide Written by Judith Robben, MA. Ed.

CHAPTER 1

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

scrambled, mysterious, fascinating

1. (Details RI.4.1) What does Ellie blame her brother for in the first few pages of Chapter 1?

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(Details and Dialogue) How do you know Ellie is a girl? Find evidence in the text and use quotation marks to cite the evidence.

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2. (Figurative Language) What simile does the author use to describe grass?

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3. (Humor and Details RI.4.1) Explain how author W. Bruce Cameron uses humor when Ellie is told, “Good dog” for following the man. Support your answer with a detail from the text.

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4. Name the 3 different tasks that Jakob makes Ellie perform:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. (Inference RL.4.4) Why do you think Jakob makes Ellie do several tasks before choosing to take Ellie home? What detail from the text helps you make this inference?

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CHAPTER 2

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

grudge, bounded, thrashed

1. (Details RI.4.1) What clue words does author W. Bruce Cameron use to show that Ellie does not like the truck ride?

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2. (Context Clues) When Ellie explores her new home, identify the following actual objects that she encounters. What clue words help you make these inferences?

Ellie's Words	Actual Object	Clue Words in Text
"little doors" pg. 21		
"a box that made noise" pg. 21		
"The animal...zigged and zagged" pg. 22		

3. (Details RI.4.1) What are Ellie's favorite words from Jakob, and why are they Ellie's favorite words?

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4. (Details RI.4.1) Cite two reasons why Ellie does not like sleeping in her bed.

a. _____

b. _____

5. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Ellie enjoys Georgia more than Jakob? Cite at least one detail from the text as evidence.

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6. (Details RI.4.1) What are the two tricks Ellie learns in Chapter 2, and which one is her favorite?

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CHAPTER 3

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

*strained, frantically, contribution,
barreling, hoisted*

1. (Details RI.4.1 and Inference RL.4.1) Why does the game of “Find” get harder for Ellie in Chapter 3? Use at least one detail from the text.

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2. (Details RI.4.1) How does author W. Bruce Cameron use humor on p. 35 when explaining the “Show Me” game. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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3. (Details RI.4.1) List the three new tasks Ellie has to learn at the park.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

4. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Ellie needs to become comfortable with:
- a. Being hoisted off the ground?

- b. The sound of a gunshot?

CHAPTER 4

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

enthusiasm, utter, panic

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Jakob say, “Ellie’s not that kind of dog?” Explain using a detail.

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2. What is Ellie talking about when she says, “Water was shooting up out of the middle of it?”

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What clue words help the reader figure this out?

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3. (Details RI.4.1) Why is Ellie not willing to go into the water to fetch the stick? Use a detail from the text to support your answer.

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4. (Inference RL.4.1) Why does Jakob decide to jump into the water? What is Jakob’s purpose for doing so? Use a detail to support your answer.

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5. (Inference RL.4.1) What do you think the shiny thing is that Jacob takes off his belt? What detail helps you make this inference?

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CHAPTER 5

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

alert, aroma, scarlet tanager

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why is the second “Find” in Chapter 5 harder than the first “Find” in Chapter 4? Write a detail to support your answer.

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2. (Inference RL.4.1) What can you infer about Gypsy’s job as a police dog? Support your answer with a detail.

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3. (Detail RI4.1) Why is Amy worried about Cammie? Cite evidence to support your answer.

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4. (Prediction) Make a prediction as to what Ellie will be doing in Chapter 6, and cite a detail from the text as evidence for your prediction.

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CHAPTER 6

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

*Alzheimer's disease, astounded, tantalizing,
objected, adoration*

1. (Details RI.4.1) What is Ellie's first task as a working dog in Chapter 6? Use a detail to support your answer.

2. (Details RI.4.1) Where does Ellie find the missing lady?

3. (Details RI.4.1) What does Ellie realize about her purpose in Chapter 6? Use a detail to support your answer.

4. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Ellie gets to play her favorite game of tug after finding Marilyn? Cite a detail to support your inference.

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5. (Inference RL4.1) What can you conclude about where Jakob and Ellie go at the end of the Chapter 6? List at least two details to support your inference.

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CHAPTER 7

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

drowsy, frantically, resist, ordinarily, seesaw

1. (Inference RL4.1 and Details RI4.1) Ellie and Jakob take a helicopter ride on the next “Work” in Chapter 7. Ellie says, “Jakob took me in the truck to the biggest pond I’d ever seen” (p. 68).

What can you infer about what this pond actually is? Cite at least two clues that help you make this inference.

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2. (Details RI4.1) Explain how Ellie brings smiles to Jakob after finding the the little girl. What exactly makes Jakob chuckle?

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CHAPTER 8

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

tolerantly, anxiety, surveillance, bewilderment, entwined

1. (Details RI.4.1 and Time Order Summary W.4.3.c) Explain how Ellie tracks the scent of the little girl to a parked car. Use time order words to explain Ellie's steps.

2. (Details RI.4.1 and Quotation W4.2.b) Why does Ellie think the two Terriers are jealous of her? Use quotations marks to cite the evidence.

3. (Details RI.4.1) How does Ellie know to lead Jakob down the steep road on the other side of the gate? Cite a detail from the text to support your answer.

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CHAPTER 9

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

hackles, sternness, cunning, gingerly, wrenched

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Ellie say, “My hackles rose when our eyes met and I felt my lips pulling up to show my teeth” (p. 82). Use a detail to support your answer.

2. (Figurative Language L.4.5) What is the example of onomatopoeia presented in the text, and what sound does it represent?

3. (Inference RL.4.1) How does the reader know that Jakob is hurt? Use two details to support your answer.

4. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Ellie wrench herself free from the policeman's hand and run? Use details to support your answer.

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CHAPTER 10

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

gnawed, tension, sprawled, blissfully, warily

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Ellie feel like she is being punished?

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2. (Details RI.4.1) Who is the new character in Chapter 10, and what is she worried about?

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3. (Details RI.4.1) What is Wally trying to teach Maya?

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4. (Details RI.4.1 and Character Analysis R) Why is “Work” different with Maya than with Jakob? Be sure to use at least one detail to compare the characters’ actions.

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CHAPTER 11

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

resign, certified, determination, steadily, eagerly

1. (Details RI.4.1) List three activities that Ellie loves to do at Maya's house.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

2. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Maya think she is not good enough to be certified? Use a detail as text evidence.

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3. (Details RI.4.1) What does Maya do to solve her problem the next day?

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4. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Ellie is running slowly to Find Belinda? Use a detail to support your inference.

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5. (Humor in Text and Details RI.4.1) How does author W. Bruce Cameron use humor when Ellie talks about Emmet? Cite a detail as evidence.

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6. (Time Order Summary W.4.c) Explain how Ellie takes the sadness away from Maya at the end of the chapter. Be sure to use transition words and complete sentences.

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CHAPTER 12

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

barreled, core, dissolved, investigate, awkwardly

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why is Jakob taking Disability now?

2. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Jakob tell Maya that she can't quit her police job with Ellie? Use at least two details as text evidence.

3. (Details RI.4.1) How can you tell that Ellie is also concerned about people's feelings even though her purpose is to "Find"? Cite two details in your answer.

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A. (Details RI.4.1 and Quotation Marks) What is the one sentence that W. Bruce Cameron writes on pg.119 that convinces Maya not to give up training with Ellie? Use quotation marks to cite your quotation.

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B. (Inference RL.4.1) What can you infer about Jakob's character traits based on the above quotation?

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CHAPTER 13

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

lanky, stammered

1. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think there is a party at Moma's house (Maya's mom)? Use a detail to support your inference.

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2. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Al orders a large pepperoni pizza? Use a detail to support your answer, and explain the situation in your own words.

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CHAPTER 14

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

disinfectant, asphalt, chemical

1. (Details RI.4.1) Explain why Ellie is in El Salvador for “Work”? Use at least two details to support your answer.

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2. (Details RI.4.1) How can you tell that Maya and Ellie work through the entire night? Use a detail in the text as evidence for time of day.

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3. (Inference RL.4.1) Why do you think Maya will not take Ellie’s leash off during this time of “Work”? Use at least one detail to support your inference.

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CHAPTER 15

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

victim, desperate, vanished, shaft, urgent

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Ellie disobey Maya and continue to “Find” instead of finding Vernon? Use quotation marks to cite a detail from the text.

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2. (Details RI.4.1) Why is the woman so afraid of the harness, but Ellie is not afraid of the harness? Use a detail in your answer.

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3. (Inference RL.4.1) Based on clues from the text, what can you conclude about where Ellie goes after rescuing the woman from the shaft? Be sure to cite at least two details to support your inference.

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4. (Inference RL.4.1) W. Bruce Cameron uses the phrase “uninteresting words” when Ellie describes humans. Make an inference as to what “uninteresting words” could mean for Ellie. (Remember, Ellie is describing human actions.)

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5. (Inference RL.4.1) What can you conclude about Ellie not being able to “Find” Wally? What has happened to Ellie’s sense of smell? Use a detail to support your inference.

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CHAPTER 16

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

decertified, reassigned, timidly

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why is Ellie sensing nervous tension with both AI and Maya? Use a detail from the text in your answer.

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2. (Inference RL.4.1) W. Bruce Cameron writes, “I walked slowly down a narrow path between long wooden benches... AI took something out of a little pack that he already tied on my back.” What can you conclude about Ellie’s description here? Use a detail to support your inference.

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3. (Details RI.4.1) Describe Ellie’s new “Work” job. Be sure to explain where and why Ellie’s new job is just as important as her old job, using a detail from the text.

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4. (Opinion Writing W.4.1.A & Quotations W.4.2.B) In your opinion, has Ellie's purpose changed in this chapter? Be sure to use a quotation from the text to support your opinion.

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CHAPTER 17

(L.4.4) Vocabulary

tension, gurgled, faint

1. (Details RI.4.1) Why does Maya think Ellie may not be able to help Find the missing boy? Be sure to use a detail from the text as evidence for your answer.

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2. (Details RI.4.1) What are three scents that Ellie picks up from the canvas backpack?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. (Details RI.4.1) Where did Ellie first smell Geoffrey's scent?

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4. (Inference RL.4.1) W. Bruce Cameron writes, "A round circle made out of iron was set in the concrete above Geoffrey's head" (p. 158). Using clues from this page, what do you think the round circle actually is, and why can't the policeman get it off?

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5. (Details RI.4.1) Cite two reasons why Ellie is terrified to jump into the water after Geoffrey.

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CHAPTER 18

(L4.4) Vocabulary

*heaved, banks (of a river), hoisted,
wailed, urgency*

1. (Opinion Writing W.4.1.A) In your opinion, does Ellie think saving the life of Geoffrey is more important than her own life? Be sure to use a detail from the text to support your opinion.

2. (Inference RL.4.1) Do you think Geoffrey is awake or unconscious while Ellie drags him through the tunnel? Cite evidence to support your inference.

3. (Inference RL.4.1) What can you conclude about where Maya takes Ellie a few weeks after saving Geoffrey? Cite evidence to support your inference.

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4. (Inference RL.4.1) W. Bruce Cameron writes, “He was so different from when I lived and Worked with him. The coldness inside had gone away” (p. 189). What can you conclude about why Ellie thinks this? What has changed in Jakob’s life? Use evidence from the text to support your inference.

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Vocabulary Intervention Organizer

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