



All Work And No Play Is No Good by Kymberly Leger

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours 15 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Vocabulary, Critical thinking, Ants, Grasshoppers

Lesson Description: Teachers are strongly advised to use a part of the recess period for class exploration before beginning this lesson plan. Students will be paired up with a classmate to search the playground for ants and grasshoppers. They must then jot down any facts or observations they come across. They could also make drawings of what they perceive. Students will gain essential reading skills, vocabulary, critical thinking, and reading comprehension abilities during this topic. The students will read the brief essay in four-person groups at beginning. They'll next split up into pairs of two to tackle the vocabulary, discussion, and essay topics listed below. Students are encouraged to utilize dictionaries, and act out the storyline in order to provide the best possible responses to the queries. This lesson plan will take around two days to complete; once the essays have been completed and gathered, the teacher will read a few of the students' essay responses.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2: Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1b: Provide reasons that support the opinion.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

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

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 Ants and the Grasshopper

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Content: It is wintertime. The weather is cold, but the ants are doing fine. They have their warm home, and they have a lot of food to eat. They can wait for the warm weather in spring. The reason the ants have a lot of food is because they worked in the summer. So now they have grain to eat.

Grain is a kind of plant. People plant it and cut it and then they use it to make bread. The ants get the grain in summer, because that is when grain grows. The ants live in the fields where the grain grows. When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it. They do not eat it right then. They save it because they need to be able to have food in the winter months when plants do not grow. This goes on all summer.

The ants work hard every day. They pick up the grain, they carry it to their home. Every ant helps. Each ant carries one piece of grain. It is hard work. They carry more than they need to eat every day. They carry grain they will eat in winter, too. They play sometimes, but most of the time they work.

The grasshoppers live near the ants, and they love summer. They hop and play and they laugh at the ants. They say, We have fun every day while you work every day. Come and play. You can get grain later. But the ants say, No, we have to work.

Soon it is winter, and the grasshoppers are cold. They are hungry, too. They do not have food to eat. Since they played all summer, they did not save food for winter.

One day, a grasshopper came to see the ants and he was very hungry. Please, ants, could you help me a little bit? I am just so hungry! said the grasshopper.

The ants asked him, Why didn't you work in summer? We did. Remember, how you played while we worked? You made fun of us and said, All work and no play is no good. Well, now we have food and you are hungry.

The grasshopper said, I didn't have the time. The weather was so lovely that I spent all the days singing. I couldn't help but have fun. We had such a good time.

The ants said, We are sorry you have no food. We have a lot because we worked hard. You have none because you played. But, we will give you some food because we are good, kind neighbors. We want you to live, so we will help you now. But learn from us. Playing is a lot of fun. But you need to work to live.

The grasshopper thanked the ants. The grasshopper had learned a lesson. It is fun to play, but you need to save for winter, too. You need to work if you want to eat. Next summer, he would work and play, too, just like the ants.

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.

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Q: 1 WordPhrase: Rush **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word "rush" mean in this sentence: "When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it." ?

A: To move slowly

B: The act of brushing something off

C: To move quickly

D: To stop what you are doing

Question: Chose the correct sentence bellow using the word "rush".

A: Johnny rushed off all of the dirt from his shoes.

B: Julia rushed reading her children's book with patience.

C: Robin is a test taker who takes his time; on his history test, he rushed so much that he was the last one to finish.

D: George rushed out house to examine the loud explosion.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Grain **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author of our short story said, "The reason the ants have a lot of food is because they worked in the summer. So now they have grain to eat." what does "grain" mean in this sentence?

A: A kind of plant

B: A type of insect

C: Sand and dirt mixed

D: A pile of sticks

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

A: The people built a toasty fire using grain.

B: To create bread, the baker had must finish adding grain into the dough.

C: A grain was one of the two bugs in my bedroom.

D: It was a tremendous mess since the kids tracked grain all over the house!

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Lovely **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the story about the Grasshopper and the Ant, the author uses the word "Lovely". In the sentence, "The weather was so lovely that I spent all the days singing." what does the word "lovely" mean?

A: Unpleasant

B: Strange

C: Beautiful

D: Ugly

Question: Pick the best sentence below that uses the word "lovely" correctly.

A: Going to the doctor's office for a shot is a lovely thing to do.

B: I think I missed every single problem on my math test. That is lovely!

C: We watched the sunset and looked for seashells on a lovely day at the beach with my family and friends.

D: Everything went wrong on my awful lovely day!

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Wintertime **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In the story, the author says, "It is wintertime. The weather is cold, but the ants are doing fine." what does the word "wintertime" mean?

A: The season is summer; it is extremely hot outside.

B: The season is winter, the plants are not blooming.

C: The season is spring and everything is blooming.

D: The season is Fall and it is starting to feel cold outside.

Question: Please pick the correct sentence using the word "wintertime".

A: I'm really looking forward to going swimming at the beach this wintertime; the weather is so wonderful.

B: No way! I just got an extra hour of sleep; if I don't get ready immediately, I'll be late for the wintertime.

C: During the month of July, we commemorate the arrival of wintertime by lighting fireworks.

D: Wintertime is my favorite time of the year; the weather is cold, schools is on break, and it always snows!

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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: Please answer each discussion question by writing one paragraph. Include vocabulary words from the story in your answers.

1 - Naughty Grasshopper

Why didn't the grasshopper in the story, like the ants, collect food for the winter?

2 - Ant or Grasshopper, Which are you?

Pretend that the grain in the fable of the Grasshopper and the Ant is actually schoolwork. When it comes to doing schoolwork, are you more like the grasshopper or more like the hardworking ant? Please explain why.

3 - 'Tis The Season

Even during winter, why didn't the ants gather grain? Isn't it simpler to work during the winter because the climate is so much cooler than it is during summer?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Write a two-paragraph essay about how you believe the grasshopper in the story should plan his day to allow for both play and work??Clarify what he should be doing and when he needs to do it in detail. Your task is to make certain he works hard in order to have sufficient food and play time. In your response, try to incorporate the story's vocabulary words.

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