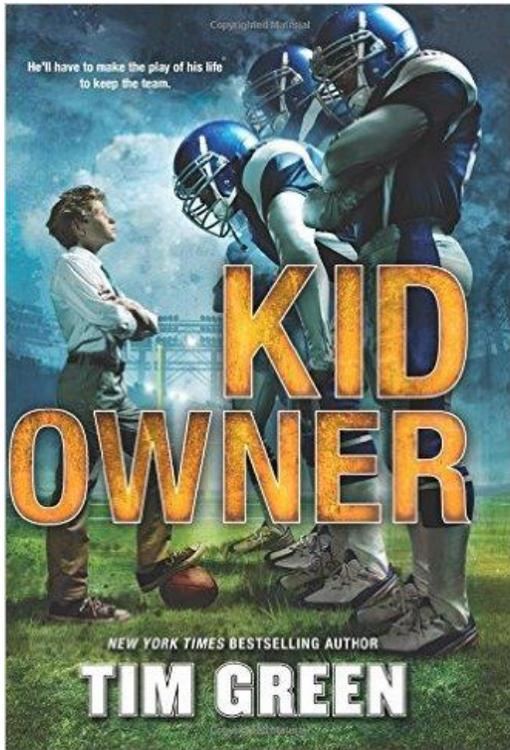


KID OWNER by TIM GREEN

Teachers' Guide



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I think *Kid Owner* is a story about perseverance and underdogs. It's a story about family and friends and believing in yourself.

~Tim Green

About the book

From *New York Times* bestselling author and former NFL player Tim Green comes a riveting new stand-alone football novel.

When Ryan's estranged father unexpectedly dies, Ryan learns that he has inherited the Dallas Cowboys. With his new role as owner of this NFL team, Ryan has high hopes that he can be more than just a middle-school misfit. Maybe he can even get off the bench and into the starting lineup of his own football team.

With the help of his friends Jackson and Izzy, Ryan takes advantage of his newfound stardom. He convinces his coach to use a tricky passing offense that plays to Ryan's strengths.

But just when things are looking up, Ryan's nasty stepmother makes a legal play to make her own son the Cowboys' kid owner. With drama heating up both on and off the field, Ryan quickly realizes he may lose much more than just the Dallas Cowboys.

Common Core Connections

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL: Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

CCSS.ELA.Literacy.SL: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Discussion Guide

1. “It’s not easy to be different,” Ryan says in the first line of the book. What makes Ryan different from his classmates?
2. When Ryan finds out that he has inherited the Dallas Cowboys, he thinks “...my mother looked far from pleased” (page 42). What makes Ryan’s mother upset?
3. When Ryan meets players from the Dallas Cowboys, he recounts, “Flashing a full smile of bright white teeth was John Torres, the Cowboys’ star quarterback, built like a lion” (page 113). How does Ryan’s life change when he meets and interacts with the players of the Dallas Cowboys?
4. Ryan asks Coach Cowan to help his middle school team. Ryan’s mom says, “That’s not really fair to ask Coach Cowan. He has a lot to do” (page 166). Do you agree or disagree with Ryan’s Mom? If you were Ryan, would you ask Coach Cowan to help coach your football team?
5. When Ryan learns that he will be the quarterback for his football team, he has these thoughts, “Excitement swirled with fear in my gut and I could barely keep my lunch down” (page 183). Describe a time that you were excited and scared at the same time.
6. During Ryan’s first game as a quarterback, he goes to the locker room to find a diaper taped to his locker. Ryan says, “It was the lack of respect that hurt me. How could someone-a *teammate*- insult their own starting quarterback on the day of a big game? It cut me to the core” (page 191). Ryan feels hurt and betrayed. Give an example of a character from another book who has felt hurt or betrayed. Describe this betrayal.
7. After Ryan’s first game as quarterback, Ryan feels jealous of the attention that Jackson gets from fans. Izzy tells Ryan, “There’s room for you *and* Jackson. You can both shine” (page 213). Do you think that Ryan is a good friend to Jackson? Why or why not?
8. After Ryan is caught lying to Izzy about failing to call Jackson, Ryan thinks, “I took a breath, kind of annoyed that I’d been caught and had to explain myself, but knowing deep down I was wrong” (page 239). Can you recall a time you had to admit you were wrong? Was there a lesson you learned? Retell that experience.
9. Izzy says, “My mom says a polite person is polite to everyone” (page 266). Do you agree with this? Can you think of times in society when people are impolite?

10. After Ryan takes himself out of the final play in the game against Eiland, many people question his decision. After the game, Ryan says, “You think I didn’t want to be in there? To try? It made me *sick*, but I wanted to *win*” (page 320). Write about a time you had to make a tough decision.

11. What do you think happens to Dillon and his mother after the book ends? Write a paragraph describing Dillion’s life with his mother, on the football field, and at school.

12. What do you think happens to Ryan as a Kid Owner? Write a paragraph explaining how he interacts with the fans and players of the Cowboys and his family and friends.

Before, During and After Reading Activities

Before Reading Activity

1. Print out the following 10 phrases and cut them apart. Put them in a paperbag or envelope. Make as many sets as needed depending on the size of your class. Recommended group size is 3-4 students per group.

Quarterback	Dallas Cowboys	Girlfriend?	Coach	Diaper
Protective Mother	Mean Stepmother	Loyal Friend	High-stakes Football Game	Death

2. Have students use phrases to create a paragraph predicting what will happen in the book.

3. Have students share their paragraphs and predictions. This heightens the engagement with the book and gets students thinking about the content of the book. This activity may also be revisited once students have finished reading the book to compare and contrast their original predictions.

4. Before reading the novel, share the following video clip to heighten schema and background knowledge. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVCb1edhP5Y>

During Reading Activity

1. Classroom Story Quilt. Give each student a piece of cardstock that they can fold into 8 sections. Have students label each section with Chapters 1-10, 11-20, continue with labeling by 10 chapter sections , the last chapter section will be labeled 71-83.

2. As students read each section of chapters they should determine which event is most important in that section. Have students illustrate that event and label it.
3. At the end of the book after all sections have been completed with drawings, allow students to present their favorite section/illustration of the book.
4. Combine and hang up all student work to create a Story Quilt.

After Reading Activity

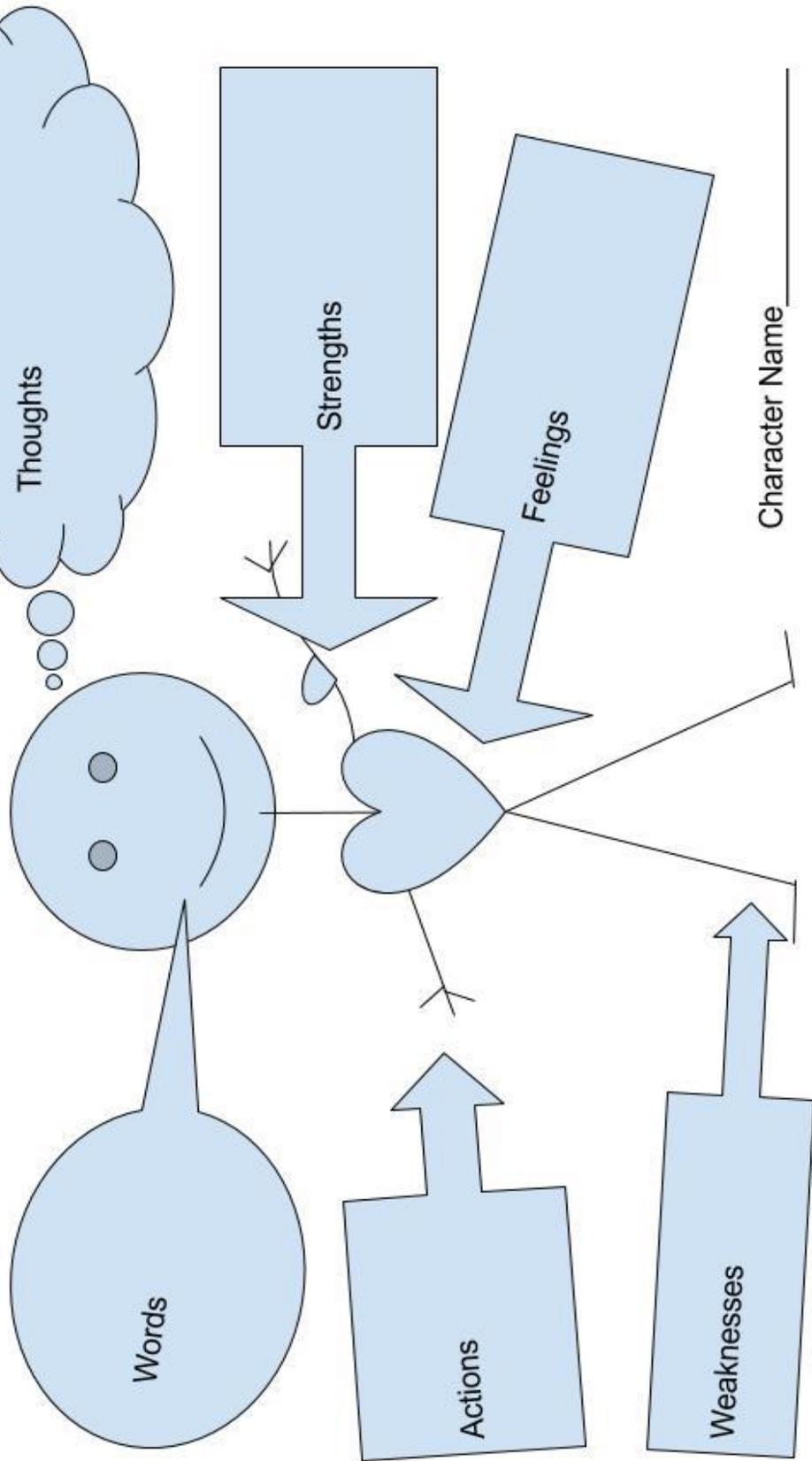
1. Using the Appendix A graphic organizer, have students choose a character from the reading to analyze.
 - a. Fill in the attached graphic organizer using any character from the reading.
 - b. Use the notes from the graphic organizer to create a diamante poem about the chosen character.
 - c. Now have students create a diamante poem about themselves.
 - d. The following link at Poetry4Kids. This link gives explicit instructions on how to write a diamante poem.

<http://www.poetry4kids.com/blog/lessons/how-to-write-a-diamante-poem/>

2. See appendix A for a printable graphic organizer.
3. See appendix B for a printable worksheet that students may use to complete their diamante poems.

Name _____

Directions: Choose a main character from the book *Kid Owner* by Tim Green and complete the graphic organizer below based on evidence from the text..



Appendix B

Name _____

Diamante Poetry

Diamante format:

Line 1: Noun

Line 2: Two adjectives

Line 3: Three action verbs that end in “-ing”

Line 4: Four nouns

Line 5: Three action verbs that end in “-ing”

Line 6: Two adjectives

Line 7: Noun

_____) _____

_____) _____) _____

_____) _____) _____) _____

_____) _____) _____

_____) _____

Supplemental Materials

The following article can be found at www.newsela.com. In order to fully access this article and change the Lexile levels, you need to sign up for a free Newsela account.

<https://newsela.com/articles/usc-blindfan/id/9018/>

The above article is informational text about a football player who lost his sight. He can be compared to Ryan from the book.

The following links are to multi-media clips about Jake Olson (blind football player).

http://espn.go.com/losangeles/college-football/story/_/id/13661297/blind-long-snapper-jake-olson-says-join-usc-trojans-player

<http://espn.go.com/video/clip?id=13742216>

Newsela has several resources that can be used to create additional text sets dealing with topics in this book. Search terms that could be used would be:

Football

Bullying

Concussions

Friendship