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A Lesson on My Summer by Katie Mcdaniel

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 15 minutes

Lesson Keywords: My Summer, Reading, Writing, Language skills, Discussion, Critical Thinking

Lesson Description: In this lesson children will practice critical thinking skills, vocabulary skills, and decision making skills. This lesson will strengthen their reading comprehension and allow them to think in different ways. Students will be reading and re-reading "My Summer" and will be asked to answer multiple choice vocabulary questions, short answer context questions, and participate in an open discussion relating to the topic.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.7: Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

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Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

My Summer

by

Content: My grandmother lives in Phoenix. It has been ten years since she moved there. I was only 2 years old when she left Chicago. She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold. She went to her doctor and he said that she could not stay in such a cold climate. She was sorry to leave because she had her family here and her friends. But soon she made more friends in Phoenix.

My mother goes to visit her in winter. I can't go because I have to be in school, but last summer I went for a long visit.

I traveled by plane to Phoenix. I had never been on an airplane before. It was very exciting. When we landed, the pilot said it was 110 degrees. I thought I had not heard him clearly. It had never been that hot in Chicago.

I got off the plane and saw my grandmother right away. We were both so happy I was there. She gave me a big long hug and then we went to get my suitcase. It took about 10 minutes to get it. I was worried that they had lost it, but then we saw it.

After that, we went outside. I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater. It was hotter than I had ever felt. It was 110 degrees.

We went to the bus stop and the bus came right away. I got on and was so glad it came so quickly. It was cool because it was air-conditioned. It took about 30 minutes for us to get to her block. I didn't mind the long ride because it was interesting to look outside the window. People had brown grass. It was all dried out. And they didn't have trees. They had really big cactus plants.

When we got off the bus, we had to walk three more blocks to her apartment. I became so hot again. I asked my grandmother, How can you live in such a hot place?

Oh, you get used to it, she said. It turned out that she was right. It took a few weeks, but I got used to the heat. But we stayed inside when it was hottest. We went out in the morning when it was cooler, and at night it even felt a little chilly.

I went home at the end of summer. My mother came to meet me at the airport. She picked up my suitcase, and then we got on the bus. She asked me all about my trip. I told her, You're lucky you don't go in summer. But it is always great to be with grandma. My mother said, I miss her a lot. Next time I'll go with you.

Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

Q: 1 WordPhrase: clearly **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the story, the narrator states "I thought I had not heard him clearly." ... What does the word clearly mean in this sentence?

- A: correctly
- B: incorrectly
- C: different
- D: visibly

Question: Which sentence below uses the word "clearly" correctly like in the story?

- A: The fish was in a clearly bowl.
 - B: I understood his directions clearly.
 - C: I could not see clearly out of my glasses.
 - D: The difference between the two dogs was clearly big.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: chilly **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the word "chilly" mean in this sentence? "...and at it even felt a little chilly."

- A: slightly cold
- B: warm
- C: a food
- D: an emotion

Question: What is the correct way to use the work "chilly" in relation to the story?

- A: I had really good chilly last night for dinner.
 - B: The sun made us chilly.
 - C: I needed a jacket because it was chilly outside.
 - D: After he got very anger, he seemed chilly.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: exciting **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the line "I had never been on a plane before. It was very exciting." what does "exciting" mean?

- A: boring
- B: happiness
- C: confusing
- D: sadness

Question: What is the correct way to use the word "exciting" in relation to the story?

- A: Opening up my presents on Christmas was very exciting.
 - B: Going to my doctors appointment was not fun and exciting.
 - C: My mom rolled her eyes and said her work meeting was exciting and they talked about the same things they did the week before.
 - D: Not getting the present I really wanted was exciting.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: climate **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In the first paragraph what does the word "climate" mean?

- A: a city
- B: weather conditions
- C: an emotion
- D: terrain

Question: What is the correct way to use "climate" in a sentence?

- A: My family and I moved to a big climate with tall buildings.
 - B: Florida's climate is much warmer than New York's climate.
 - C: She did not get enough sleep, so her climate was bad that morning.
 - D: The climate was very uneven and rough.
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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Why did the grandmother move...

Why did the grandmother move from Chicago to Phoenix? Why do you think the doctor said she could not stay in a cold climate anymore?

2 - What do you think the mother's emotions are...

What do you think the mother's emotions are when she picks up her son from the airport? Why? Do you think the mother says "Next time I will go with you. to the boy.?"

3 - Do you think the grandmother is happy...

Do you think the grandmother is happy in her new hometown? Why or why not? Does being apart from her family have any impact??

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: The story is about a young boy going to visit his grandmother who lives in a different state. Is this story relatable to many young readers? If so, why or why not? Also, can you relate to living far away from family members? How does this make you feel? Please answer within 3-4 sentences.?

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