

Options for Emily's Runaway Imagination

- Invite students to read an excerpt from *A Girl from Yamhill*, one of Beverly Cleary's memoirs. Here, she recounts her mother's quest to start a library in their town, which is replayed in *Emily's Runaway Imagination*. Compare the two stories using a [Venn Diagram](#).
- In their reading response journals, ask the students to write about one of these prompts:
 - Write about a time that your imaginations got the best of you.
 - Write what you think happens with Emily's runaway imagination after the story ends.
- Research the proverbs that Mama frequently quotes. Some examples are on pages 16 and 71. For teaching ideas, see the lesson plan "[Proverbs: An Introduction](#)."
- Muriel suggests that Emily read *Black Beauty*. Choose a character from a book and create a reading list for him or her.
 - Select books that you think that character should read and provide a rationale for why they should read that book.
- Emily was pen pals with her cousin Muriel. Find someone who lives away from you and become pen pals. You can write letters using the [Letter Generator](#). Or you can become [online pen pals](#) with someone.
- *Emily's Runaway Imagination* was set in the 1920s. There are many references to the technology of that time. Using the [Timeline Tool](#), plot the changes and advancements of one of the technologies mentioned.
 - For example, Grandpa drove a Ford Model-T. How have automobiles changed and advanced over time?