

THE STORY COLLECTOR

SERIES ACTIVITY KIT



Unlock the secrets and discover the hidden stories that live inside The New York Public Library with Viviani Fedeler and her friends.

The Story Collector Series by Kristin O'Donnell Tubb
nypbookadventures.com | Middle Grade: Ages 9-12



New York
Public
Library



HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS
An imprint of Macmillan Children's
Publishing Group

SCAVENGER HUNT

Story collectors, it's time to go on your own quest!

Using your copy of *The Story Collector* and *The Story Seeker*, answer the questions below and find photos online or at the library to complete this scavenger hunt. Remember, answers are great but "photographs capture the truth," so don't forget to find the pictures.

[Note: Some of your answers may be in the book's back matter.]

- In which room was the stamp collection displayed?

- What is the main entrance hall to the Library called?

- What is the name of the park behind the Library, where Viviani and her friends play in the snow?

- Who is the writer that Viviani thinks is excellent at coming up with scary ideas? Name one story he wrote.

- Which room in the Library has an ornate plaster ceiling?

- Which president came to the opening of the library in 1911?

- How many floors are in the main branch of the New York Public Library? Find a map to show the building layout.

- Which book do the Fedeler children use for first base while playing baseball?

- What was the tallest building in the world at the time the Fedeler children lived in the Library?

- A commemorative stamp was created to celebrate the world's fair in 1893. What was the image on the stamp?

- What is the color of the tiled floor in the map room?
A) white B) green C) brown D) red
- How many steps are in front of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building?

- What animal did the Moppets see in the photography collection room, and where did the animal live?

- How tall are the bookshelves that are underneath the Main Reading Room?

- Where did Viviani go to get pulleys for their Rube Goldberg contraption, and where was it located in the library?

- What Shakespeare line did Viviani's father quote? Decode the message below to reveal the answer. (Hint: This encryption is called the number-substitution code: A=1.)
14-5-9-20-8-5-18 1 2-15-18-18-15-23-5-18 14-15-18 1
12-5-14-4-5-18 2-5

- Where did Viviani, her brothers, and the Moppets play capture the flag?

- What material covers the door to the Rare Books Room?



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A STORY COLLECTOR'S WORD QUEST

Story collectors wrap themselves in words and surround themselves with sentences.

Now you can be a story collector like Viviani and her friends by finding the words listed below in the puzzle.

They can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, or backward.

I	G	V	R	Z	R	P	I	U	C	R	B	S	E	K
K	N	W	S	J	C	S	M	A	E	Y	T	U	D	A
L	Q	V	N	A	O	R	R	L	D	O	B	O	F	C
Y	K	H	E	Z	R	R	L	S	R	P	F	I	K	X
S	O	G	Q	N	O	E	K	Y	U	J	M	T	Y	X
J	S	Q	T	L	T	V	M	Z	B	C	J	I	R	G
R	X	S	L	Y	A	I	L	A	A	Q	L	T	E	H
W	P	U	R	X	P	W	O	R	C	L	I	S	T	O
P	A	O	X	X	F	Y	M	N	P	F	B	R	S	S
U	T	D	R	A	U	O	D	E	S	G	R	E	Y	T
S	C	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	A	P	M	S
S	T	A	M	P	S	T	I	R	E	M	R	U	D	X
T	O	B	Z	A	M	T	M	X	K	G	I	S	N	N
U	S	M	V	K	V	M	Q	D	E	H	A	C	I	G
H	U	M	G	C	C	E	Q	V	K	H	N	Z	J	P

CAMERAS
CARROLL
COLLECTION
EDOUARD
EVA

GHOSTS
INVENTIONS
JOHN JR
LIBRARIAN
MERIT

MYSTERY
STAMPS
STORY
STORYTELLER
SUPERSTITIOUS



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THE MAGIC OF WRITING

Viviani and her friend Eva took inspiration from *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gág to write a story about friendship. Pick a friendship story that inspires you, then write a short story where you and your friends have entered this story. What happens to you on this journey?

BOOK TITLE _____



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STORY COLLECTOR SERIES TRIVIA

Viviani knows all the ins and outs of the Library. Can you answer these questions about the mysterious adventures she and her friends go on?

1. In what month and year was Viviani Fedeler born? _____

2. What does Miss O'Conner forbid Viviani from reading because she thinks it's too scary for little girls?

3. Which room of the Library is the Fedeler children's favorite room? _____

4. Who is Viviani named after? _____

5. The ghost that haunts the Library is known by two names. What are they?

6. What is the name of John Jr.'s best pal? _____

7. What are the lions outside The New York Public Library originally called, and what are they called today?

8. According to the book, how many people visited the library each day during the 1920s? _____

9. What kind of shoes does Merit Mubarak wear that Viviani admires when they first meet?

10. Where did Merit and her family move from? _____



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STORY COLLECTOR SERIES TRIVIA

11. What is the name of the world's first postage stamp? _____

12. What else is missing when the stamp collection goes missing? Who took it and why?

13. Why does Merit prefer photography to stories? _____

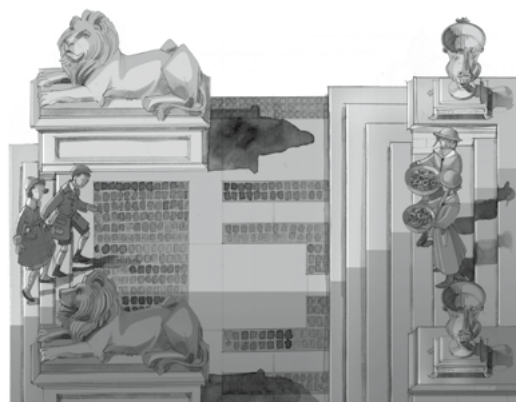
14. Which stamp is Viviani's favorite? _____

15. What does John Jr. keep on the roof? _____

16. Who are Viviani's literary heroes?

17. Where does the word "librarian" come from?

18. What is Viviani's nickname in the book and what is her new nickname at the end of the book?



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19. Viviani and Merit once carried Eva home after she stepped on a horse tack. What did Viviani do to get people to move out of their way? _____
20. Why does Viviani dislike going to the doctor's so much? _____
21. What is Mr. Green's favorite book and who is it by? _____
22. What did John Jr. call the story his father told Viviani as inspiration for her writing assignment? _____
23. What Broadway show did the Fedelers attend to celebrate Viviani's win in the story contest? _____
24. What does Viviani call her journal? _____
25. What is Viviani's story called? _____
26. Finish this sentence; "Once upon a midnight . . ." Where does this line come from and what is the name of its author? _____
27. What is the name of the sixth book that went missing? _____
28. Which health epidemic is happening in the city? What are some of the nicknames that are mentioned in the book? _____
29. When Viviani first met Miss Schneider, she called her Watson. Which book series does she reference, and who is the author of the series? _____
30. What is Times Square named after? _____
31. What are some of the codes mentioned in *The Story Seeker*? _____
32. What month and year did the Library open its doors? _____



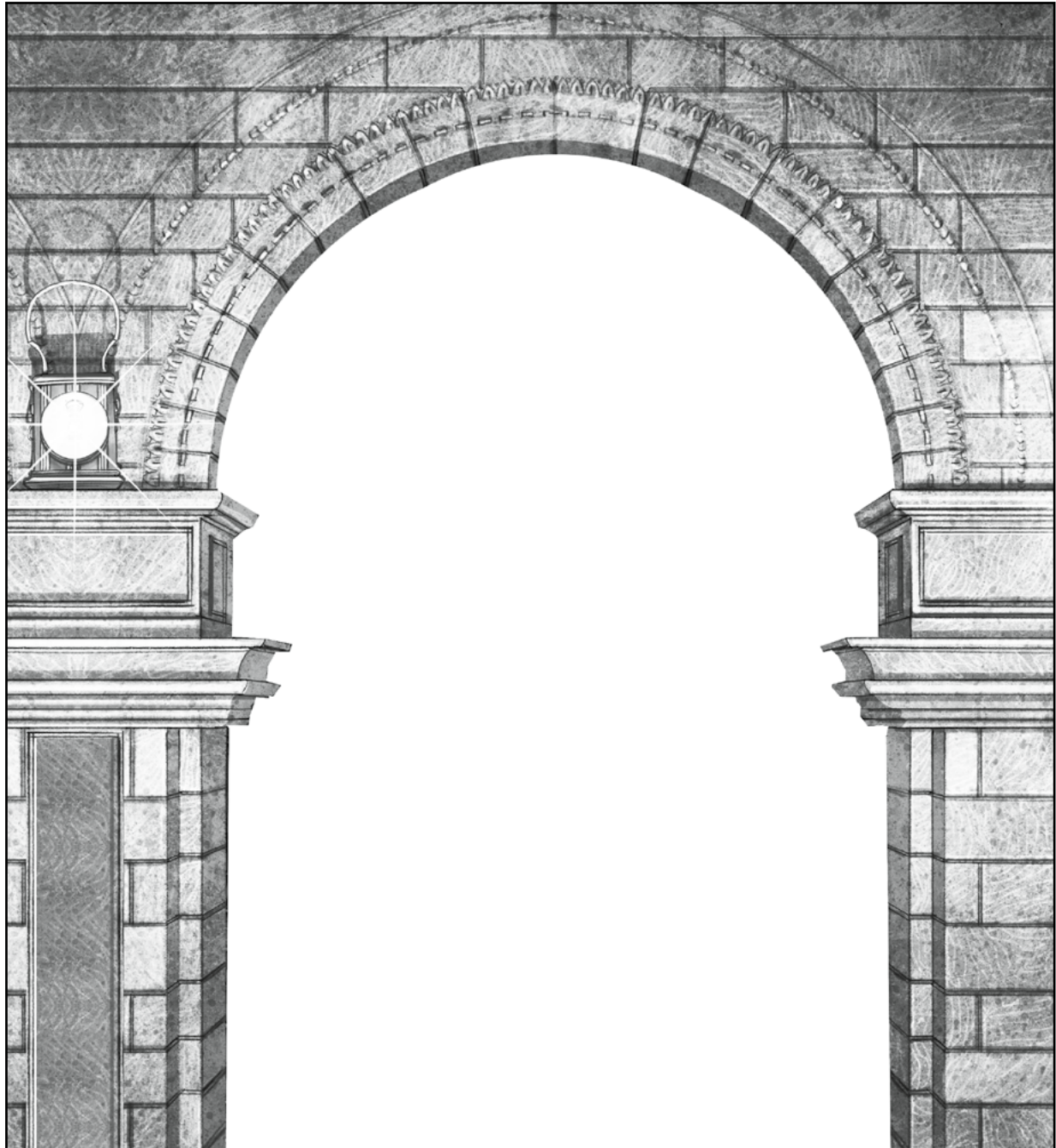
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DESIGN YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Now it's time to design your own adventure! Using the frame below, illustrate your own book cover for a story that takes place in the famed New York Public Library. Don't forget to choose a title for your story.



Story Title: _____

By: _____

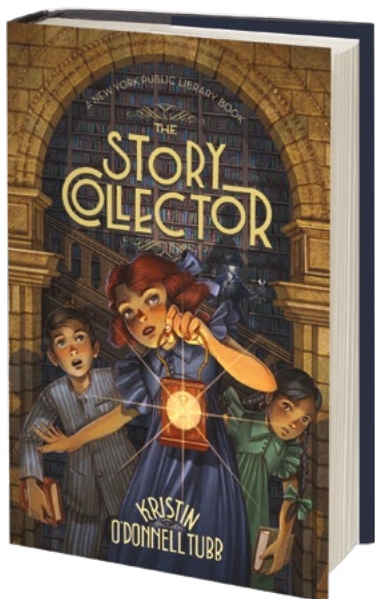


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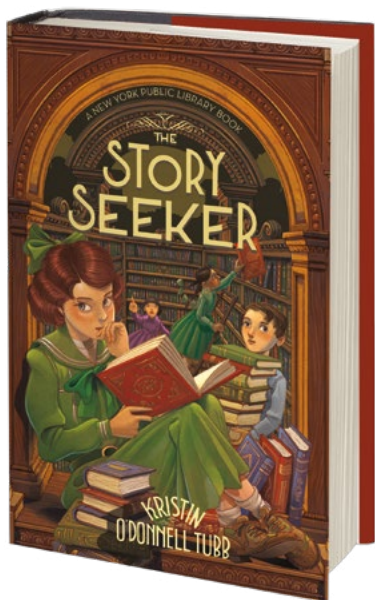
About the Book

Eleven-year-old Viviani Fedeler grew up surrounded by books, but now she's ready for her own story to begin. As the daughter of the library superintendent, Viviani has explored every nook, cranny, and room—except the ones her father keeps locked.

When Viviani suspects that the Library is haunted, she decides to spook new girl Merit Mubarak with a harmless little prank. But what begins as a joke quickly gets out of hand. Soon Viviani, Merit, and their friends have to solve two big mysteries: Is there really a ghost in the Library? And who stole the expensive stamp collection?

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Middle Grade: Ages 9–12



About the Book

Viviani Fedeler, proud resident of the New York Public Library, has her sights set on becoming a star reporter. She's thrilled when Miss Hutch announces a story contest where the winner gets their essay printed in *The New York Times*!

But then Viviani gets her first-ever case of writer's block. As she struggles to find inspiration, the library is hit with a strange mystery involving overdue books, secret messages, and perhaps a spy lurking among the shelves! Will Viviani be able to crack the code and find the perfect story to impress the *Times*?

THE STORY SEEKER

by Kristin O'Donnell Tubb
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eBook: 978-1-250-30110-9
Digital Audiobook: 978-1-250-23317-2
Middle Grade: Ages 9–12



About The New York Public Library

The New York Public Library has been an essential provider of free books, information, ideas, and education for all New Yorkers for more than 100 years. NYPL is the nation's largest public library system, featuring a unique combination of 88 neighborhood libraries and four scholarly research centers, including the landmark building at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. Learn more: nypl.org




TINA CARLAN JONES

About the Author

KRISTIN O'DONNELL TUBB

is the author of *Autumn Winifred*, *Oliver Does Things Different*, *Selling Hope*, and *The 13th Sign*. She lives in Tennessee with her family.



ANSWER KEY

Scavenger Hunt

1. Stuart Room
2. Astor Hall
3. Bryant Park
4. Either Geoffrey Crayon or Washington Irving (stories: “Rip Van Winkle,” “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”)
5. Main Reading Room
6. President William Howard Taft
7. Four floors
8. *The Lost Princess of Oz*
9. Woolworth Building
10. A Ferris wheel
11. D) red
12. Twenty-eight
13. Panda, China
14. Seven-stories
15. Her father’s workshop, which is located in the basement of the library
16. Neither a borrower nor a lender be.
17. Outside the library, near the stone stairs to the entrance
18. Leather

Trivia

1. May 1917
2. “The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe
3. Periodical Reading Room
4. René Viviani, former French prime minister, and Joffre, a marshal
5. Red-Whiskered Ghost and Big Red
6. Carroll Case
7. Then: Leo Astor and Leo Lenox; Now: Patience and Fortitude
8. Eleven thousand
9. Mary Jane shoes
10. Giza, Egypt
11. Penny Black
12. Several children’s books are taken by Mr. Green because he is teaching himself to read.
13. Photographs capture the truth.
14. Inverted Jenny
15. Pigeons
16. Robert from *Five Children and It*, Sahwah from *The Camp Fire Girls*, Alice and Dora Bastable from *The Wouldbegoods*
17. It comes from the “custodian of a library”
18. Red and Firecracker
19. Make loud ambulance noises
20. Because she hates needles and getting a shot
21. *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gág
22. A good raunchy sailor story
23. *Ziegfeld Follies*
24. Captain’s Log
25. “Millions of Stars”
26. “Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,” from “The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe
27. *Basics of Pharmacology*
28. Tuberculosis, TB, the Red Death
29. The Sherlock Holmes series by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
30. *The New York Times*
31. Caesar Shift, Morse code, Edouard’s Typewriter Code, Librarian Code, symbols for letters, number-substitution code
32. May 1911

I	G	V	R	Z	R	P	I	U	C	R	B	S	E	K
K	N	W	S	J	C	S	M	A	E	Y	T	U	D	A
L	Q	V	N	A	O	R	R	L	D	O	B	O	F	C
Y	K	H	E	Z	R	R	L	S	R	P	F	I	K	X
S	O	G	Q	N	O	E	K	Y	U	J	M	T	Y	X
J	S	Q	T	L	T	V	M	Z	B	C	J	I	R	G
R	X	S	L	Y	A	I	L	A	A	Q	L	T	E	H
W	P	U	R	X	P	W	O	R	C	L	I	S	T	O
P	A	O	X	X	F	Y	M	N	P	F	B	R	S	S
U	T	D	R	A	U	O	D	E	S	G	R	E	Y	T
S	C	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	A	P	M	S
S	T	A	M	P	S	T	I	R	E	M	R	U	D	X
T	O	B	Z	A	M	T	M	X	K	G	I	S	N	N
U	S	M	V	K	V	M	Q	D	E	H	A	C	I	G
H	U	M	G	C	C	E	Q	V	K	H	N	Z	J	P