

# Tuck Everlasting

by

## Natalie Babbitt

*The Tucks are not an ordinary family. They once drank from a magic spring and the water gave them eternal life. Their secret is safe for eighty-seven years until Winnie Foster spies Jesse Tuck drinking from the spring. What would happen if people learned the secret of the spring? The Tucks go to great lengths to protect their secret from becoming public.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Using this study guide

## **Vocabulary:**

Define each word using a dictionary or your own words. Write sentences using the words. Match the correct meaning to the word.

## **Short Answer and Dig Deeper:**

Some answers come directly from the story and answer the five w's: who, what, when, where, why. Other answers are based on your own thoughts, such as what you think a character should do.

## **Review:**

This is your chance to review the important parts of the story.

## **Puzzles:**

Here is your chance to have a little fun with what you have been learning!

## **Beyond the Story:**

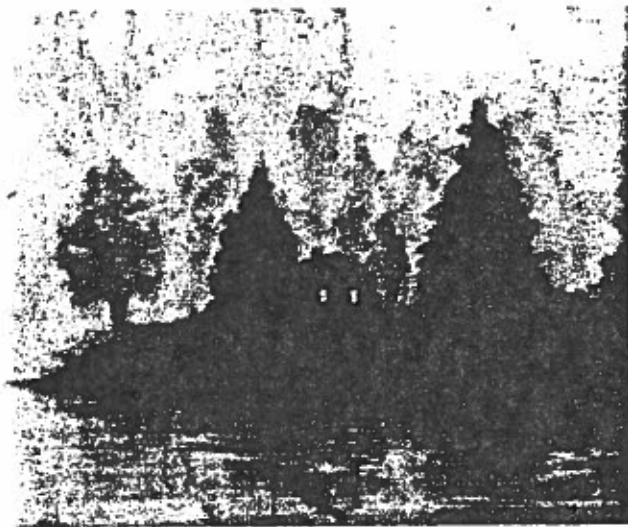
Take some time to do some extra research on things you have learned about in this book.

## **Vocabulary Guide:**

Definitions for all the vocabulary words you will find in this guide.

Natalie Babbitt's

# Tuck Everlasting



# Pre-Reading Activity

*Tuck Everlasting* is a fantasy story. Fantasy is fictional literature that takes place in imaginative settings. Knowing that *Tuck Everlasting* is a fantasy, what might you expect about the story?

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*Tuck Everlasting* contains a prologue. A prologue introduces the story and gives important information that you need to understand the story.

Read the Prologue of *Tuck Everlasting*.

What three things <sup>do you learn in the prologue.</sup> happen that seem to have no connection between them at first?

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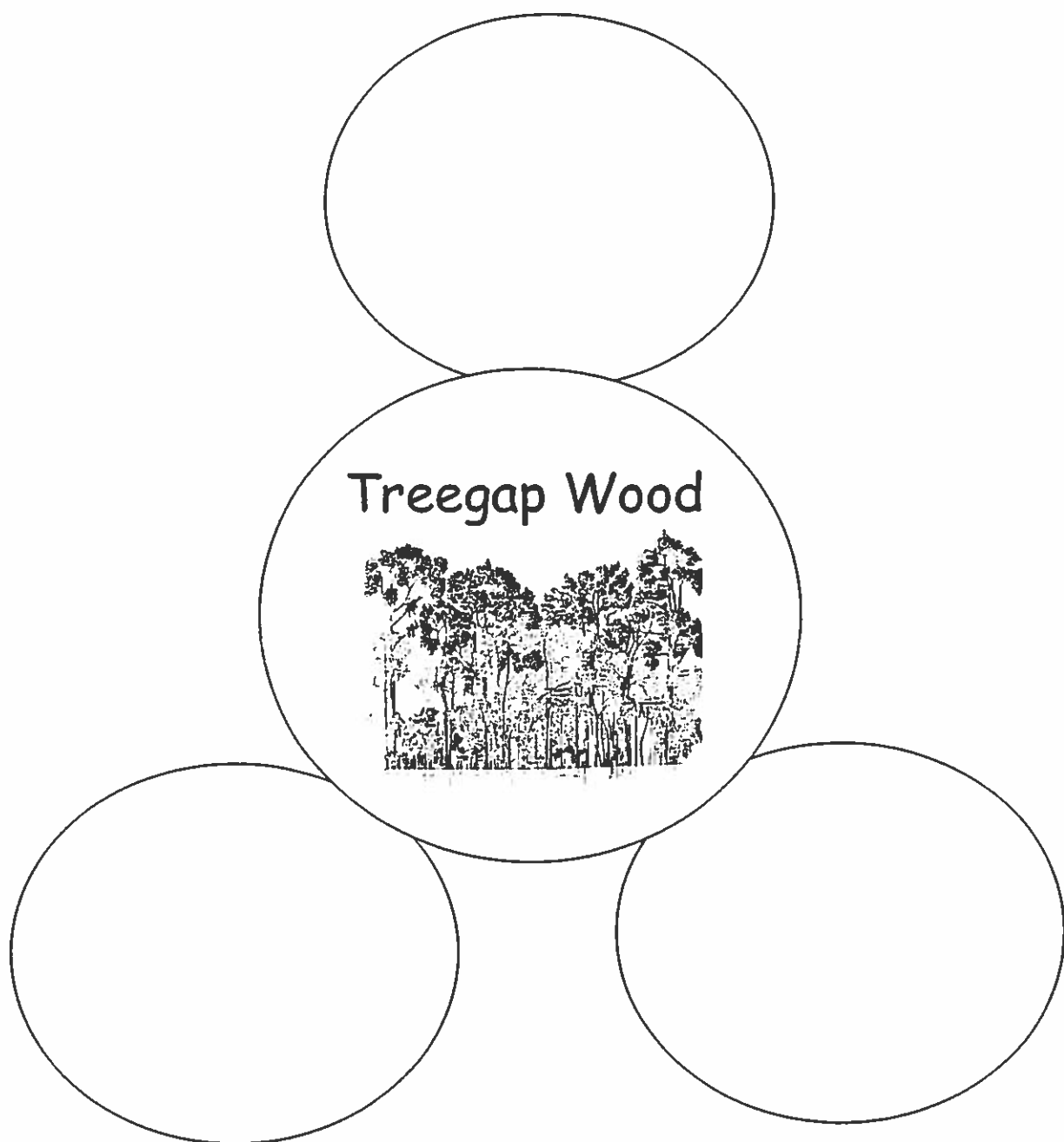
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Who owns the wood?

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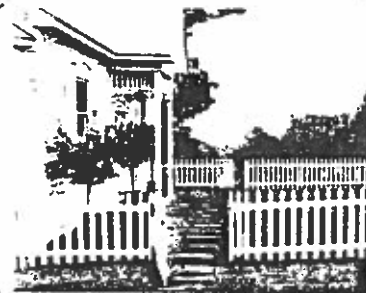
The prologue talks about three things that happened around Treegap wood. On the following page are three pictures. Cut them out and paste them around the woods.



Mae Tuck sets out on her  
horse to meet her sons



A stranger appears at the  
Fosters gate



Winnie Foster decides to  
run away



# Characters

In Tuck Everlasting you will meet many people. Start a list of characters to refer back to while you read this book.

## Tuck Family

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## Foster Family

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## Other Characters

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# Chapter 1

Vocabulary: Draw a line to the correct meaning of the word. Use the sentences below each word or a dictionary to help you.

## **tangent**

(n.) The hiking trail was easy to climb until it took an unpleasant *tangent* close to a steep hill.

of poor quality or small amount

## **bovine**

(adj.) Since the veterinarian's dream was to move out West and work on a cattle ranch, he focused on *bovine* medicine while at school.

a wooden frame with a rope that was used for executing a person by hanging

## **meager**

(adj.) The lost dog was hungry because it had a *meager* meal consisting of a few scraps of bread.

an abrupt change of course

## **gallows**

(n.) If you visit the museum, you can see pictures of the town's old jailhouse and the *gallows* where criminals were hanged.

having qualities of cows or oxen

Short Answer: Answer the following questions based on what you read in Chapter 1.

How do the two sides of the wood seem different?

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If the road were made through the wood instead of around it, what would the people have noticed?

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## Chapter 2

Vocabulary: The following words were in Chapter 2. Find them in the book and copy the sentence from the book or write your own sentence.

melancholy: (adj.) sad; filled with gloom

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rueful: (adj.) regretful, mournful

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Short Answer: Answer the following questions based on what you read in Chapter 2.

Who will Mae meet at the wood?

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How many years has it been since Mae visited Treegap?

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What object does Mae Tuck bring with her on her journey?

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What does Tuck dream about?

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How long have Mae, her husband, Miles, and Jesse looked the same?

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\*Add the people from Chapter 2 to your Character list on page 8.

## Chapter 3

Vocabulary: Use the vocabulary dictionary in the back of this booklet to find and write the definitions for these words from Chapter 3.

intrusions

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grimace

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exasperate

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Short Answer: Answer the following question based on what you read in Chapter 3.

What does Winnie Foster tell the toad she wants to do?

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\*Add the people from Chapter 3 to your Character list on page 8.