

Reading Guide

Wise Home on Lily Pad Pond

Elementary

- 1** Melba has been left on her own to survive without family or friends. Is it possible to live without family or friends in the real world?
- 2** Though an animal may not talk like the ones in the story, is it possible to have a friendship with an animal?
- 3** Who is your favorite character in the story? If you could really meet up, what would you like to do with him or her?
- 4** Did you feel afraid or uncomfortable during any part of the story? Why? What did it make you think about?
- 5** There are many kinds of friendships in the story. Do you have a friend who helps you? Are you a friend to someone else?

Paperback/Journal Reflections

- 1** What is my favorite part of the story? Why? Does it touch on something in my life I loved, lost, or wish I had experienced?
- 2** How do the pictures envision the story for me? Can I imagine it without the pictures? Do I wish there were pictures that aren't there? What would they look like if I could draw them?
- 3** How do I feel about the friendships in the story? Do I have a friend I can share my deepest thoughts with? Am I such a friend to someone else?
- 4** Problems aren't always neatly resolved in stories or real life. Margaret moved away, and the girl never got closure on their friendship, but she accepted it and moved on to other friendships. Does the story help me process a lack of closure in some situations in a healthy way?
- 5** If I were to write the next scene in the story, where would it be set? Who would it focus on? Why?