



Lesson Plan Summary

Magic Tree House #15: Viking Ships at Sunrise

THIS EXTENTION WILL ENABLE EACH CHILD TO:

- Create a book about a make-believe
- Character after gathering ideas from the text
- Use art materials to create a book
- Write a story in which an event is
- Developed and organized in sequence
- Provide a beginning, middle, and conclusion to a make-believe story
- Use descriptive words to enhance a story
- Listen and follow directions in order to construct a book
- Share creative writing with classmates

COMMON CORE STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

ART:

- Apply personal choices while creating art
- Historical and cultural content

READING:

- Foundational Skills
- Read and comprehend historical fiction
- Use literature as a basis for composing stories
- Use historical fiction as a prompt for creative writing
- Key Ideas and Details

WRITING:

- Text Types and Purposes
- Production and Distribution of Writing

SPEAKING:

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions
- Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas
- Use appropriate audience behavior



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Serpens Magna Books

Jack and Annie uncover the mysterious world of the Vikings in *Viking Ships at Sunrise* while searching for the ancient story, Serpens Magna. They discover that the words are Latin which was the language used in the Dark Ages in Europe for writing. The Dark Ages referred to a time when learning and culture nearly vanished throughout Europe. The Irish Monks kept Western civilization alive, as Jack and Annie discovered in their quest to find the ancient story. But what does Serpens Magna mean? They also found out the answer to this at the end of the book when they were rescued by a great (magna) serpent (serpens) who lived in the sea. The sea serpent was Sarph, a Celtic creature who was identified with the Milky Way. Allow your students to use their imaginations as they create their own mythical stories! Your students will enjoy creating their very own Serpens Magna as they create and illustrate stories about great sea serpents. Bookmaking will add a sense of pride and ownership to their creative stories as they share their mythical tales with classmates!

Materials for each child:

- 1 large brown paper bag
- scissors
- 1 small stick
- 1 rubber band
- Pencils and markers
- Plastic beads/jewels/glitter-glue

Directions for making a paper bag book:

1. Cut the front and back sections out of a large paper bag.



2. Fold both sections in half-length wise making sure any writing on the outside is on the inside of the fold.



3. Next, place one folded section inside the other to create six inside pages of the book.



4. Punch two holes in the folded sides and secure with a stick and rubber band.



5. Finally, allow your students to decorate the cover of their book with the title *Serpens Magna* and create their own stories about great serpents of the sea. They might enjoy using “gleaming red and blue jewels” (as Brother Michael did in the book) which could be created with colored glitter-glue or plastic jewels/beads found in craft stores. Encourage creativity and artistic freedom to illustrate their stories on the six inside pages. When complete, provide opportunities to share *Serpens Magna* stories with classmates.

