

Novel Resource #3

Book: The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy: The Hero Revealed

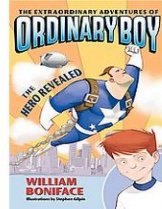
Author: William Boniface

Illustrator: Stephen Gilpin

Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers

Copyright Year: 2006

Young Hoosier Book Award Nominee



Genre: Fiction

Themes: super-hero powers, bravery, types of rock, friendship

Point of View: First person, told by Ordinary Boy

Main Characters:

- ❖ Ordinary Boy: narrator, 11 years old, no super power, part of the Junior Leaguers
- ❖ Amazing Indestructo: super-hero, can be destroyed by nothing, Superopolis's greatest hero
- ❖ Thermo: Ordinary Boy's dad, can make his hand incredibly hot
- ❖ Snowflake: Ordinary Boy's mom, can freeze things by staring at them
- ❖ Halogen Boy: part of the Junior Leaguers, Ordinary Boy's friend, glows brightly when drinking apple juice
- ❖ Tadpole: part of the Junior Leaguers, Ordinary Boy's Friend, can stick his tongue out twenty feet
- ❖ Plasma Girl: part of the Junior Leaguers, Ordinary Boy's Friend, can turn herself into a liquid substance
- ❖ Stench: part of the Junior Leaguers, Ordinary Boy's Friend, can stink up a room terribly
- ❖ Multiplier: enemy to Superopolis, can multiply things at an incredibly fast rate
- ❖ Professor Brain-Drain: enemy to Superopolis, can drain the knowledge out of one's head

Setting: Superopolis, a place where everyone but Ordinary Boy has superpowers (no specific time period)

Conflict: The conflict in this story is external (struggle between the Junior Leaguers and Professor Brain-Drain). Ordinary Boy and his team discover that Professor Brain-Drain is up to something that could destroy Superopolis forever.

Resolution: Just before Professor Brain-Drain steals the knowledge from Ordinary Boy's head, the Junior Leaguer, Amazing Indestructo, and his dad's super-power team come to the rescue. Professor Brain-Drain is stopped and Superopolis is saved.

Interest Levels: Grades 3-6

Reading Levels: Ages 9-12

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(Book talk)

Have you ever been to a place where everyone has a different kind of talent or power? Ordinary Boy and his friends, all eleven years old, live in Superopolis where everyone has a different superpower. However, OB doesn't have any powers at all. Although as you read, I think you will see that he really does have a power that nobody else recognizes.

Just like anywhere else, Superopolis has its problems. The one person who everyone expects to solve that problem is suddenly nowhere to be found. Join OB and his team of Junior Leaguers as they solve the mysteries that are going on in the city. Help them figure out who is behind the horrible schemes and watch as they save the city from harm!

(Annotation)

William Boniface writes a story about a city filled with people of different powers. The main character, Ordinary Boy, is not quite as ordinary as everyone thinks he is. His group of Junior Leaguers team up to solve the mystery occurring in Superopolis. In the end, the mystery is solved and the town is saved.

Boniface's story is filled with mystery, excitement, and adventure. The story is written in a way that lets your readers follow the action, and enjoy it at the same time. The illustrator, Stephen Gilpin, did an incredible job at creating portraits of the characters that went right along with the way Boniface describes them. The way the text and illustrations went together kept me wanting more as I read.

About the Author: William Boniface



Photo By: Bill Jones

William Boniface seems to be as mysterious as his characters in this book. Besides interviews about his book coming out, Boniface keeps himself top secret. On his publisher's website, this is the biography that was given:

William Boniface may or may not exist. *Ordinary Boy*, after all, tells his own story. Mr. Boniface could simply be a creation of the publisher in order to fulfill the requirement that an author be listed on the cover of this book. Given that possibility, there is no harm in revealing that Mr. Boniface has lent his name to over two dozen far less wordy children's books that were also in need of an author. Unless, of course, he didn't, which would make this entire biography irrelevant.

Publisher's Website:

Harper Collins Children's Homepage (for William Boniface):

<http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/HarperChildrens/Kids/AuthorsAndIllustrators/ContributorDetail.aspx?CIId=28931>

Author's Homepage: (still under construction—no information)

<http://www.williamboniface.com>

When asked what inspired him to write The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy, Boniface responded, "the Disney Comics by Carl Barks".

Other Books Published:

- ❖ The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy: The Return of Meteor Boy?

Picture Books:

- ❖ Mystery in Bugtown (Science Calendar)
- ❖ Max and Millow Picture Book
- ❖ What Do You Want on Your Pizza?
- ❖ Treasure Hunter Picture Book
- ❖ Santa's Sleigh is Full! (Toy This!)

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Discussion Questions

Pre-reading:

- ❖ What do you think a city full people with superpowers would be like?
- ❖ What if you were the only person with no superpower?
- ❖ How important do you think teamwork is?
- ❖ What makes someone a hero?

During Reading:

Prologue:

- ❖ What is different about the city Ordinary Boy lives in? (page 1)
- ❖ How did Ordinary Boy get his name? (page 1-2)
- ❖ What is so special about The Amazing Indestructo? (page 5)
- ❖ What are the powers of his mom and dad? (page 7)
- ❖ Who is the enemy in Superopolis? (page 8)

Chapter 1:

- ❖ Is Ordinary Boy watching TV or a real situation? (page 12-14)
- ❖ What is Professor Brain-Drain's power? (page 15)
- ❖ What is OB's main goal? (page 19)

Chapter 2:

- ❖ Why doesn't OB's dad like to hear about The Amazing Indestructo? (page 23)
- ❖ Why do you think OB is so excited to go grocery shopping with his dad? (page 26)
- ❖ What was Thermo's old group called? (page 28)
- ❖ Where did Thermo used to have a job? (page 30)

Chapter 3:

- ❖ What is happening at the Might Mart? (page 34)
- ❖ Who is the Multiplier? Is he a good or bad guy? (page 33)
- ❖ Who is Thermo so distraught after the commotion is stopped? (pages 38-40)
- ❖ Why is OB so excited to get home? (page 41)

Chapter 4:

- ❖ What is the name of OB's group? (page 42)
- ❖ Why is OB so grateful to Stench? (pages 43-44)
- ❖ Why do you think they keep apple juice in their refrigerator? (pages 47-48)

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- ❖ Why did the boys let Plasma Girl into their group? (page 51)
- ❖ Why is the group so excited to meet today? (pages 51-52)
- ❖ What do you think they are going to try to do? (page 54)

Chapter 5:

- ❖ Do you think that OB really does have a superpower? (pages 55-56)
- ❖ What surprises the team as they look for the cards they need? (page 60)

Chapter 6:

- ❖ What is the mystery behind Meteor Boy? (pages 62-67)
- ❖ Who do you think is on the missing card? (page 68)

Chapter 7:

- ❖ Who is on the final card? Is this a good or bad guy? (pages 73-74)
- ❖ How did Miss Marble get her name? (page 75)
- ❖ What is the lesson the Miss Marble decides to give about the card collecting? (pages 76-78)

Chapter 8:

- ❖ What does the company Indestructo Industries do? (page 83)
- ❖ How do they get passed the receptionist? (page 88)
- ❖ Why is OB so surprised when they enter the last door? (page 89)

Chapter 9:

- ❖ What do you think the Junior Leaguers are starting to think? (pages 90-92)
- ❖ What did OB find out about the rickshaw that he could never seem to get? (page 94)
- ❖ What did they find out about the missing card? (pages 98-99)
- ❖ The Tycoon tells him to look by the three rocks. What do you think that means? (page 98)

Chapter 10:

- ❖ How did they find the other part of the team in the huge candy store? (page 103)
- ❖ What are the three kinds of rocks the Tycoon was talking about? (page 105)
- ❖ Where do you think they will go first? (pages 104-105)

Chapter 11:

- ❖ What did the four year old do to the card and why? (page 113)
- ❖ How do you think the team feels now?

Chapter 12:

- ❖ What is sedimentary rock? (page 115)
- ❖ Why is this hunt going to be so much harder for the team? (page 116)
- ❖ What is the problem with getting to the cards at the arcade? (pages 118-122)

Chapter 13:

- ❖ Why is OB disappointed? (page 126)
- ❖ How is their plan ruined? (page 131)

Chapter 14:

- ❖ What is a metamorphic rock? (page 136)
- ❖ How does OB cheer his dad up? (pages 138-139)

Chapter 15:

- ❖ Why does Miss Marble give the students a special assignment? What is the assignment? (pages 143-144)
- ❖ Where did they figure out the metamorphic rock could be? (page 145)
- ❖ Where was it? (page 146)

Chapter 16:

- ❖ What would you have offered for the card if you were in the same class? (pages 148-150)
- ❖ What kind of trouble do you think this card could cost? What do you think Miss Marble means? (page 151)

Chapter 17:

- ❖ What is everyone fighting about? (page 155)
- ❖ How does OB reason that the Hall of Trophies is a brilliant place to hide the card? (page 158)
- ❖ Do you think this is a good idea or not?

Chapter 18:

- ❖ What is Thermo trying to make happen? (page 160)
- ❖ Why do his friends think this will be a problem? (pages 160-161)

Chapter 19:

- ❖ What does the team discover when they get to school the next day? (pages 166-167)
- ❖ What has happened to the value of the card now? (page 170-171)

Chapter 20:

- ❖ What is the valuable lesson that the team comes to realize? (pages 173-174)
- ❖ Who is behind the numerous cards that have been found? (page 178)
- ❖ What do you think the team is going to do next? (page 182)

Chapter 21:

- ❖ What was so surprising when they entered the building? (page 184)
- ❖ What is different about Multiplier's powers now compared to the Might Mart incident? (page 186)
- ❖ What was the device that Multiplier dropped at the Might Mart? (page 187)
- ❖ How does Multiplier find the team in the building? (pages 188-189)

Chapter 22:

- ❖ What is Multiplier planning on doing to the team? (pages 192-193)
- ❖ Who was the publisher of *Li'l Villains Handbook*? (page 193)
- ❖ How does Multiplier plan on ruining Superopolis? (pages 196-197)
- ❖ What would you multiply if you had the power? (page 200)

Chapter 23:

- ❖ How does each of the team members get out of the trap? (pages 202-203)
- ❖ Who are they going after now? (pages 204-205)

Chapter 24:

- ❖ Why do you think OB gets nervous when the guard laughs the way he does? (page 211)
- ❖ What is OB thinking when they get to the top floor? (page 213)

Chapter 25:

- ❖ What is the impression that the team is getting from Professor Brain-Drain? (pages 214-218)
- ❖ How does the Professor know every move the team has been taking? (pages 219-221)
- ❖ What happens to the team while they are in Brain-Drain's lair? (page 224)

Chapter 26:

- ❖ Why haven't the people in the tower been drained of the intelligence? (page 227)

- ❖ What is the name of the device that speeds up Multiplier's power? (pages 228-229)
- ❖ What is the Brain Capacitor? (page 231)
- ❖ Where is he going to get energy for the machine? (page 234)

Chapter 27:

- ❖ Who is the guest at Brain-Drain's door? (page 237)
- ❖ How do you think the kids are feeling right now? (page 239)
- ❖ What is the awful secret that OB finds out? (page 243)
- ❖ Who shows up to save the day? (page 244)

Chapter 28:

- ❖ What is OB starting to realize and feel? (pages 246-247)
- ❖ How does AI react to the insults from the Professor? (page 248)
- ❖ How does the team set themselves free? (pages 251-252)

Chapter 29:

- ❖ Why isn't AI helping all of the heroes? (page 256)
- ❖ What do you think the machine said about OB's brain capacity? (page 258)
- ❖ Who saved AI from getting his brain drained? How? (page 259)

Chapter 30:

- ❖ How is Professor Brain-Drain going to escape with OB? (page 262)
- ❖ What does it take to get AI out of his crying fit? (page 268)
- ❖ How does Thermo get to OB? (page 269)

Chapter 31:

- ❖ What does Professor order Multiplier to do on the blimp? (page 271)
- ❖ What do you think he is planning on doing with all of the cards? (page 271)
- ❖ How was Brain-Drain's plan ruined? (page 273)

Chapter 32:

- ❖ What are OB and Thermo so disgusted about? (page 278)
- ❖ How does Multiplier end up off the blimp? (page 281)
- ❖ Why won't AI arrest Brain-Drain? (page 282)
- ❖ Why do you think OB changed his mind about who is biggest hero is? (pages 284-285)
- ❖ What happens to the two million cards? (page 287)

Chapter 33:

- ❖ Why did OB's mom and dad write a note to the teacher? (page 289)
- ❖ What are all the feelings that OB is having? Why? (pages 290-291)

- ❖ How do they get rid of all the fake Brain-Drain cards? (page 293)
- ❖ Why do you think OB burns all of the cards they had bought? (pages 294-295)

Post-reading:

- ❖ Do you still think that Ordinary Boy is without superpowers?
- ❖ What made Thermo such a hero?
- ❖ What makes a hero?

Vocabulary List

- (page 2) radioactive: giving off strong energy
- (page 2) meteor: a phenomenon observed in the sky
- (page 4) abundantly: more than enough
- (page 4) arbitrary: based on one's preference
- (page 4) vulnerable: easily hurt
- (page 6) halogen: one of five very reactive, nonmetallic chemical elements
- (page 8) scheme: a definite plan
- (page 9) seismic: caused by an earthquake
- (page 10) quarry: a place where building stone is found
- (page 10) pilfered: to steal
- (page 12) halitosis: bad-smelling breath
- (page 13) fiend: an evil spirit
- (page 14) chortled: a snorting sound
- (page 16) incisors: a cutting tooth
- (page 33) minuscule: small
- (page 35) cascading: falling down from something
- (page 38) invulnerable: cannot be wounded or injured
- (page 45) regrettable: to be regretted; wishing you hadn't done something
- (page 46) neutralize: to make ineffective
- (page 47) hypnotized: to put into a trance
- (page 47) sardine: a kind of fish
- (page 50) ectoplasm: a luminous, vaporous substance
- (page 53) gelatinous: like gelatin or jelly
- (page 57) scones: fine bread
- (page 70) impersonations: to act like someone else
- (page 74) vindicated: to clear from blame
- (page 88) paragon: a model of perfection
- (page 89) epitome: a person or thing that shows all the typical qualities of something
- (page 93) metamorphosed: to change in form or nature
- (page 105) geology: science dealing with nature and the history of the earth
- (page 105) igneous: rock produced by the action of fire

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(page 105) sedimentary: rock formed by other sediments
(page 105) metamorphic: rock characterized by change
(page 108) municipal: having to do with a city
(page 115) accumulate: to collect or pile up over a period of time
(page 120) dwindle: to continue to become small
(page 126) ricocheted: the way something bounces off of something else
(page 127) insolvent: unable to pay debts
(page 127) plaque: film that grows on teeth
(page 142) manipulatable: to manage or control on your own
(page 145) exasperated: irritated or annoyed
(page 147) hysteria: a condition characterized by emotional excitability
(page 153) goatee: a small pointed beard on a man's chin
(page 155) simultaneously: at the same time
(page 160) posse: a group of people
(page 167) catastrophe: a disastrous end
(page 174) unison: saying something at the same time
(page 178) emancipate: to set free
(page 181) coincidence: an accidental and remarkable occurrence
(page 186) incompetent: without enough ability or knowledge
(page 191) immunity: freedom from something unpleasant
(page 192) monstrosity: craziness
(page 193) audacity: bold courage; daring
(page 197) moronic: a very foolish or stupid person
(page 206) inconspicuous: hard to see
(page 208) nefarious: very wicked
(page 214) colander: a pan with holes used for draining liquids
(page 223) prototype: the first of something created
(page 224) nullifying: to make useless
(page 232) cretinous: a very stupid or foolish person
(page 235) diabolical: very wicked or cruel
(page 237) hostility: a feeling of unfriendliness
(page 240) cavern: a large cave
(page 250) psychology: science dealing with the mind
(page 251) dermatologist: doctor dealing with skin and its diseases
(page 257) ensnared: to catch in
(page 264) gondola: a long, narrow boat for passengers
(page 278) archenemy: a chief enemy

Read-Aloud Passages

Passage 1:

Page 4 (Start at "Some folks..."; End at "...gets all the attention.")

This passage lets the reader know who the idol for Superopolis really is.

Ordinary Boy lets readers know what sets him apart for everyone else who has superpowers.

Passage 2:

Pages 284-285 (Start at "Aren't you the..."; End at "...spread across his face.")

Here is where the reader is able to recognize the growth Ordinary Boy has made. It also brings to light what a real hero is, as opposed to the popular person.

Anticipation Statements

<u>Before</u> True/False What do you think?	<u>Anticipation Statement</u>	<u>After</u> Were you correct? Why or why not?
	Only strong people can be heroes.	
	Being smart isn't a superpower.	
	You can't be friends with someone if you aren't just alike.	
	Being different makes you unique.	
	Working as a team makes a job easier.	

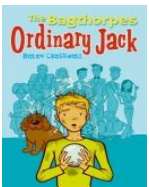
If you enjoyed reading The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy:
Hero Revealed,
You'll love...



The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Boy: The Return of Meteor Boy

By: William Boniface

Ordinary Boy continues on after book one. But, now he has discovered Meteor Boy, the long lost partner of the incredible AI.



Ordinary Jack By: Helen Creswell

Like Ordinary Boy, Jack is the only "ordinary" person in his family. He is also trying to find his way to fit in and stand out with a special something.



ORP By: Suzy Kline

Orville Rudmeyer Pygenski is also forming a special club, like Ordinary Boy and his friends, only it is called the "I Hate My Name Club".



The Wall and the Wing By: Laura Ruby

Gurl is much like Ordinary Boy in the fact that she is completely different from everyone around her. However, through her adventure she finds out how this can be an advantage.

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Indiana State Standards: Language Arts

Grade 3: 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 3.1.6, 3.1.7, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.3.1, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.8

Grade 4: 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.5, 4.1.7, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.6, 4.3.7

Grade 5: 5.1.1, 5.1.6, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.8

Grade 6: 6.1.4, 6.2.7, 6.2.9, 6.3.1, 6.3.2, 6.3.5, 6.3.6, 6.3.8, 6.3.9

Indiana State Standards: Science

Grade 3: 3.2.6, 3.4.1, 3.4.2

Grade 4: 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7

Grade 5: 5.1.1, 5.2.4

Grade 6: No standards apply

Across the Curriculum Connections

Activity 1: Science

- ❖ Students will do an investigation on the three types of rocks. After reading the description and seeing pictures of different rocks, the students will be given various rocks. They are to take notes and make observations in a science journal. When finished making observations, students will then come to a decision of what kind of rock it is.

Materials Needed:

- Various rocks that represent all three types of rocks
- Science journal
- Pictures of the three types of rocks for examples
- Pencil

Science Standards:

Grade 3: 3.2.6, 3.4.1, 3.4.2

Grade 4: 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.3.7

Grade 5: 5.1.1, 5.2.4

Grade 6: No standards apply

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Activity 2: Reading

- ❖ Students will compare and contrast their favorite superhero with the Amazing Indestructo. They will make a list of their similarities and differences. (examples: Batman, Superman, Spiderman, Catwoman, etc.)

Materials Needed:

- A favorite superhero
- Paper
- Pencil

Reading Standards:

Grade 3: 3.3.3, 3.3.7, 3.3.8

Grade 4: 4.2.5, 4.3.4

Grade 5: 5.3.3

Grade 6: 6.3.2

Resources to Supplement Activities

The Incredibles. Dir. Brad Bird. Narr. Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson, Spencer Fox, and Sarah Vowell. Walt Disney Pictures, 2004.

*A movie that is about a town of superheroes. These characters have also been put out of the superhero business, but come back to save the city.

Gans, Roma. Rock Collecting. New York, NY, 1984.

*A nonfiction book that has pictures and descriptions of the three different kinds of rocks.

Book Activities

Activity #1: Journal Entry, Individual Assignment

Directions: You are writing a journal entry about the kind of superhero you would be if you could choose. Be sure to include the following:

1. What kind of superhero would you be?
2. What kind of power(s) would you have?
3. What would your outfit look like?
4. Who would be your allies and enemies?
5. Are you a secret superhero, or do people see you on a regular basis?

*Be sure to use neat handwriting and the grammar rules learned in class!

State Standards: Language Arts

Grade 3: 3.4.3, 3.4.9, 3.4.6, 3.4.7, 3.4.8, 3.5.2, 3.5.7, 3.6.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.3, 3.6.4, 3.6.5, 3.6.7, 3.6.8

Grade 4: 4.4.2, 4.4.10, 4.4.11, 4.4.12, 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.6.1, 4.6.2, 4.6.3, 4.6.4, 4.6.6, 4.6.7, 4.6.8

Grade 5: 5.4.2, 5.4.8, 5.4.9, 5.4.10, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.6.8, 5.6.3, 5.6.4, 5.6.6, 5.6.7

Activity #2: Comprehension Activity: Partner Assignment

Directions: You are going to create your own *Li'l Heroes Handbook* similar to the one from The Hero Revealed. Be sure to include the following:

1. The main characters from the story
2. What you pictured each one to look like (from your visualization)
3. The events that each character were involved in
4. What his/her power was
5. How they knew Ordinary Boy
6. Any other interesting facts that you would like to include

State Standards: Reading/Comprehension

Grade 3: 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.6, 3.2.7

Grade 4: 4.2.7, 4.3.3

Grade 5: 5.2.6, 5.3.3

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My Informal Bibliography

Publisher's Webpage:

<http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/Harper/Childrens/Kids/AuthorsAndIllustrators/ContributorDetail.aspx?CIId=28931>

ArfLovers:

<http://arflovers.com/Blog/?p=143>

Book reference:

<http://amazon.com>

Indiana Department of Education (Standards) Website:

<http://ideanet.doe.state.in.us/standards/welcom.html>

Dictionary:

"Michael Agnes." Webster's New World College Dictionary. 4th ed. 1999.

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