



# A STUDY GUIDE FOR LILY'S STORY

A DOG'S PURPOSE PUPPY TALE

**W. Bruce Cameron**

STUDY GUIDE WRITTEN BY  
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## CHAPTER ONE

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

stride  
longing  
investigate  
runt  
alertly

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What details in Chapter 1 tell the reader that Lily can trust the woman who brings food to Lily's mother?
2. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What are the names of the 3 siblings in Chapter 1?
3. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Why did Maggie Rose name the runt, "Lily?"
4. **(RL.4.1 INFERENCE & RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Why do you think Maggie Rose liked the runt puppy the best? (Hint: Think about her place in her family when answering.) Use at least one detail in Chapter 1 to support your answer.

## CHAPTER TWO

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

veterinarian  
evaluated  
eagerly  
retreated  
examine

1. **(RL.4.1 INFERENCE)** Maggie Rose takes Lily on a tour of the rescue shelter. Summarize in your own words all the different animals and what they look like according to Lily. Be sure to use transition words like first, second, third, and fourth when describing the 4 different animals with names.





## CHAPTER THREE

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

astounded  
antibiotics  
sympathetically  
jolt

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What details in the text help describe Missy's feelings of being terrified? Use a least 2 details from the text.
2. **(RL.4.6 POINT OF VIEW)** What point of view is being used to tell *Lily's Story*? What are some of this character's thoughts after being picked up and cared for by Maggie Rose? **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What did this character think after Maggie Rose cared for Lily?
3. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain why Lily begins to understand what a dog needs to be truly happy. Use details in the text found at the end of Chapter 3.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

imploringly  
frantically

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What kind of dog breed is Lily?
2. **(RI.4.2 SUMMARIZE)** Explain how Maggie Rose tried to talk her mom into adopting Lily. Be sure to explain how Maggie Rose included Missy in her question.
3. **(RL.4.3 CHARACTER'S THOUGHTS/ACTIONS)** At the end of Chapter 4, Maggie Rose must leave and go home. What does Lily think her job is now?



## CHAPTER FIVE

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

anxiously  
alertly  
socialize

1. **(RL.4.1 INFERENCE)** Maggie Rose is sad because she can't take Lily home. But there is another reason she is sad. What can you infer about this other reason? Who makes fun of her often? Use details in the text to support your answer.
2. **(W.4.7 RESEARCH)** Research what a person needs to do if they want to adopt a puppy at an animal rescue center in your city. List at least three requirements. Be sure to include the name and address of the rescue center you researched.
3. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Lily's mom barked once, sharply. What does this bark mean to Lily?



## CHAPTER SIX

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

indignantly  
retrieving  
sauntering  
scornfully

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain why Amelia does not think that Lily should play with the new kittens.
2. **(RL.4.3 CHARACTER'S THOUGHTS/ACTIONS)** What is Lily thinking when Maggie Rose is trying to teach her to play, "Bring It Here!" Explain why Lily is confused by citing a detail from the text.
3. **(RI.4.2 SUMMARIZE)** Write a short summary of the conversation that Maggie Rose has with her brother Bryan after he throws the ball for Lily. Be sure to use transition words like first, second, third, last. (Don't forget to include the act of kindness in the end.)



## CHAPTER seven

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

technically  
passionate  
camouflage  
territorial

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What is Maggie Rose's wish? Write at least 3 parts of the wish in your answer.
2. **(RF.4.4 CONTEXT CLUES)** W. Bruce Cameron writes, "Well, no. Samantha's an American Red Squirrel, and they're territorial. I've been scouting around, and I've found a stand of pine trees near an old storage shed that doesn't have any other squirrels living there." p. 74

What clue words in the above sentence help you understand the word territorial?

3. **(RL.4.1 INFERENCE)** Maggie Rose's dad drives out of his way to find Samantha the squirrel the perfect home. What can you infer about what kind of person dad must be in *Lily's Story*? Be sure to include at least 2 character traits with a detail to support each trait.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

abruptly  
vanished

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What is the dry, prickly thing with a horrible taste that Lily, Maggie Rose, and Sammy are using as a ball?
2. **(RI.4.2 SUMMARIZING)** In your own words, summarize how Maggie Rose was able to play catch with Sammy the Squirrel. Be sure to use transition words like first, second, third, and finally.





## CHAPTER NINE

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

hypocrite  
 protested  
 survey

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What is the one thing that Maggie Rose did to get Lily to finally learn, "Bring It Here?"
2. **(RL.4.1 INFERENCE)** What can you infer about Maggie Rose placing Lily into the carrier and zipping it shut? (Think about the conversation between Mom and Dad that Maggie Rose overheard.) What do you think Maggie Rose's plan is for Lily?
3. **(W.4.1.A OPINION WRITING)** In your opinion, do you think Mom and Dad are being fair with allowing Lily to be adopted by another family? Be sure to provide 3 reasons to support your opinion.

## CHAPTER TEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

urgently  
 adoringly  
 insistently

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain how Maggie Rose disobeyed her parents.
2. **(PI.4.5 PROBLEM/SOLUTION)** What new problem arises with wildlife in Chapter 10? What can you predict about Dad's solution when he says, "It's a crazy idea, but it might just work. Do you think I could borrow Lily for a little bit?" p. 107





## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

distracted  
nonaggressive  
hypnotized  
bizarre  
bewildering

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Why do the adults want to inject ketamine into the doe?
2. **(L.4.1 ADJECTIVES)** W. Bruce Cameron writes, "I wanted to go sniff the exotic odors clinging to the limp animal in the fence." p. 114. Rewrite this sentence using a different adjective similar to exotic.
3. **(RL. 4.3 CHARACTER ANALYSIS)** Why does Maggie Rose become suddenly sad at the end of Chapter 11? Use a text detail in your answer.



## CHAPTER TWELVE

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

abandoned  
dependent  
grave  
insisted  
affection

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain why Maggie Rose insists that Lily save two animals. Use transition words in your answer like first and second when explaining Maggie Rose's thoughts.
2. **(L.4.5 FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE)** W. Bruce Cameron writes, "... and he also wore fur on his face like a cat." In your own words, explain this simile.
3. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Use the boxes below to draw a picture of the kittens and write their names. Be sure to add details to the kittens as described at the end of Chapter 12.



## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

stifle

urged

1. **(RI.4.2 SUMMARIZING)** Summarize the problem that Maggie Rose gets herself into when allowing Lily to play with Freddie. Be sure to use transition words like first, second, third, and finally in your summary.
2. **(W.4.7 RESEARCH)** Research the best living environment for a ferret. Are they happiest as a pet or living in the wild? What do they like to eat? Where do they like to live? Do they hibernate during the winter?



## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

halted

mournfully

vigorously

dismayed

1. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain why Maggie Rose is so sure about one thing when it comes to Lily—"You were meant to help rescue animals." p. 135. Use the detail in the text.
2. **(RL.4.3 CHARACTER ANALYSIS)** Maggie Rose compares herself to Lily by saying, "Because she's like me." p. 138. According to Lily, what are the two things that both Maggie Rose and Lily have in common?
3. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** Explain why Maggie Rose cries and cries at the end of Chapter 14.



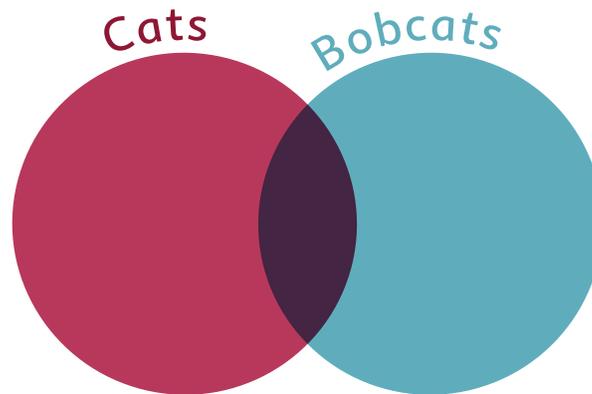
## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

lurch  
detour  
queried

1. **(W.4.7 RESEARCH)** Compare a cat to a bobcat by researching their differences. Create a chart like the sample below.



## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

posture  
examine  
emitting  
gnawed  
nimbly

1. **(RI.4.2 SUMMARIZE)** Explain how Lily is able to relax the kittens after Mom took the mother cat out of the room. Use first, second, and third in your summary when describing Lily's actions.
2. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What happens at the end of the chapter that causes Maggie Rose to straighten and gasp?





## CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

nonthreatening  
racket



1. **(RL.4.3 CHARACTER'S TRAITS/FEELINGS)** What character trait best describes Lily when she says, "The kittens needed to be together . . . If one of them was by herself, she would feel lonely and miserable as I'd felt for these last few nights alone in my bed." p. 168

How does this character trait give Lily one more chance to prove to Mom that she is a rescue dog? Explain how Lily proves her rescue ability.

2. **(W.4.1.A OPINION WRITING)** What is your opinion of Lily? Do you think she is just a normal puppy who is nonthreatening and likes to play or do you think Lily has rescue ability? Give at least 3 reasons for your opinion.

## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

tenderly  
contribution  
vital  
descendants  
constant

1. **(L.4.5 FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE)** What does Mom mean when she uses the metaphor, "—that animal rescue is a constant flow." p. 182. What two things are being compared and what does a constant flow mean? Explain.
2. **(RI.4.1 DETAILS)** What two options does the man with the furry face offer Maggie Rose when she is upset about giving up Lily?



## CHAPTER NINETEEN

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

solemnly  
investigate

1. **(L.4.1 ADJECTIVES)** Maggie Rose hands a poem to the man with the furry face which is about Lily. Adjectives are words that help the writer create a poem. List 10 adjectives below that best describe Lily as a character.
2. **(L.4.1 ADJECTIVES AND RF.4.3.A SYLLABICATION)** Using a few of the above adjectives, write a Haiku poem about Lily just as Maggie Rose did. The first line will have 5 syllables, the second line will have 7 syllables, and the third line will have 5 syllables. The lines do NOT need to rhyme.

## CHAPTER TWENTY

### VOCABULARY

(L.4.4)

bristle (verb)  
hesitation  
aggressive  
nocturnal  
reconsider

1. **(R.4.1 DETAILS)** What do you think is the one event that causes Johnny Mancuso (furry face) to reconsider where Lily will live? Be sure to get your answer from the text.
2. **(R.4.1 DETAILS AND W.4.2.B WRITING USING EXAMPLES)** On the top of the book, *Lily's Story*, is written, "A RESCUE DOG TO THE RESCUE!" Use examples from the text to explain this statement. Be sure to explain why Lily is a rescue dog and explain how she does the rescuing as well. Make sure you cite examples from the text in your answer.
3. **(R.4.3 CHARACTER ANALYSIS)** Lily seems to have two purposes in this story. What are her two different purposes?

