

Name:

## Day One

# Adopt a Teenager

### Part 1: Silent read

→ Can a teenager who has no parents be adopted? Read silently.

Some adults who want children decide to adopt. Often, adoptive parents want a newborn that they can raise from the start. Couples or single adults may spend years on waiting lists before they can adopt an infant. Yet there are hundreds of teenagers awaiting adoption. The legal process involved in adopting a teenager is streamlined.

So why aren't more teenagers being adopted? For one, it may seem easier to have a long-term impact on a child's life if the child joins the family at a very young age. Some parents want to feel they can affect the whole life of their child.

Teenagers may present challenges that parents find tough to handle. They may get into conflict with adults. They may have emotional ups and downs because of puberty. Teens who are moving into an adoptive family often have an especially difficult time.

In spite of the challenges, Amber Marie and her partner adopted a 14-year-old girl. They had previously been foster parents to several other children, all for shorter stays. Teenagers seemed to click in their family. They also didn't feel up to parenting a child from birth.

Amber says that in some ways, teenagers are easier to parent than babies. "They can take care of many of their own personal needs if you just provide the resources," said Amber. "Adopting a teen has its challenges, but it also has great rewards."



# Day One

// one minute

## Adopt a Teenager

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Some adults who want children decide to adopt. Often, adoptive parents want a newborn that they can raise from the start. Couples or single adults may spend years on waiting lists before they can adopt an infant. Yet there are hundreds of teenagers awaiting adoption. The legal process involved in adopting a teenager is streamlined. 55

So why aren't more teenagers being adopted? For one, it may seem easier to have a long-term impact on a child's life if the child joins the family at a very young age. Some parents want to feel they can affect the whole life of their child. 73  
93  
103

Teenagers may present challenges that parents find tough to handle. They may get into conflict with adults. They may have emotional ups and downs because of puberty. Teens who are moving into an adoptive family often have an especially difficult time. 118  
133  
144

In spite of the challenges, Amber Marie and her partner adopted a 14-year-old girl. They had previously been foster parents to several other children, all for shorter stays. Teenagers seemed to click in their family. They also didn't feel up to parenting a child from birth. 162  
176  
192

Amber says that in some ways, teenagers are easier to parent than babies. "They can take care of many of their own personal needs if you just provide the resources," said Amber. "Adopting a teen has its challenges, but it also has great rewards." 209  
225  
236

### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why aren't teenagers adopted as often as babies?

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Why did Amber Marie decide to adopt a teenager?

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## Day One

# Adopt a Teenager

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Some adults who want children / decide to adopt. // Often, / adoptive parents want a newborn / that they can raise from the start. // Couples or single adults may spend years on waiting lists / before they can adopt an infant. // Yet there are hundreds of teenagers awaiting adoption. // The legal process involved in adopting a teenager / is streamlined. //

So why aren't more teenagers being adopted? // For one, / it may seem easier to have a long-term impact on a child's life / if the child joins the family / at a very young age. // Some parents want to feel / they can affect the whole life of their child. //

Teenagers may present challenges / that parents find tough to handle. // They may get into conflict with adults. // They may have emotional ups and downs / because of puberty. // Teens who are moving into an adoptive family / often have an especially difficult time. //

In spite of the challenges, / Amber Marie and her partner adopted a 14-year-old girl. // They had previously been foster parents / to several other children, / all for shorter stays. // Teenagers seemed to click in their family. // They also didn't feel up to parenting a child from birth. //

Amber says that in some ways, / teenagers are easier to parent than babies. // "They can take care of many of their own personal needs / if you just provide the resources," / said Amber. // "Adopting a teen has its challenges, / but it also has great rewards." //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.