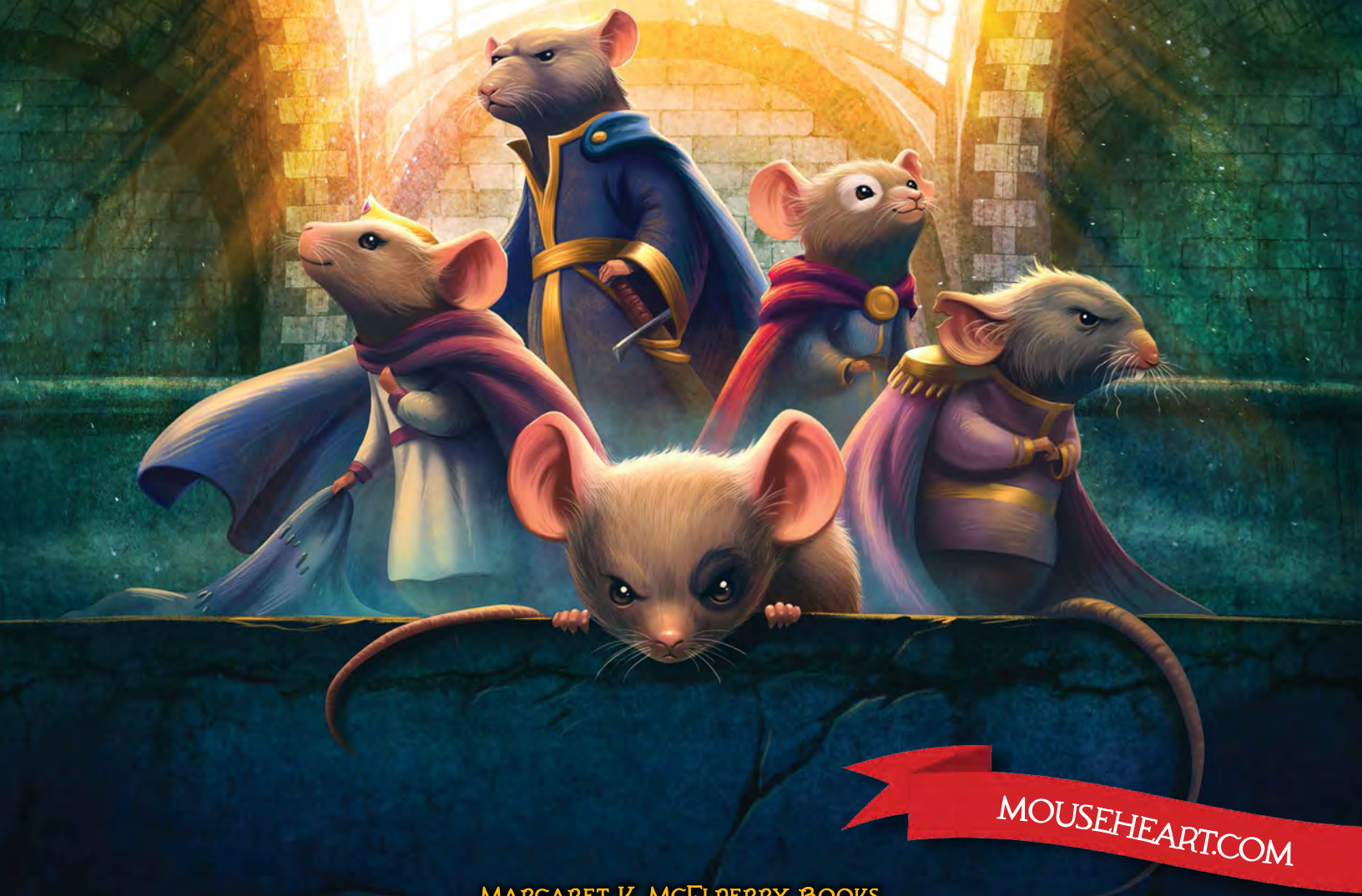


A COMMON CORE CURRICULUM GUIDE TO

# MOUSEHEART

BOOK 3

RETURN  
OF THE  
FORGOTTEN



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MARGARET K. MCFELDERRY BOOKS

An Imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing



# MOUSEHEART

## RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Hope, a young royal rat, loves being a princess but wishes her older siblings treated her with respect. Tired of their teasing, she runs away into the subway tunnels, only to find herself in grave danger from a rogue soldier named Dev. Then, Pup, a disgraced mouse, comes to her defense, and together they escape aboveground to New York City and a series of dangerous adventures. Meanwhile, Hope's parents and Pup's brother, Hopper, set off to rescue them, if it isn't too late. Events in the past are spurring Dev on. Will he destroy the future for Hope and Pup, or can their courage save them?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lisa Fiedler is the author of several novels for children and young adults. She divides her time between Connecticut and the Rhode Island seashore, where she lives happily with her very patient husband, her brilliant and beloved daughter, and their two incredibly spoiled golden retrievers.



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### PRE-READING QUESTIONS

What does it mean to start fresh?

How important is forgiveness among friends and relatives?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*The questions below correlate to the following Common Core State Standards: (RL.3-7.1, 3, 4, 6) (RL.4-7.2) (RL.3.5, 7) (RL.5-6.5)*

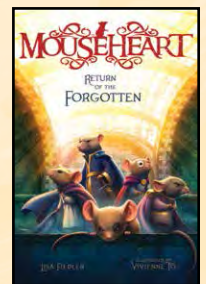
### SETTING

1. Describe Manhattan's deserted City Hall subway station. What is its history? What does it mean to Dev? Discuss scenes that take place there and the role the station plays at the end. Describe the Transit Museum, another key place in the story, and the role it plays.
2. Pup and Hope travel aboveground to several places in New York City besides City Hall Station. Explain where they go and the adventures they have in those places.
3. How does the artwork in the book add to your sense of setting? How does it enhance your understanding of various characters? Choose specific pictures and discuss them in detail.

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### THEMES

4. When Hope is born, it seems like she might die. Hopper tells the baby mouse, "You must find the courage in your heart to be strong." How do different characters, including Hopper and Hope, show courage in this novel?
5. Why does Carroll describe spring as "a happy, hopeful time when the whole world gets a chance to start fresh"? Why does Pup respond by thinking that starting fresh is just what he had in mind? Describe other characters or situations in the story that start fresh.
6. Why is the book titled *Return of the Forgotten*? Describe various things in the story that have been forgotten and the consequences of forgetting. Discuss specific ways in which the past is important in the plot.
10. Each of the heirs has a distinct personality. Talk about the oldest four, identifying their strengths and weaknesses. Describe how they get along with one another, how they treat Hope, and how that changes during the story.
11. Dev deceives a number of characters and causes many problems. Describe his background and why he acts like he does. What does he want? What is his relationship with his sisters?
12. Describe the pi-rats, who turn out to be surprising characters. What do Pup and Hope first think about them? Why does their opinion change? Identify some of the consequences for Pup and Hope of having met the pi-rats.

### CHARACTER

7. Pup feels terrible about how he's behaved in the past. Explain what he's like now, and point to specific words and actions. What leads Hopper to understand that Pup has changed?
8. Why does Hope run away and what are her plans? Describe her personality and how she responds to her adventures, such as the bike ride. How does she help Pup and how does he help her? What is Hope's relationship with Hopper?
9. Why was Hope originally excited about being royalty? Later she explains that she no longer thinks being royal matters. What causes her to change her mind? What does she come to believe is more important?



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### PLOT & STRUCTURE

13. This book has a Prologue and a Midlogue. Explain what they are about and why you think the author included them. What information does the author leave out of the Prologue that makes it more mysterious?
14. Instead of an Epilogue, the book has “A Bonus Tale of Historical Import.” Briefly summarize this story. What does it add to your understanding of the rest of the book?
15. How does Marcy’s loss of memory affect the plot? What important things does she forget, and what might have happened if she hadn’t forgotten them? Describe which of Dev’s actions lead Marcy to distrust him, and what she does about it.

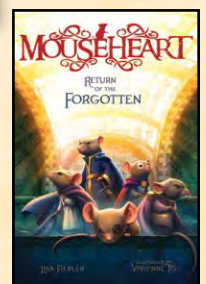
### LANGUAGE & POINT OF VIEW

16. In several chapters, all the words are italicized. Find those chapters and discuss what the italics indicate. Talk about why you think the author might have chosen this approach.
17. Because this is an action-packed tale, the text relies on strong verbs to convey the excitement of many scenes. Choose a long scene in which a lot happens and make a list of the verbs. Discuss the impact of the author’s choices and compare them to other word choices that the author could have made.



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## RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

#### Activity 1: Say It with a Scrapbook

The mice consult a volume they call the Sacred Book, described as a sort of scrapbook with birthday cards, coupons, newspaper clippings, handwritten notes, maps, letters, playbills, and more. Have students each create a short scrapbook either about themselves, your classroom, or the school. Designate a place in the classroom to share the scrapbooks. For ideas about different types of books to make, consult [www.makingbooks.com](http://www.makingbooks.com).

#### Activity 2: Monarchy vs. Republic

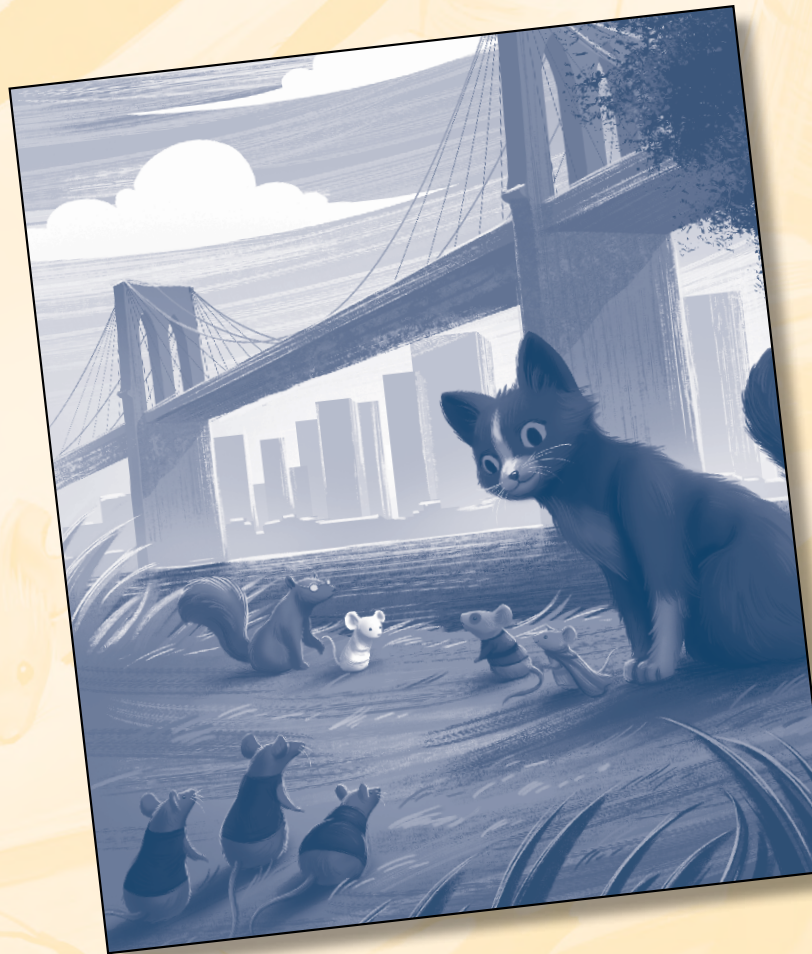
Zucker and Firren, who don't want to be monarchs, are promoting the idea of Atlantia being a republic. Have students do basic research on the difference between a monarchy and a republic. As a class, create a chart that compares the features of each type of government, and discuss which seems better.

#### Activity 3: Foreseeing the Future

One thing that La Rocha does is write prophecies, some of which rhyme. Have students work in pairs to brainstorm topics on which they can try to predict the future. Then have them write five short prophecies in rhyme, modeled on La Rocha's, to share with the class.

#### Activity 4: Drawing a Family Tree

A family tree is a graphic organizer that shows relationships of different generations in a family. Have each student create family trees for Zucker's and Dev's families, showing as many members as possible. Then have students create their own family tree with at least three generations and decorate it to post on a bulletin board.



*This guide, written in alignment with the ELA Common Core State Standards (CoreStandards.org), has been provided by Simon & Schuster for classroom, library, and reading group use. It may be reproduced in its entirety or excerpted for these purposes.*

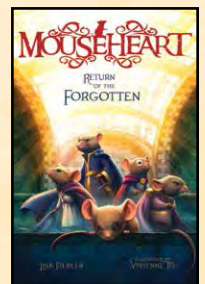
*Guide written in 2014 by Kathleen Odean, a former school librarian and Chair of the 2002 Newbery Award Committee. She gives professional development workshops on books for young people and is the author of Great Books for Girls and Great Books about Things Kids Love.*

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## RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN

### ACTIVITY ONE

## SAY IT WITH A SCRAPBOOK

Make your own scrapbook similar to the Sacred Book the mice consult in *Return of the Forgotten*! Use this page, craft supplies, photographs, and cutouts from magazines and other materials to create a short scrapbook either about yourself, your classroom, or your school. Make a few extra copies of this page before you start working if you want to make your scrapbook longer.



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## RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN

### ACTIVITY TWO

## MONARCHY VS. REPUBLIC

In *Return of the Forgotten*, the animals of Atlantia try to choose between a monarchy and a republic as their new form of government. On your own or with a partner, do some research on the characteristics of each form of government, and write down the differences you notice in the space below!

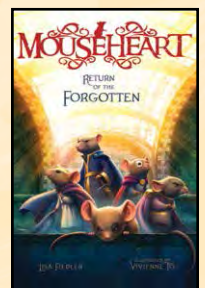


### Monarchy

### Republic

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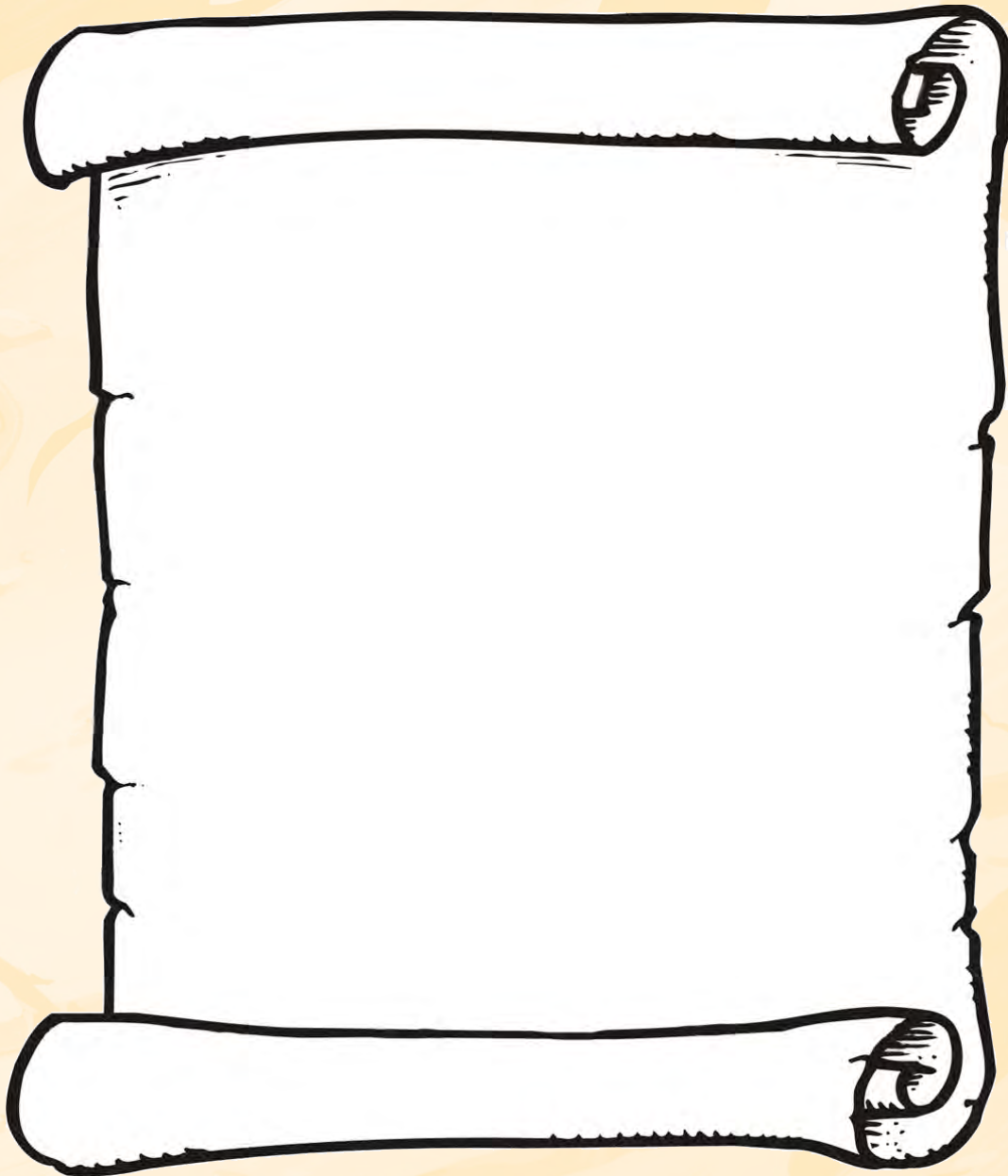
## RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN



### ACTIVITY THREE

## FORESEEING THE FUTURE

With a partner, brainstorm some topics on which to try to predict the future. Then, write five short prophecies like the ones La Rocha shares with the mice. Make sure your prophecies rhyme! Use the back of this page if you need more space.



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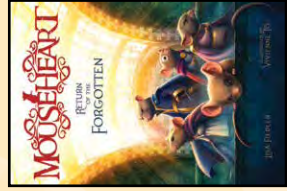
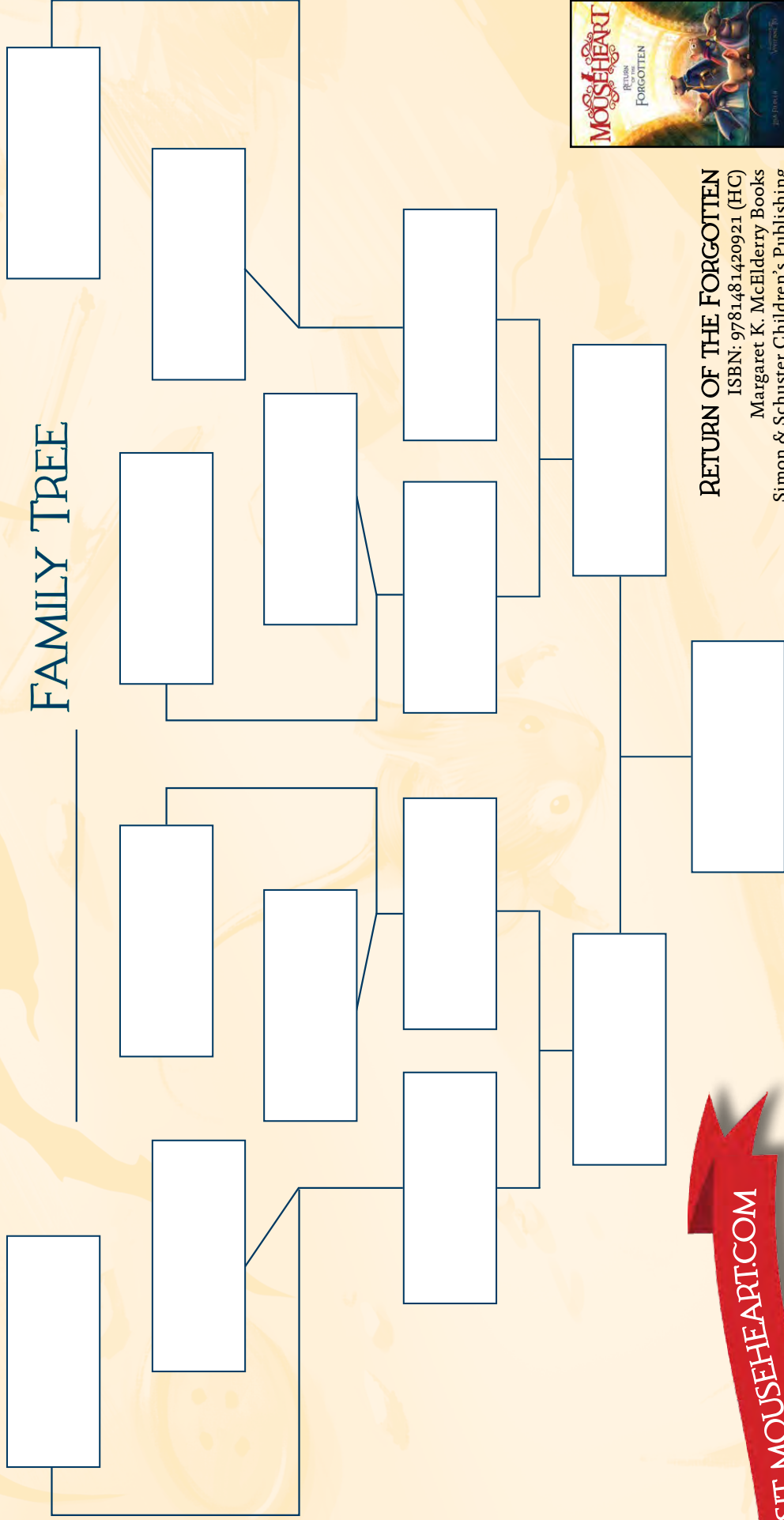
ACTIVITY  
FOUR

# DRAWING A FAMILY TREE

## MOUSEHEART RETURN OF THE FORGOTTEN



Make three copies of this page. On the first, fill in the family tree below to show Zucker's family, showing as many family members—both younger and older—as possible. On the second, do the same showing Dev's family. Finally, create your own family tree, showing at least three generations of your family. If at any point you need more bubbles than are provided, draw them in with a pencil or marker. Color and decorate your family tree and post it in your classroom.



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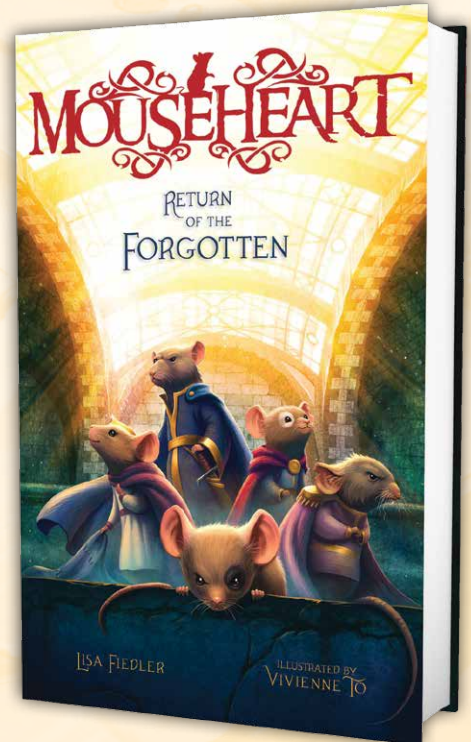
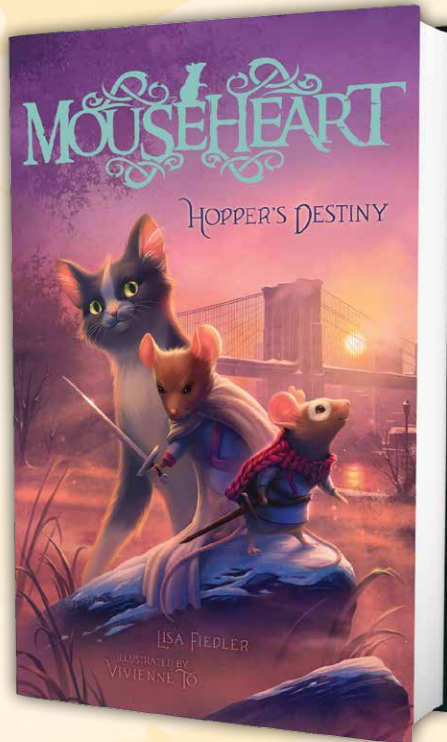
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LISA FIEDLER

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