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All about Summer by Karlie Allen

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 30 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Summer, Vocabulary, Discussion, Short Story

Lesson Description: Students will read the short story provided and then answer the vocabulary questions below. Students will then respond to the three discussion questions provided and respond to 2 peers posts. Last, the students will write a short story according to the topic given and follow all guidelines that are provided.

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.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2e: Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.3a: Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4a: Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) 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.

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.

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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: Skid **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author said in the story, "The road is dangerous," my mother said. "We could skid." What does the word "skid" mean in this sentence?

- A: a sudden, controlled sliding movement
- B: a slow, uncontrolled sliding movement
- C: a slow, controlled sliding movement
- D: a sudden, uncontrolled sliding movement

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word skid correctly?

- A: The dog skid up the stairs while running fast.
- B: The bike could skid if we ride too fast.
- C: The kids jumped and ran like skid.
- D: Maybe if we skid we could get there faster.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Pioneers **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In the story the author says, "Imagine long ago when pioneers lived here," my brother said. "What is a 'pioneer' in this sentence?"

- A: A person who is among the first to explore in a new area
- B: A person who travels to tell the weather
- C: A different species of animals
- D: A person who explores different ways to travel

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "pioneer" correctly?

- A: You have a pioneer spirit.
- B: We travel to become a pioneer.
- C: My ancestor was a pioneer and came over on the Mayflower.
- D: You can be a pioneer and tell the weather.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Anticipate **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author of our story says, "I will call and tell them to anticipate a late arrival." What is the meaning of anticipate in this sentence?

- A: to leave
- B: to understand
- C: to predict
- D: to realize

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "anticipate" correctly?

- A: Do you anticipate the assignment?
- B: We should anticipate soon.
- C: Did you finally anticipate the television was on?
- D: We should anticipate what could happen next.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Civilization **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In our story the author says, "It was so different from living in the city. It is like making a trip between civilizations." What is the meaning of "civilization" in this sentence.

- A: an advanced state of human society
- B: any type of culture or society
- C: a place to receive information
- D: a place to stay while resting

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

- A: I can't wait to get to the civilization and sleep.
- B: Ancient civilizations like India and China are in our history books.
- C: The civilization was really helpful to get me where I needed to be.
- D: The farm is miles from civilization.

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 - Explain why...

In the story it says, 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. I want you to think about what you think life was like when the pioneers were around and explain your thoughts. How would the pioneers' traveling be different from the way the family in Summer is traveling?

2 - Why do you think...

Why do you think the family stopped while it was raining? What do you think could've happened if they continued to drive in the rain? Would it have been good or bad? Explain.

3 - Why do you think....

Why do you think the sister was so excited to see her grandparents? What would be your favorite part of visiting a farm over the summer? Would you want to go every summer? Why or why not?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here a 3 paragraph story with a minimum of 5 sentences per paragraph and a minimum of 5-7 words per sentence.

Topic: The author says in our short story, Imagine a world without cell phones, air conditioning, and fast cars. I want you to imagine a world without these things. What would it be like?? Use specific details to describe what a world without these things would be like. Make sure to plan out your writing before you begin your story.

Guides:?

Paragraph 1: Intro, Paragraph 2: Body, Paragraph 3: Conclusion.

Make sure to provide specific examples and details to make your writing more interesting. Also, make sure to use at least two of your vocabulary words from this story in your writing

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