



STORYKEEPERS PRESS PRESENTS

The Mingles in Wilderland

An Educator's Guide to the Wilderland

For families, co-ops, classrooms, and libraries

A COMPANION FOR SHARED READING

A guide made for the life around a story.

The best read-alouds do more than carry a family through a plot. They introduce words, invite difficult questions, create shared memories, and give children a larger world in which to think.

This guide helps you draw those riches out of *The Mingles in Wilderland* without turning the story into an assignment. Use one section or all seven. Pause where your readers are curious. Skip what does not serve them. Return whenever the book opens another door.



Before reading Preview names and unfamiliar words.	While reading Use natural stopping points and performance notes.
After each Part Choose two or three questions—not the whole list.	Go farther Follow curiosity into scripture, ideas, science, maps, and making.

“Fourth-grade sentences. Twelfth-grade words. A book that meets young readers where they are and stretches them where they’re going.”

INSIDE THE GUIDE

Seven paths into the Wilderland

- 01 **Readability Brief**
What the measurements reveal
- 02 **Vocabulary Development**
Words worth meeting—and keeping
- 03 **Scriptural References**
The biblical imagination beneath the story
- 04 **Themes & Ideas**
The moral and philosophical architecture
- 05 **Discussion Questions**
Spoiler-safe conversation by Part
- 06 **Read-Aloud Performer's Guide**
Bring the Wilderland to life in your own voice
- 07 **Classroom & Co-op Extras**
Geography, ecology, invention, and imagination

A gentle rule: protect delight. The activities are invitations, not obligations. If conversation is alive, the guide is working.

FIELD GUIDE 01

Readability Brief

What the measurements reveal



READABILITY BRIEF

Readability Brief

What the Numbers Show

The following readability scores were measured July 11, 2026, on the final ebook text (~121,000 words). All standard instruments were applied.

Measure	Score	Meaning
Flesch Reading Ease	82.0	"Easy" — conversational, spoken-word prose
Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level	4.5	Sentence structure accessible to strong 4th–5th graders
Gunning Fog	6.4	Consistent with easy, uncluttered syntax
SMOG Index	7.9	Mid-range; reflects intentional vocabulary load
Dale-Chall	8.4	High-school-level vocabulary familiarity required
Average sentence length	10.9 words	Short, naturally paced for reading aloud

The Headline Finding

"Fourth-grade sentences. Twelfth-grade words. A book that meets young readers where they are and stretches them where they're going."

The gap between Flesch-Kincaid (4.5 — syntax) and Dale-Chall (8.4 — vocabulary familiarity) is the statistical signature of a vocabulary-building read-aloud. Easy sentence structures carry deliberately rich, unfamiliar words. Readers are never lost — the grammar holds them — but they are always being stretched.

This was the author's stated design intent. The numbers confirm it.

For the Read-Aloud

At a comfortable reading pace of 130–150 words per minute:

- **121,000 words ÷ 140 wpm = ~865 minutes of reading**
- At 20 minutes per session: **~43 sessions**
- At 30 minutes per session: **~29 sessions**
- The book's 85 short chapters make natural stopping points easy to find

One chapter per evening is a realistic pace for most families. The book completes in a school quarter.

How to Use These Scores

For homeschool curriculum planning: The Flesch-Kincaid grade level (4.5) reflects sentence complexity only — not vocabulary, themes, or emotional depth. This is appropriate read-aloud material for ages 8 and up, and independent reading material for strong readers ages 11–14.

For co-op or classroom use: The Dale-Chall score (8.4) means a significant portion of the vocabulary will be unfamiliar to most young readers — by design. The Vocabulary Development Guide (included in this kit) provides pronunciation, definition, and context for every notable word in the book.

For award and library submissions: These scores support placement in the all-ages / family read-aloud category. The book has been deliberately designed to resist age-bracket labeling.