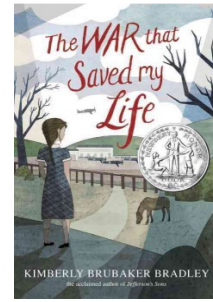


The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley



Grade Levels:

- Interest Level 3-6
- Reading Level 4.1

Synopsis:

Born with a clubfoot, Ada has never been allowed to leave her London apartment. Her cruel mother is too embarrassed by her deformity to let her out, and has convinced Ada that no one would ever want her. When World War II comes to London, the children of the city are sent to the English countryside for safety, including Ada's little brother Jaimie. Determined not to be left behind, Ada sneaks out to join her brother.

Susan Smith is the woman forced to take in the two children. Despite her reluctance, she soon grows to love the children and Ada begins to thrive under Susan's care. Soon Ada can ride a pony, read, and even makes a friend. She finally realizes what it's like to have a loving family.

Just as Ada begins to feel hope about her situation, her mother shows up at Susan's, demanding her children back. Will Ada and Jaimie have to go back to the abused life they had before?

Author Website:

- <http://www.kimberlybrubakerbradley.com>

Curricular Connections:

- English/Language Arts
- Social Studies

Lesson Ideas:

- Penguin Group has an educators guide that includes pre-reading activities, vocabulary words, lesson ideas that correlate with the three main sections of the book, and post-reading activities http://www.penguin.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/WarThatSavedMyLife_Guide_15_4p_LR.pdf
- TeachingBooks has resources for the book and an interview with Kimberly Brubaker Bradley <http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=42029&a=1>

Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Suggested Companion Titles:

- *The Children of the King* by Sonya Hartnett
- *The Road to Paris* by Nikki Grimes
- *Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *Rules* by Cynthia Lord

Reviews and Awards:

- John Newbery Medal—Honor 2016
- Schneider Family Book Award 2016—Middle School
- Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production—Winner 2016
- *Booklist* 12/01/2014
- *Kirkus Reviews* starred 10/15/2014
- *Publishers Weekly* starred 10/27/2014
- *School Library Journal* 11/01/2014