

# TIPS FOR GROUPS

We know that many groups who use *Cover Story* do not meet 3 times per week (the suggested pace for *Cover Story*). Since your students must all watch the video lessons together in one place under the Group License, this usually means watching more than 1 video per class.

The Video Run Times page and the Topics and Creative Pieces table will be helpful to you as you plan your group's schedule, but here are some additional tips.

## **Independently or Together?**

As *Cover Story* was designed first and foremost for students in a home education setting, some lessons assume that the student is at home and working alone. As a teacher in a group setting, you will need to decide when to have the class work together and when to have students work independently—perhaps as homework.

Students should be allowed to pick their own magazine theme. We strongly discourage making all students write a single magazine together because writing is much more enjoyable for kids when they get to write about something they really care about. The chances of having a class of students who all have the same interests are slim.

But as the teacher, you decide, for example, whether each of your students should interview someone separately or to have the class interview one person together. We fully understand that the size of your class and the degree of parent involvement in your situation will affect how much you are able to send work and projects home with students.

## **Natural Breaking Points**

When scheduling lessons, refer to the Topics and Creative Pieces table to determine natural breaking points in the lesson content.

## **Spoilers**

Make sure students have read these short stories *before* watching these lessons, in order to follow his comments in the video lessons and to avoid spoilers.

**The Ransom of Red Chief** - assigned in lesson 30; discussed in lessons 31–33.

**The Interlopers** - Assigned in lesson 33; discussed in lessons 34 and 36.

**The Lady and the Tiger** - Assigned in lesson 36; discussed especially in lesson 39.

**The Most Dangerous Game** - Assigned in lesson 51; discussed in lessons 52–54.

**The Necklace** - Assigned in lesson 54; discussed in lesson 55.

**An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge** - Assigned in lesson 56; discussed in lesson 57.

**The Sniper** - Assigned in lesson 58; discussed in lesson 59 and 60.

## **One Very Long Video**

The video run time for lesson 20 is much longer than usual (38 minutes, 18 seconds) on account of the live interview students watch Mr. S. conduct.