

READING

BOOK COMPANION ACTIVITIES

Suggested Vocabulary Words:

adopted
bloom
charmed
cuddle
dashed
flaws
guardian
overlooked
whimpered
volunteer

Have the students complete “Fiorella Word Find”

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- Discuss the meaning of Fiorella’s name. Why do you think the author chose the names used in the book? Have the students look up the meanings of the characters names in the book. (Fiorella-little flower, Mama Rose- flower, Lucy-light, Abraham-father of many)
- Have the students look up the meaning of their name or ask their parents why they chose their name.
- Why do you think Doc left Fiorella and Mama Rose at the shelter?
- How did Fiorella and Mama Rose feel when Doc left them? How do you know? What cues do you get from the author’s word choices? What cues do you get from the illustrator’s pictures?
- What is Lucy’s job at the shelter? Do you think she was good at her job? Why or why not?

- What did Fiorella think her flaws were?
- How do you think Mama Rose felt about Fiorella's "flaws"?
- What do you think Mama Rose thought about Fiorella "pretending to be a pup she's not" ?
- Do you have any flaws? What do you think they are? Should you try to "fix your flaws" ?
- Do you think pretending to be someone other than yourself is a good thing to do? Why? Why not?
- How did Fiorella's change throughout the story? (Beginning: happy, relaxed / Middle: sad, confused, worried, determined/ End: happy, relieved) Companion worksheet to this question: "Feelings Change".
- Have students complete the worksheet "What is Fiorella Worried About?".
- Other than the author telling us, how do we know that Abraham is a "friendly fellow" ?
- Why is it important that Abraham "overlooked" Fiorella and Mama Rose's mess?
- How did it make the two pups feel that they were "chosen" by Abraham? How do you know?
- Have you ever been chosen for something? How did it make you feel?
- What will Abraham need to do to take care of his new pets?
Companion worksheet to this question: "Pet Owner Duties".