

# **The Littlest Angel # 3: Lily goes skitter skating**

Author: Elizabeth Pulford

Illustrator: Aki Fukuoka

## **Synopsis**

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Lily is an angel at Amelia's Angel Academy. She is about to take part in the Snow Sports day and is determined to win the Archangel trophy so that it returns to her academy. Lily isn't very good at sports so she decides that she needs a little extra luck. Searching in her bedroom she finds the perfect thing - the brooch that was used to hold her blanket together when she was handed in to the Bossy Boats' Boarding House as a baby. Feeling lucky Lily sets off with the rest of her team up the mountain. However, she was so busy finding her good luck charm that she forgot the most important thing - her equipment for the day! Lily thinks that things can't get much worse when she sees her old enemy from Bossy Boots' Boarding House, Wanda, on the bus. It seems that Wanda Westbrook is now a pupil at All Saints Angel School. Wanda was always causing trouble for Lily at the Boarding House and Lily is worried that she will do the same at the sports day. However Lily doesn't want to let the rest of her team down. She is determined to do her best and take the trophy back to Amelia's Angel Academy for the first time in ninety-nine years.

## **Text Type**

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*Lily goes skitter skating* is the third book in Elizabeth Pulford's delightful new series *The Littlest Angel*. Perfect for young girls aged 6-9 years, the story contains named chapters and beautiful illustrations that ensure readers will remain engaged. Each of the stories features a beautiful foiled cover and number 3's interior text and illustrations are printed in bright purple. Girls will be eager to collect each book as it is published.

The story is humorous and the characters are loveable. Lily is a charming main character who is intrinsically good hearted and caring. The fact that she is also a bit unlucky and accident-prone makes her even more likeable. Lily is kind and giving - in fact she has all the right qualities to make her a perfect angel!

## Sharing the Novel

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*The novel has been divided up as follows: Chapter 1 (pp. 7-10), Chapters 2-6 (pp. 11-44) and Chapters 7-13 (pp. 45-81).*

*During the shared session encourage students to ask questions to clarify their understanding of words and ideas presented in the text. Have them make predictions and inferences. Students should be reading for enjoyment. Looking at the illustrations will help them understand the storyline and enter into Lily's world of angels and magic.*

## Introducing the Novel

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Have students study the front cover of the novel and read the blurb.

- What school does Lily go to?
- Who is her worst enemy? Why is Lily worried about her?
- What does Amelia want to win? What sorts of activities do you think might be involved in Snow Sports? What do you think skitter skating is?
- What qualities do you think a little angel should have?

*Teacher reads Chapter 1 (pp. 7-10) aloud to the class. Students follow along in their books.*

## Comprehension Chapters 1 (pp. 7-10)

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- Why is everyone at Amelia's Angel Academy so excited?
- What is the name of the trophy that can be won? How long is it since the trophy has been won by Amelia's Angel Academy?
- Who is the current holder of the trophy?
- Who is hosting the event?
- Why is Lily worried about Snow Sports?

### Discussion

- What do we learn about Lily in the first chapter?
- What do you think is going to happen during snow sports?

*Students read Chapters 2-6 (pp. 11-44) independently before the next shared session.*

## Comprehension Chapters 2-6 (pp. 11-44)

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- Who is Tisa?
- What does Lily look for before she leaves her room? Why is this item special to her?
- Why does Lily hide her good-luck charm?
- Who does Lily see laughing and pointing at her? Why does she feel worried about this girl's presence at snow sports?
- What sudden realisation does Lily come to halfway up the mountain?
- What is the name of Lily's team? How does Cindy react when she learns that Lily has left her snow sack behind?
- Who does Lily see inside the Angelic Assistance tent? How does the angel help Lily?
- Who did the skitter skates used to belong to? What else is Lily given?
- Why does Lily find the skates hard to handle?
- What is the name of Wanda's team?
- What are the angels forbidden to use in the skitter skate race? What rules do they have to follow?
- How does Wanda try and put Lily off during the race?
- Who finishes the race at the same time as Lily?
- How many points is Lily's team awarded after the race?
- How does Wanda react when she ties with Lily? Why do you think she reacts like this?
- What is the second event? What is tricky about this event?
- Why doesn't Lily react to Wanda's taunts? What would you do in her position?
- Why is Lily too scared to see how the rest of her team is getting on? What happens to distract her?
- How many snow angels does Lily's team silk sack?
- How many points are the Speedy Sparklers ahead by after the silk sack event?
- What does Lily need to find in order to be able to compete in the next event? Who does she go to for help?
- What is the main rule of the Ice Rings and Snow Cords event?
- What is Lily's idea? Why do you think that the others don't listen to her at first?
- What does Lily forget to do as she is climbing up the rope?
- How many points does Lily's team earn by winning this event? Why are they still behind?

**Discussion**

- What qualities and characteristics does Lily possess?
- What lessons do you think you could learn from Lily's approach to the race?
- Describe Wanda. Why do you think she likes to cause trouble for Lily? What does this suggest about her character? What do you think the best way to deal with a bully is?
- Lily manages to find everything that she needs despite forgetting her snow sack. Why do you think so many people are willing to help her?

*Students read Chapters 7-13 (pp. 45-81) independently before the next shared session.*

**Comprehension Chapters 7-13 (pp. 45-81)**

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- What is the last event before lunchtime? Why is Lily so excited about this event?
- Why is Lily unhappy with the angel that her team has created? What suggestions does she have to improve it? What is the last thing that the angel needs to finish it off? Why do the other girls decide to leave Lily behind to guard the angel?
- What does Lily discover is missing after the girls go? Why does Lily decide to leave the angel? Is her action justified? Why/why not?
- What does Lily notice about the angel when she comes back from searching for her brooch? How does this make her feel? Who does Lily think is responsible? What does Lily do to try and fix the angel?
- What does Lily tell her team happened when they return with the halo? Why do you think she lies? How do her team mates react?
- Who won the angel event? Why is Lily so upset about this? How is Lily treated by her teammates after they lose?
- Why is Lily reluctant to tell her teammates about Wanda?
- What is the last race of the day? What does Lily need for the race? Who gives her one?
- What does Winger O'Reilly believe is the most important part of being a good angel?
- What is Lily required to do in the last race? Why is she so determined to win?
- What does Lily have to collect at each blue light?
- What does Angel Mina give Lily before the race?

- Why does Lily veer off course while she is flying up the mountain? What words does she remember to motivate herself to continue?
- How many angels does Lily pass as she collects her moons? Who does she think is battling it out for first place? How does Lily find her 9th blue moon?
- Why does Lily help Wanda despite everything that Wanda has done to her? How does she get her up from down the bank?
- Who wins the Snow Sports? Who are the first year winners?
- What surprising announcement does Archangel Bustlemere make? What does Lily win for her act of kindness?
- What does Mother Angel hand back to Lily when she shakes her hand?
- How does being acknowledged for her actions make Lily feel?

### Discussion

- Is winning by cheating really winning? Explain your answer.
- Why does Winger O'Reilly believe that Lily has the makings of a perfect angel? Do you agree with him? Why/why not?
- Do you think it was simply luck that caused Lily to find her 9th ring? Why/why not?
- What lessons do you think Lily's experiences have taught her?

### Activities

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**Theme** - Choose an important idea or theme developed in the novel. Design a collage that uses images, words and symbols to portray this theme.

**Issues** - Did anything in the story make you change your mind about something? If you did, what was it in the story that caused it and why?

**Character** - Complete a character description for Lily. Include information about her qualities and characteristics and any difficulties that she had to overcome. Back up your ideas with quotes from the story.

**Play** - Choose an exciting event that occurs in the story and write a script for it. Include a list of characters and stage directions. Practise your play and present it to the class.

**Plot** - Choose an event that occurs in the story. Explain why you think the event is significant and why it is important to the story as a whole.

**Plot** - Choose 10 important events that occur in the story and draw a storyboard depicting them. Under each illustration write a brief summary about what is happening.

**Writing** - Write a newspaper article about the events that occur on Snow Sports day and the outcomes.

**Letter** - Write a letter to the author explaining why you enjoyed reading her book and what it taught you.

**Oral Book Report** - Write a book report that can be presented orally to the class. Include information about the storyline, characters, your favourite scene and the author's message. Include an extract from the novel in your presentation.

**Static Image** - design a poster advertising the novel *The Littlest Angel - Lily goes skitter skating*. Your poster should be aimed at encouraging people to read the story. It should be suitable for display in your school library.

*Notes written by Vicki Ladd*