

Unit 5

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reader's Notebook

The Abandoned House

Before Reading

What did you notice about the title and pictures?	What do you predict?
Example: The house is hidden by trees and bushes.	Example: Someone may try to hide in them.
The title has the word <i>abandoned</i> in it.	The house is empty, and someone is going to try to go in it.
The inside of the house is very old and falling apart.	Something scary is going to happen inside the house.
Two boys are using a flashlight to read some writing on the wall.	The writing is going to be important in the story.

During Reading

Facts from the story, page 72 of Literacy in Action 5	What do you infer?
Example: Grandfather lived near an abandoned house.	Example: It must have been spooky to live there.
People said they could see lights on inside the house at night.	Someone could be inside, waiting for other people to come in.
The boys decide to go into the house at twilight and to bring flashlights.	They want to see what is inside the house, but they are too scared to go at night.
Facts from the story, page 73 of Literacy in Action 5	What do you infer?
The boys find strange writing on the wall.	This writing could have been left by the person who has the lights on at night.
The boys can read the writing by looking in the mirror.	The person who left the writing didn't want people to be able to read it easily.
The boys avoid the trap door and run out of the house.	Someone wanted to trap people in the house.

After Reading

1. How did your predictions compare with the actual ending of the story?

Answers will vary.

2. What do you know about mysteries that helped you when you read this story?

Answers may include the following: abandoned houses usually have scary or creepy things inside, people who go inside abandoned houses usually find something suspicious or scary.

3. Did this story remind you of other stories you have read?

Answers will vary.

4. How did making connections to other stories help you read this story?

Answers may include the following: realized that the strange writing probably meant something bad was going to happen, knew that the boys would find something creepy in the old house.