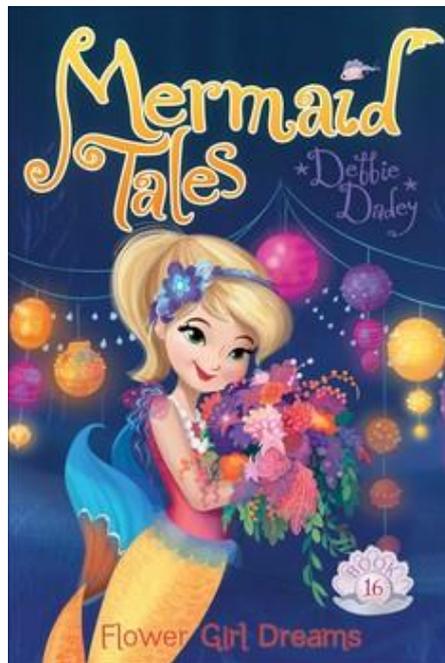


# Mermaid Tales

## A Teaching Unit

### Flower Girl Dreams



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Other books in the Mermaid Tales series from Simon and Schuster include (also available in hardback and digital):

Trouble at Trident Academy ISBN-13: 978-1442429802 - Paperback

Battle of the Best Friends ISBN-13: 978-1442429826 - Paperback

A Whale of a Tale ISBN-13: 978-1442429840 - Paperback

Danger in the Deep Blue Sea ISBN-13: 978-1442429864 - Paperback

The Lost Princess ISBN-13: 978-1442482579 - Paperback

The Secret Sea Horse ISBN-13: 978-1442482609 - Paperback

Dream of the Blue Turtle ISBN-13: 978-1442482630 - Paperback

Treasure in Trident City ISBN-13: 978-1442482661 - Paperback

A Tale of Two Sisters ISBN-13: 978-1481402576 - Paperback

The Polar Bear Express ISBN-13: 978-1481402606 - Paperback

Wish Upon a Starfish ISBN-13: 978-1481402637 - Paperback

The Crook and the Crown ISBN-13: 978-1481440752 - Paperback

Twist and Shout ISBN-13: 978-1481440783 - Paperback

Books vs Looks ISBN-13: 978-1481440813

**Flower Girl Dreams was first published in January 2017 ISBN-13: 978-1481440851 - Paperback**

Illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

### Book Summary:

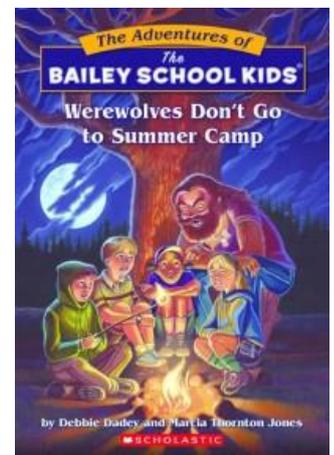
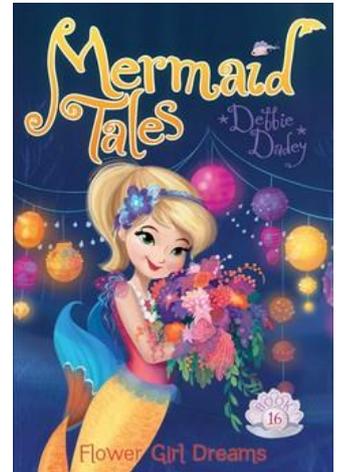
Pearl wants to be a flower girl more than anything. When she finds out that the school cafeteria worker is getting married, she is determined to do whatever it takes to be the best flower girl ever!

### Meet the author:

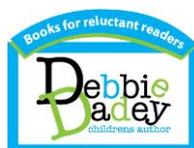
Debbie Dadey is the author and co-author of 166 children's books, including *The Mermaid Tales* and *The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids* series. She loves inventing new worlds and hopes you do too! This former librarian and teacher lives in a Tennessee log cabin with her husband, Eric. One of Debbie's other books is [Werewolves Don't Go To Summer Camp](#), which she wrote with Marcia Jones. Find out more about Debbie and her stories at [www.debbiedadey.com](http://www.debbiedadey.com) and [www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey](http://www.Facebook.com/debbiedadey). You can also find Debbie on Twitter and Pinterest. She would love to visit or Skype with your classroom or book club. Kids can learn about Debbie's writing process on the writing page of [www.debbiedadey.com](http://www.debbiedadey.com).



Photo credit to Portrait Innovations



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# Mermaid Tales

## DEBBIE DADEY BOOKLIST

Here is a selected list of books by Debbie Dadey. For a complete list of titles visit [www.debbiedadey.com](http://www.debbiedadey.com)

Dracula Doesn't Rock and Roll

Slime Wars

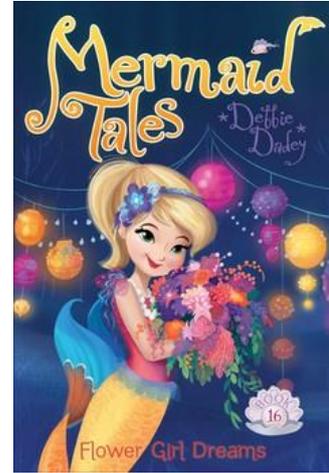
Will Rogers, Larger Than Life (now as an ebook)

Cherokee Sister (now as an ebook)

Whistler's Hollow

The Monsters Next Door

The Polar Bear Express



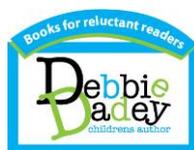
**Pre-reading activities:** Before reading **Flower Girl Dreams** complete some or all of the activities below to peak interest in the story, as well as to increase comprehension, reading, and predicting skills. The next page has a pre-reading activity to try as well.

1. **Flower Girl Dreams** is a great springboard for discussing budgets. Discuss how most people must only buy what they can afford. Use a white board to list things that they need to buy to live. See what things on the list are important and what things could be taken off if the budget didn't permit it.
2. Give students a pretend budget and let them plan a party. The winner is the student who has the best party and spends the least. Encourage them to be creative! If possible, plan a real party! (You might also use the enclosed worksheet).

[CCSS.Math.Content.3.NBT.A.2](https://www.coreknowledge.org/standards/early-learning/early-learning-standards-for-mathematics/)

[CCSS.Math.Content.2.NBT.B.7](https://www.coreknowledge.org/standards/early-learning/early-learning-standards-for-mathematics/)

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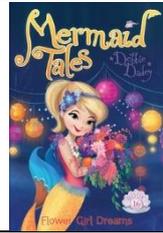
# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Pre-reading activity/prediction

Name:

Date:



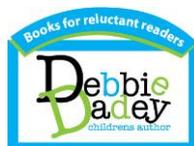
What is happening in the picture above? \_\_\_\_\_

Follow the even directions.

1. Color all of the flowers blue.
2. Color the sea horse pink.
3. Circle Rocky.
4. Color the mermaid's tails your favorite color.

[CCSS.Math.Content.2.OA.C.3](http://www.debbiedadey.com)

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Pre-reading activity/prediction

Name:

Date:

Answers



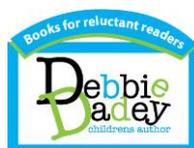
What is happening in the picture above? answers will vary

Follow the even directions. **Only two and four should be completed.**

1. Color all of the flowers blue.
2. Color the sea horse pink.
3. Circle Rocky.
4. Color the mermaid's tails your favorite color.

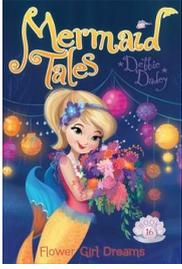
[CCSS.Math.Content.2.OA.C.3](http://CCSS.Math.Content.2.OA.C.3)

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Pre-reading activity/vocabulary

### Chapter 1

magazine	bonnet	chatting
adorable	entrance	unusual

### Chapters 2 and 3

cafeteria	definitely	oyster
allergic	especially	barracuda

### Chapters 4 and 5

whisked	cooed	ceremony
browsed	fiancée	lavender

### Chapters 6 and 7

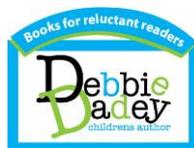
bouquets	mustache	arrangements
enormous	assist	chandelier

### Chapters 8 – 12

policy	appreciated	preservation	bryozoan	lavishly
allowance	describe	delicate	portrait	crisis
confident	conservatory	anemones	restaurant	squadron

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

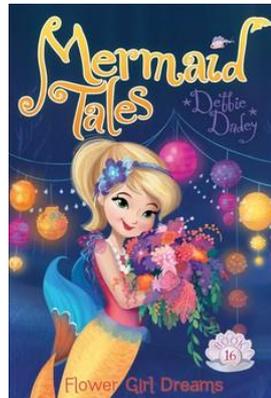
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](#)



# Mermaid Tales

## FUN WAYS TO LEARN VOCABULARY WORDS FOR FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

- Go around the room and let kids do a ‘vocabulary bee’ where they must use one of the vocabulary words in a sentence or sit down.
- Challenge students to make up a poem using at least three of the vocabulary words. They can decorate the poems for a classroom display.
- Have a word race. Call out the word and let students race to find the word in the chapter.
- Have students put the vocabulary words in the right column: verb, noun, adjective, or adverb. You can use the form on the following page.



[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](#)

# Mermaid Tales

Pre-reading activity

NAME:

DATE:

Place each vocabulary word from Flower Girl Dreams into one of the categories below.

Noun-person, place, or thing	Verb-action	Adjective-describes a noun	Adverb-changes a verb

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.1.b [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2.f](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.1](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4](#)

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 1/compound words

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Separate the compound words found in the story into two separate words.

pufferfish \_\_\_\_\_

overheard \_\_\_\_\_

classroom \_\_\_\_\_

mushroom \_\_\_\_\_

waterfall \_\_\_\_\_

headache \_\_\_\_\_

upset \_\_\_\_\_

centerpieces \_\_\_\_\_

honeymoon \_\_\_\_\_

grandfather \_\_\_\_\_

everything \_\_\_\_\_

parrotfish \_\_\_\_\_

swordfish \_\_\_\_\_

grandmother \_\_\_\_\_

eyebrow \_\_\_\_\_

everyone \_\_\_\_\_

archway \_\_\_\_\_

something \_\_\_\_\_

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.2](https://www.debbiedadey.com)

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.6](https://www.debbiedadey.com) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](https://www.debbiedadey.com)

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 1/compound words

Answers [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.2](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.6](#) · [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.4](#)

Separate the compound words found in the story into two separate words.

pufferfish    puffer fish

overheard    over heard

classroom    class room

mushroom    mush room

waterfall    water fall

headache    head ache

upset    up set

centerpieces    center pieces

honeymoon    honey moon

grandfather    grand father

everything    every thing

parrotfish    parrot fish

swordfish    sword fish

grandmother    grand mother

eyebrow    eye brow

everyone    every one

archway    arch way

something    some thing

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 2/science-coral

NAME:

DATE:

Mrs. Karp mentions two types of coral. Name them below.

---

In the library or on the Internet find examples of the two types of coral. List three of each in the space below. Circle the two that you find most interesting and draw them on the back.

Type of coral:	Type of coral:
Three examples: 1. 2. 3.	Three examples: 1. 2. 3.

Using the glossary in the back of the book, find three types of coral and list them here. In the second space, identify which type of coral it is.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Twenty-two types of coral are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This has risen greatly in the last ten years. There are many reasons why coral is endangered, including pollution, people using coral for decorations and jewelry, and overfishing.

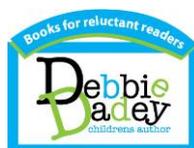
Based on this information, should you buy a ring made from coral? \_\_\_\_\_

Based on the information above, is coral better off now or ten years ago? \_\_\_\_\_

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.4.E

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 2/science-coral

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

Mrs. Karp mentions two types of coral. Name them below.

\_\_\_\_\_ **hard and soft**

In the library or on the Internet find examples of the two types of coral. List three of each in the space below. Circle the two that you find most interesting and draw them on the back.

Type of coral: <b>hard</b>	Type of coral: <b>soft (could be in any order)</b>
Three examples: <b>answers will vary</b>	Three examples: <b>answers will vary</b>
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Using the glossary in the back of the book, find three types of coral and list them here. In the second space, identify which type of coral it is. **answers will vary**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

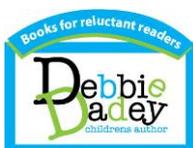
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Twenty-two types of coral are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. This has risen greatly in the last ten years. There are many reasons why coral is endangered, including pollution, people using coral for decorations and jewelry, and overfishing.

Based on this information, should you buy a ring made from coral? \_\_\_\_\_ **NO**

Based on the information above, is coral better off now or ten years ago? **Ten years ago.**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1



CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.4.E

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

## Chapter 3/suffixes and prefixes

NAME:

DATE:

Circle the words with suffixes and prefixes below, then put the suffix and prefix in the correct column. Put an x on any compound words you find.

Prefix		Suffix
_____	1. I'm going to ask for one for my birthday!	_____
_____	2. Pearl hoped her suggestions would work.	_____
_____	3. We got lots of discounts because of that.	_____
_____	4. It was unusual for Rocky to hurry to class.	_____
_____	5. "Totally wavy!" Echo said.	_____
_____	6. Pearl's smile disappeared.	_____
_____	7. A flower is blooming right now.	_____
_____	8. Pearl read them, especially the wedding articles.	_____
_____	9. He would surely ask her.	_____
_____	10. There were displays of jewelry.	_____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.b. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.F

Bonus: On the back write two sentences, one that is compound and one that is not.

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

## Chapter 3/suffixes and prefixes

NAME:

answers

DATE:

Circle the words with suffixes and prefixes below, then put the suffix and prefix in the correct column. Put an x on any compound words you find.

Prefix		Suffix
<u>re</u>	1. I'm going to return that.	<u>ing</u>
_____	2. Pearl hoped her suggestions would work.	ed tion s
<u>dis</u>	3. We got lots of discounts because of that.	s s
<u>un</u>	4. It was unusual for Rocky to hurry to class.	_____
_____	5. "Totally wavy!" Echo said.	ly y _____
<u>dis</u>	6. Pearl's smile disappeared.	ed _____
_____	7. A flower is blooming right now.	ing _____
_____	8. Pearl read them, especially the wedding articles.	ly ing s
_____	9. He would surely ask her.	ly _____
<u>dis</u>	10. There were displays of jewelry.	s _____

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3.b. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1.F

Bonus: On the back write two sentences, one that is compound and one that is not. Answers will vary

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

## Chapter 4/addition

NAME:

DATE:

You win a \$1000 shopping spree in a local store, but you must spend it all! List what you purchase from the items below and show your addition. You can buy more than one of each item and use the back if needed.

Jeans \$25

Fancy jeans \$53

T-shirt \$12

Designer T-shirt \$40

Coat \$25

Fancy coat \$300

Boots \$69

Dress \$47

Shoes \$51

Tennis shoes \$64

Flip flops \$11

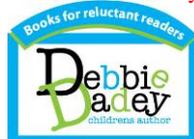
Necklace \$26

Socks \$3

Sweater \$25

[CCSS.Math.Content.2.NBT.B.5](#) [CCSS.Math.Content.2.NBT.B.6](#) [CCSS.Math.Content.3.NBT.A.2](#)

Answers will vary



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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 5/oral reports

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

In Flower Girl Dreams, mer-students are encouraged to do oral reports on a type of coral. Use the worksheet below to prepare for a thirty second report on your favorite kind of coral. Your teacher may use the links below to discuss reporting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKOO99UjsSE> [http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/30700\\_rubric.pdf](http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/30700_rubric.pdf)

The coral I chose: \_\_\_\_\_ Is it hard or soft? \_\_\_\_\_

What is interesting about this coral? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

Why I chose it: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Use the information above to write your speech: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

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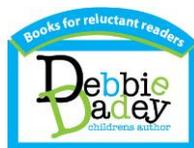
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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1

Answers will vary/use back if needed

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 6/addition and multiplication

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**You are having a party for thirty people!** You will have to find a place to have your party, get entertainment, and you'll have to make sure you have enough to eat. Use the prices below (or go to the store or online to get the real prices) to help you plan. Then use the worksheet to figure out just how much this party will cost you.

<p><b>Places to have the event:</b></p> <p>Hotel dining room: \$1000          Space at a local park: free          Your home: free          Local church hall: \$200</p>	<p><b>Food for the event:</b></p> <p>Catered, per person \$30          Pizza, per person \$5          Drinks, per person \$5          Sandwiches you make, per person \$2          Lemonade from mix, per person .30          Cake \$40          Ice cream \$25          Ice \$10</p>	<p><b>Entertainment for the event:</b></p> <p>Local band \$900          Magician \$500          Use existing balls to play games          Bring music from home</p>
<p><b>Decorations:</b></p> <p>Flowers, a few \$50          Flowers, a lot \$1000          Balloons, a few \$25          Balloons, a lot \$357          Streamers \$12          Tablecloths, paper \$20          Catered tablecloths \$200</p>	<p><b>Plates, napkins, cups, utensils:</b></p> <p>Catered, per person \$7          Package of 50 plain napkins \$4          Package of 50 plain plates \$4          Package of 50 sporks \$4          Package of 50 plain cups \$8          (for fancy, add \$10 to each)</p>	<p>Do you have a theme?          _____          What are you celebrating?          _____</p>

1. Location of your event: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Food for your event: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Additional items: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the back if necessary and list the total cost of your event here: \_\_\_\_\_

[CCSS.Math.Content.2.NBT.B.5](#) [CCSS.Math.Content.2.NBT.B.6](#) [CCSS.Math.Content.3.NBT.A.2](#) answers will vary

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 7/social studies

NAME:

DATE:

In Flower Girl Dreams, Pearl decides she wants to be a party planner. In the space below, write three jobs that you might like to do.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Now, select your favorite job from the one above and make yourself a business card. Make sure you have your name, address, and phone number. You might even want to have a picture and a slogan to make it more interesting.

More fun: Use the library or the Internet to find out more about your job.

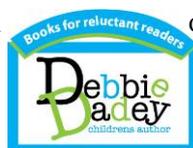
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.2.A

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1

answers will vary

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 8/geography

NAME:

DATE:

A honeymoon is a trip that two people often take after getting married. They might go anywhere in the world (or ocean)! In the space below list six places that you'd like to go in your lifetime.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

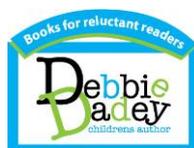
Now, select the most interesting place and write three things that you would like to see there. Use the back to draw a picture of the most interesting of those three.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1    CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1

Answers will vary.

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# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 9/characters

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the space below to describe the characters in the story. What are they like?

1. Pearl: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Shelly: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Kiki: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Echo: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Rocky: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the main character in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

What does she want most of all? \_\_\_\_\_

How does she go about getting what she wants? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you think Pearl did anything wrong in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what did she do wrong? \_\_\_\_\_

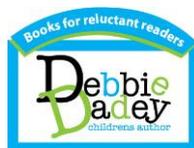
What could she have done differently? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1

Answers will vary.

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Flower Girl Dreams is published by Simon and Schuster, illustrations by Tatevik Avakyan

# Mermaid Tales

## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 9/characters

NAME: **answers**

DATE:

Use the space below to describe the characters in the story. What are they like?

*Answers will vary*

1. Pearl: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Shelly: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Kiki: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Echo: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Rocky: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the main character in this story? \_\_\_\_\_ **Pearl**

What does she want most of all? *Answers will vary, but should include being a flower girl.*

How does she go about getting what she wants? *Answers will vary on the rest of the page.*

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Do you think Pearl did anything wrong in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what did she do wrong? \_\_\_\_\_

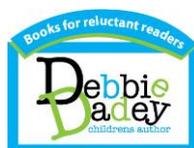
What could she have done differently? \_\_\_\_\_

---

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1

*Answers will vary on many items,*

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## FLOWER GIRL DREAMS

Chapter 10/museums

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Shelly's grandfather runs a museum in the ocean, but there are famous museums all over the world. Go to the library or use the Internet to find a museum in each of these cities.

1. Paris, France \_\_\_\_\_
2. London, England \_\_\_\_\_
3. Rome, Italy \_\_\_\_\_
4. Washington D.C., United States \_\_\_\_\_
5. New York, New York \_\_\_\_\_

Debbie Dadey, the author of Flower Girl Dreams, has a favorite art museum. It is one of the most visited art museums in the world. It is called the Louvre.

Where is the Louvre located? \_\_\_\_\_

Name three famous things that are located in the Louvre.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

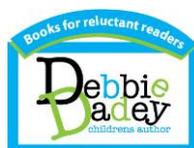
\_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite museum? \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, take a field trip to a museum close to you!

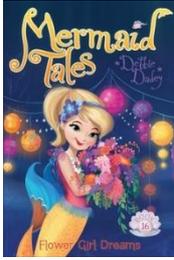
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## COMPARING AND CONTRASTING STORIES

NAME:

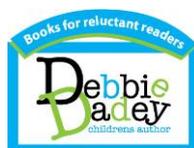
DATE:

Author Debbie Dadey has authored and co-authored 166 traditionally published books. You can find a complete list on her website, [www.debbiedadey.com](http://www.debbiedadey.com). Select another one of her books and compare it to Flower Girl Dreams in the spaces below.

	The book I selected was:
Theme (What is the story's big idea? Or what belief about life is the author trying to convey?)	Theme:
Setting:	Setting:
Plot (In one sentence, what is the story mostly about?):	Plot:
Characters:	Characters:

Answers will vary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.9 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10

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