

A BIG DAY FOR BASEBALL

A Magic Tree House Adventure

Reading (Theme)

Grade Level(s): Grade 4
Subject: ELA
Florida BEST Standards: ELA.4. R.1.2
Duration: 45 minutes class period.
Activity: Students will be able to explain a stated or implied theme and how it develops, using details, in a literary text.

Objectives:

- I can identify at least two themes in a literary text.
- Using a graphic organizer, I can show two themes for literary texts and evidence that supports them.
- I can explain the development of stated or implied theme(s) throughout a literary text
- When given the theme(s) of a text, I can prove or disprove using evidence from the text.

Materials:

- Reading source (Magic Tree House: A Big Day for Baseball Chapters 4-5)
- Student Packet with students' worksheets.
- Anchor Chart or Interactive Smart Board Display with Text Structure

Procedures:

1. Teacher and students will work together to identify the important details from the story (A Big Day for Baseball) or a chapter.
2. Teacher can draw a map/continuum that will show: 1 The Beginning, 2 Rising Action, 3 Climax and 4 Ending. These details should include events and how the characters responded to them.
3. Teacher will ask students to discuss with each other their initial thinking of what a theme is in a story.
4. Teacher will display an anchor with the definition of what theme is and engage the students to use detail from the drawing to help determine a theme of the chapter.

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5. Teacher will use guiding questions to assist the students to develop the theme.
(Example: How did Jack respond to the heckling in the game at Ebbets Field? How did Annie react when she was found behind the door on page 46?)
6. Teacher should explain that we can use the details we identified and think about how the characters responded to the situations to determine the theme. The theme is what the author wants the reader to learn at the end of the story. It is the underlying message or lesson of the story. In other words the THEme is THEmessage.

THE

me

THE

message

Reading (Theme)

Student Activity: Teacher can assign this for use with a chapter or the entire story

Name _____

Date _____

Theme

Text Evidence #1

Text Evidence #2

Text Evidence #3

The message, moral, or lesson of the story.

Ask Yourself:

- What lesson did the character learn?
- What message is the author sharing with me?