



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Kindergarten Lesson Plan: Character and Setting

Lake Forest North Elementary School, Delaware

Topic: Improving K-3 Reading Comprehension

Practice: Focus on Text Structure

At the beginning of the school year, Cindy Burke, kindergarten teacher at Lake Forest North Elementary School, developed this lesson plan to teach narrative text structure with a specific focus on character and setting. The plan provides details related to the standards, objectives, and essential questions guiding instruction and describes activities used during and after the lesson to extend student learning. Teachers may use this plan to reflect on their current comprehension practices and develop activities to engage students with text. Coaches can use this plan as a model for helping teachers prepare comprehension strategy instruction.

Teacher: Cindy Burke
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Lesson Plan

Essential Questions: How can words help us understand our story?
Who are the characters in the story?
What is the setting of a story?

Standards: English/Language Arts Standard 1.6- Develop vocabulary skills and the ability to use words as a means of improving communication. English/Language Arts Standard 2.4 - Students will be able to demonstrate an overall understanding of literary texts by identifying the story elements. (character, plot)

Objectives: The students will build and strengthen vocabulary skills. Students will differentiate between character and setting in a familiar story.

Narrative Text: “Julius” by Angela Johnson

Activities:

Introduction: The teacher will ask the students to think of a time when they got a surprise or an unexpected gift. (teacher gives examples of when this happened to her) Have the students close their eyes and in their minds make a picture of a time when they received a special gift or surprise. Turn and tell your partner. Show on your face how you felt. A character, a girl, in our story will receive a special gift.

Introduce words that are meaningful to the text using picture cards. Show the book cover and discuss. Tell the children the title of the story, the author and illustrator. Introduce the term “animal fantasy.” Show the children the story map. Tell them that after we have read our story we will complete our story map. They are to

listen for the characters and the setting of our story. Today you will be illustrating either a character or one of the settings in our story. Read “Julius” using explicit and deliberate instructional stops. Review character and setting. The students will then break into small groups to complete their pictures. Their assignment will be based on individual need. When students have completed their drawings, we will come together as a whole group to complete and discuss our story map.

Extended Activity: Have the children illustrate the character or setting of their favorite story. Add their illustrations to our story map.