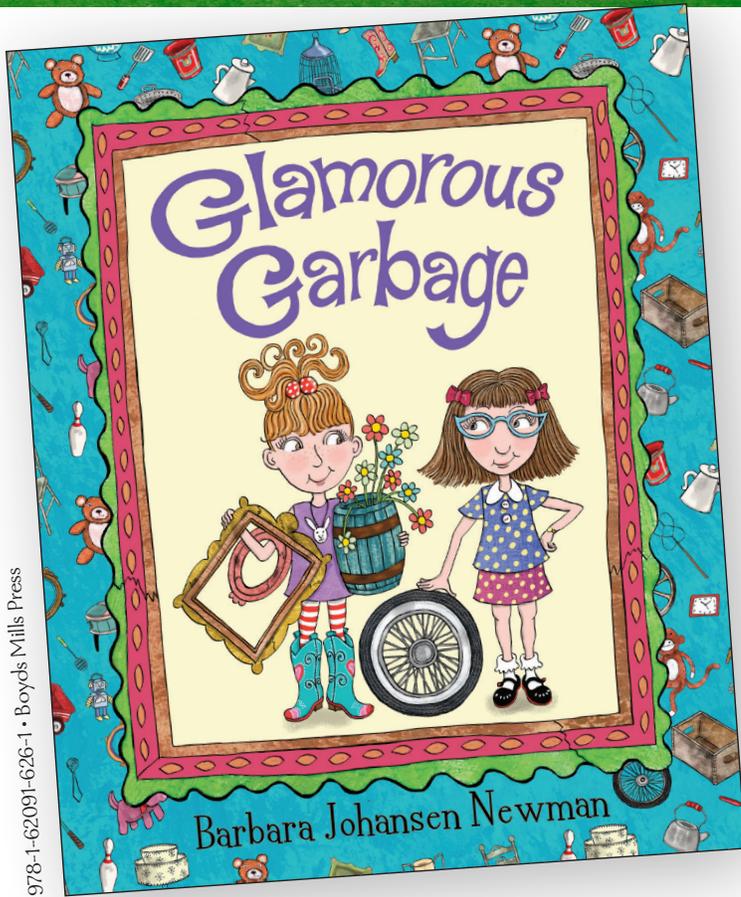


CURRICULUM GUIDE



Glamorous Garbage

BY

Barbara Johansen Newman

BOBBIE'S ROOM is so full of stuff, she and her best cousin Joanie can hardly find a place to play. But she loves all of it. So

when her mom gives her two weeks to clear out the clutter, Bobbie needs a plan. How can she turn the chaos into a beautiful big-kid room?

Reduce, Reuse, Redecorate!

Children in grades K-3 will adore Barbara Johansen Newman's sustainable twist on transforming a room from ghastly to glamorous!

"Newman captures the little girl's spunk in the text and the playful illustrations and provides a wonderful solution for children who cannot part with things and those who are just plain sloppy." —*School Library Journal*

"Newman's mixed-media illustrations are bright with crisp details. . . . The story is likely to spark ideas for kids longing for room overhauls of their own." —*Kirkus Reviews*

johansenneyman.com

glamorousgarbage.com



Common Core State Standards addressed by the materials in this guide are noted throughout. For more information on the Common Core, visit corestandards.org.

Discussion Questions

The discussion questions that follow address these Common Core standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1;
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1



-  Why do you think that Bobbie likes to hide and have her cousin Joanie come find her when Joanie comes to visit?
-  Why does Bobbie's mom decide that Bobbie's room is a problem? How does Bobbie's cousin Joanie feel about Bobbie's room?
-  Bobbie sees the problem of her room differently than her mom does. What does Bobbie think is the real problem with her room?
-  Bobbie dreams of what a new and improved room would look like. She even designs a room poster to share her ideas with her mom. What is her mom's reaction to Bobbie's room poster?
-  Bobbie feels like a "grumpy head" when she thinks of how hard it is going to be to change her bedroom into a glamorous, big-kid room. What cheers Bobbie up?
-  Bobbie's initial problem was having too much stuff in her bedroom. What steps does Bobbie take to begin changing her room? Do you think these steps will add to the problem of her cluttered bedroom?
-  What happens between Bobbie and her cousin Joanie that finally leads Bobbie to fix the problem of her room?
-  Bobbie was very focused on what she wanted her new bedroom to look like and spent a great deal of time collecting stuff for her room. She was so focused on the end product that she didn't make time to think about what she actually needed to DO to change her room. How does Bobbie's mom help her to transform her bedroom into a glamorous space?
-  What was one thing that Bobbie could NOT easily do in her new room when her cousin came to visit?

The discussion question that follows addresses these Common Core standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3;
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3

-  Why do you think Bobbie considers herself the queen of yard sales at the end of the story?



Activities

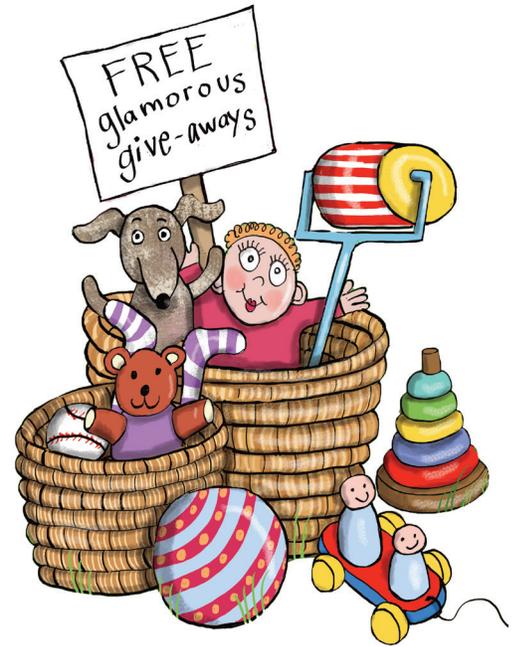
 Bobbie dreamed of what her new and glamorous room might look like. She used these dreams to guide her when she created a room poster from pictures cut from magazines. Imagine what your dream bedroom would look like. Hunt through magazines and clip pictures that match your vision. Design a room poster using the magazine pictures that you gathered.

 There's an old saying that "one person's junk is another person's treasure." Bobbie discovers that she can take things from yard sales and junkyards and transform them into new and wonderful things. Find something from the recycling bin (a shoebox, a paper tube, a soup can) and imagine how you might change the item into something useful. Plan what you will need to change your "something that isn't something anymore" into a new and glamorous item—then create it!

 Investigate where people in your community send things that they no longer want. Bobbie found that people sent things to the town dump, held yard sales, and placed unwanted items on the curb on garbage pick-up days. What does your community do with its unwanted stuff? Make a list of places where unwanted items are sent in your community.

 Bobbie's mom felt strongly that Bobbie had to clean up her cluttered bedroom and gave Bobbie two weeks to accomplish the task. Bobbie was so focused on gathering stuff for her bedroom

that she nearly ran out of time to meet her mom's deadline. Bobbie's mom came up with a plan to organize the clutter in Bobbie's bedroom. Use the strategy that Bobbie's mom used to organize your classroom or a room at your house. Separate stuff into different piles: keep-it stuff, fix-it-up stuff, and time-to-go stuff. Look back at the list of places in your community that take unwanted items and donate your "time-to-go stuff."



The discussion questions and activities in this guide were created by Leigh Courtney, Ph.D. She teaches in the Global Education program at a public elementary school in San Diego, California. She holds both masters' and doctoral degrees in education, with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction.

Name: _____

Everything Old Is New Again!

Look carefully at the illustrations in *Glamorous Garbage* that show Bobbie collecting items from yard sales and the junkyard. Then look closely at the two-page spread in the book that shows Bobbie's room after she turned all of the items she found into new and wonderful things for her glamorous bedroom.

Complete the chart below with information from the illustrations. In the first column, list the discarded item that Bobbie found. In the second column, list what the item became after Bobbie and her mom turned it into something else. **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.7**

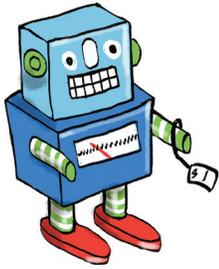


Discarded item	New and improved item

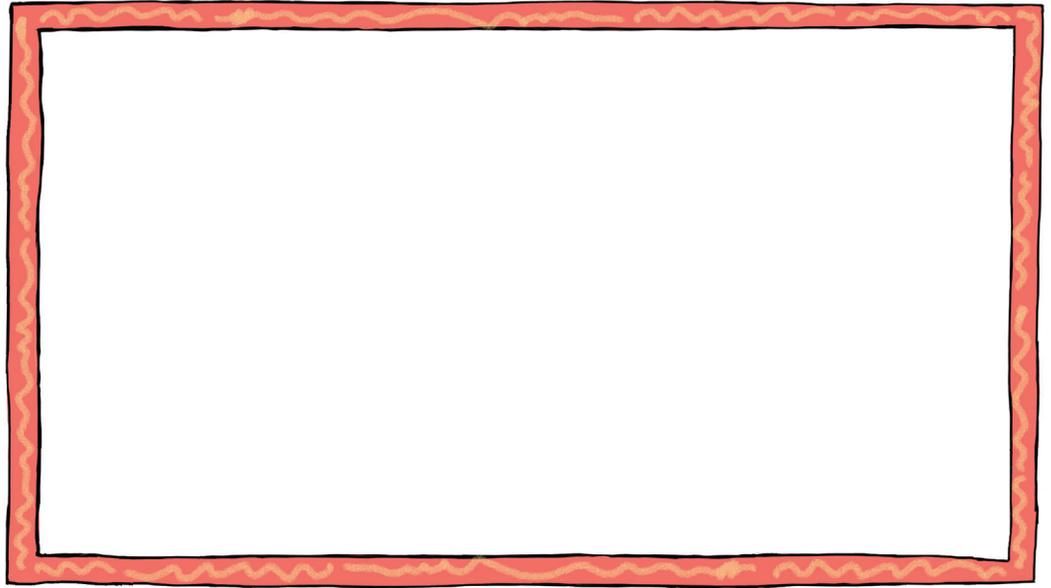
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A Little-Kid Room versus a Big-Kid Room

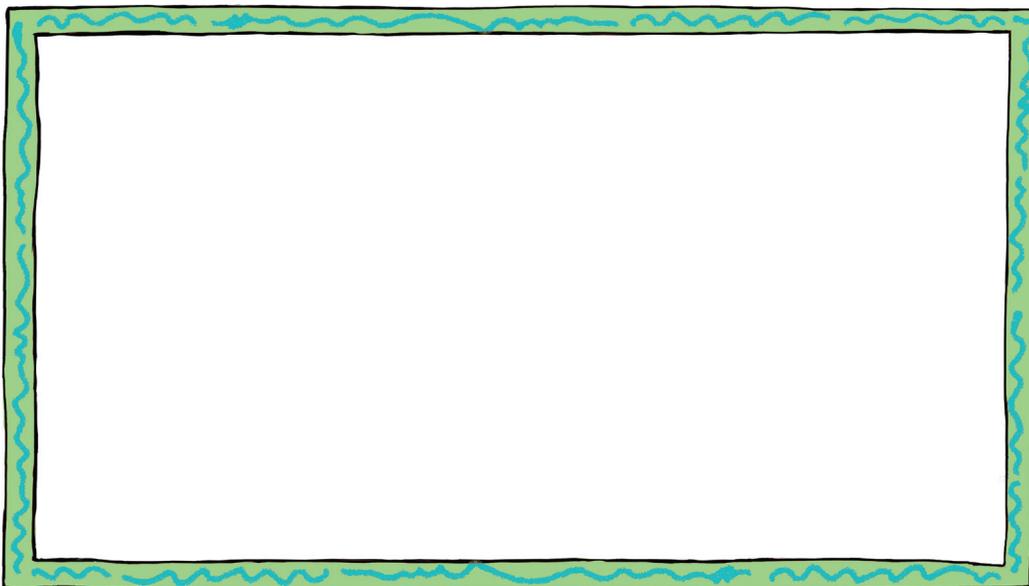
Most of *Glamorous Garbage* is set in Bobbie's bedroom. Draw a sketch of what the setting looked like when it was a little-kid bedroom. Include words to describe the setting. Then draw a sketch of what the setting looked like when it became a big-kid bedroom. Include words that describe this new setting. **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.7**



LITTLE-KID ROOM



Words to describe little-kid room: _____



BIG-KID ROOM



Words to describe big-kid room: _____

Name: _____

Inside and Outside Changes

Bobbie works very hard to change the *outside* of her life by collecting and improving items and removing clutter to create the perfect, glamorous bedroom. How do you think Bobbie changed on the *inside* during this process of creating a new bedroom? How did she feel in the beginning of the story in her cluttered room? How did she feel when she was trying to make her dream room come true? How did she feel after she worked with her mom and when she shared her new room with her cousin? Below, list words to describe Bobbie's feelings over the course of the story to show how she changed on the *inside* as the story progressed. **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3**





About the Author

Barbara Johansen Newman has been an artist ever since she could hold a crayon and color on walls. She has a passion for collecting, and her newest book for children, **Glamorous Garbage**, celebrates the creative art of modern-day treasure hunting. Ms. Newman is a painter, a fabric designer, and the illustrator of over twenty books for children, including the first book about Bobbie and Joanie, **Glamorous Glasses**, which she also wrote. She and her family live outside Boston in a home that she's constantly redecorating, often with second-hand treasures.

“Creating a fun room is like creating a piece of art that you can step into and surround yourself with,” Ms. Newman says. “I would like to see kids inspired to decorate and create their own unique spaces in ways that they might not have thought about before. If I can get them thinking about unique collections, transforming discards, and looking at objects in new ways, then **Glamorous Garbage** will have done its job. One of the best things I learned when I was a young, broke newlywed, was that decorating can be a creative adventure and does NOT have to follow rules.”

Barbara Johansen Newman's kitchen reflects her passion for collecting. She scours flea markets, swap meets, antique shops, yard sales, and even curbside discards on trash days for treasures she can clean up and repurpose.



Ms. Newman works with fellow artist Rich Dunbrack to create assemblage paintings like this one. She gives him old bread boards and he adds found items and scraps to create the “frame.” Then Ms. Newman paints the portrait within; in this case, a girl and her sheep.

To find out more about
Barbara Johansen Newman, visit
johansenneyman.com.

To discover fun craft projects that show
ways to turn trash into treasure, visit
glamorousgarbage.com.

Read the first story about best
cousins **Bobbie and Joanie!**

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