



A Lesson on Summer by Courtney Reed

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: Summer, rain, rural, urban, civilizations, anticipate

Lesson Description: Students will read the passage individually and then with a partner. Students will then take a vocabulary test individually. Next the teacher will lead the discussion calling on multiple students to answer the 3 questions. Finally have the students write their essays individually.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.3: Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4a: Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2d: Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.3a: Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.3b: Use dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1a: Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.

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.

Summer

by

Content: I had been looking forward to the summer all year. We would go to stay with my grandparents. They lived on a farm in Illinois. They had all kinds of things to do. We would get up early and milk the cows. Then we would feed the chickens. It was so different from living in the city. It is like making a trip between civilizations. Consider how different it is to live in different ways--the city and the farm, the rural and the urban, my brother said. He was going to college and liked to use big words like that.

The day came to go there. I was excited. So was my brother. My mother packed a lunch for us to eat along the way. Then we left. After about 3 hours we were halfway there.

But then it started to rain. The road is dangerous, my mother said. We could skid. It was hard to see where we were on the road because the rain was so heavy. This is much more than a little rain, my brother said. The forecast was for just light rain.

My mother took an exit ramp. We left the highway and stopped at a restaurant. Better safe than sorry, she said. I will call and tell them to anticipate a late arrival.

We were waiting there for about an hour when my brother said, Lets eat lunch. We all thought that was a great idea, so we did.

Imagine long ago when pioneers lived here, my brother said. It would have taken them weeks to travel as far as we have in three hours. Just think about what life was like then. They would have been so tired. They would have been hot and hungry. We have gone about 120 miles. And we are comfortable. We have air conditioning and restaurants.

There have been so many changes that make a difference to how people travel, my brother said. Imagine a world without cell phones, air conditioning, and fast cars.

But that is what we have when we are at the farm, Mother replied. That is how your grandparents live. They dont have any cell phones, and they just have that slow old truck.

Just then the rain stopped. We finished our lunch and then were back on the road. Then we drove a long while to get us to the farm.

When we arrived, everyone was glad to be at the end of this trip and at the beginning of a great summer. Now we will have a great summer, my mother said. I agreed. This would be another good time.

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: anticipate **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: We should call ahead so our grandparents anticipate our late arrival. What does the word anticipate mean?

- A: guess
- B: to prepare; expect
- C: miss
- D: see

Question: Which sentence below uses the word "anticipate" correctly?

- A: By looking at the storm clouds we can anticipate rain later today.
 - B: If I solve this math problem I can anticipate the correct answer.
 - C: By going grocery shopping I can anticipate dinner for the rest of the week.
 - D: We anticipated going to the beach by bringing our winter coats.
-

Q: 2 WordPhrase: civilizations **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: This area was a homeland to civilization dating back 300 years. What does the word "civilization" mean?

- A: a society; a way of life
- B: a family
- C: a small group
- D: a house

Question: Which sentence has the correct meaning of "civilization"?

- A: She went to Africa to study their unique civilization.
 - B: They had a nice civilization inside their neighborhood.
 - C: My friends and I created a civilization by hanging out together.
 - D: My mom, dad and brother make up my civilization.
-

Q: 3 WordPhrase: rural **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: Our farm is located in rural Georgia. What does the word "rural" mean?

- A: countryside
- B: inner city
- C: downtown
- D: South

Question: Which sentence uses the word "rural" correctly?

- A: My family lived outside of Houston on a rural farm.
 - B: My family lived in the heart of Atlanta, rural Georgia.
 - C: My dad is from a town rural to Gainesville.
 - D: In rural St. Pete you can find coffee shops and hipsters.
-

Q: 4 WordPhrase: urban **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: More people have been moving from a rural to an urban life. What does the word "urban" mean?

- A: the inner city
- B: the country
- C: crowded
- D: lazy

Question: Which sentences uses the word "urban" correctly?

- A: This store is so urban that I can hardly move around.
 - B: Today i'm feeling urban, so i'm just going to stay in bed.
 - C: My family's farm is in an urban part of town outside Houston.
 - D: New York City is urban because of all the stores and people constantly going.
-

=====

Task 2: Writing Activity

Instructions: Think about a time when your family has been held up on plans due to the weather condition (too hot, rainy, snowy). In less than 500 words describe that trip, and compare it to our story Summer. Please use ONE vocab word.

=====

=====

Task 3: 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 - From the author's point of view, how did they feel about this trip?

The author was excited to be away from technology and spend bonding time with his family on their farm for the summer.

2 - Why did the mother have to call the grandparents for them to anticipate their late arrival?

It was raining too hard to drive, so they pulled over for an hour then got lunch.

3 - What would life be like if you were a traveling pioneer?

I would be hot, tired and hungry probably. Couldn't talk to anyone who wasn't with me and using a paper map that might not be correct.

=====