



A Lesson on The Turtle and the Rabbit by Hannah Mixson

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours 15 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Vocabulary, Writing, Creative writing.

Lesson Description: This lesson was created to introduce students to the story of The Turtle and the Rabbit while introducing them to some vocabulary words that they will need to know in the future. Students will also read and reread the story in order to discuss the meaning behind the story as well as the personality traits of the characters. The discussion questions and the writing activity allow the students to put themselves in the authors shoes and understand why the author chose these characters for this story and what point they were trying to get across. The students will also use their creative writing skills to rewrite the story in their own words so that none of the characters are in the wrong. Students will also go back to the text and learn how to use the vocabulary words they defined from the multiple choice section in their own story of the turtle and the rabbit.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

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.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.6: Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1d: Provide a concluding statement or section.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3a: Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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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.

The Turtle and the Rabbit

by

Content: The Rabbit was once boasting of his speed before the other animals. I?have never yet been beaten, said he, when I put forth my full speed. I?challenge any one here to race with me. I am the best.?

The Turtle said quietly, I accept your challenge. I am tired of your?bragging. I am confident that I can beat you.?

That is a good joke, said the Rabbit; I could dance around you all?the way. You will never be able to speed past me. You will not get the?victory.?

Keep your boasting till you've beaten me, answered the Turtle. Shall?we race? I know that I can defeat you.

So a course was fixed and a start was made. The Rabbit darted almost?out of sight at once, but soon stopped and, believing that the Turtle could?never catch him, lay down by the wayside to have a nap. The Turtle never for?a moment stopped, but went on with a slow but steady pace straight to the?end of the course.?

When the Rabbit awoke from his nap, he saw the Turtle just near the?winning-post. The Rabbit ran as fast as he could, but it was too late. He saw?the Turtle had reached the goal. He was very surprised. He had never lost a?race before.

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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: Boasting **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The story starts out by telling us that the "Rabbit was once boasting about his speed". What does the word "Boasting" mean?"

- A:** Excessive happiness
- B:** Excessive pride
- C:** Excessive sadness
- D:** Excessive love

Question: Which of the sentences uses the word "boasting" correctly?

- A:** She was boasting about her many awards.
 - B:** She was boasting with joy.
 - C:** She was boasting her love.
 - D:** She was boasting her bed.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Darted **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the story the "rabbit darted almost out of sight". What does the word "darted" mean?

- A:** To pass gas
- B:** Move slowly
- C:** Move quickly
- D:** Run backwards

Question: Which of the sentences uses the word "darted" correctly?

- A:** I was late to class because I darted.
 - B:** My mom darted my clothes.
 - C:** I darted to class so I was not late.
 - D:** I darted my hair for school.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Challenge **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the story the rabbit challenges anyone to race him. What does the word "challenge" mean?

- A:** To clean your room
- B:** Ask someone to engage in a contest
- C:** Ask someone to help you
- D:** To go to work

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

- A:** I challenge you to a game.
 - B:** I love that challenge on you.
 - C:** I hope he eats my challenge.
 - D:** If only she new how much I challenged her.
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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 - Who will it be?

After reading the story, explain which character in the story you would like to be and why?

2 - What did you learn?

What is the lesson you learned from reading this story?

3 - Why those characters?

Why do you think the author chose to use a turtle and a rabbit as the characters for the story?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: In your own words, rewrite the story in a way that you think all the characters are the best versions of themselves. Tell the story so that there are no bad characters and everyone is respectful. Be creative and try to use some of the vocab words we defined from earlier.

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