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A Lesson on Why Did Mamma Change Her Mind? by Wendy Schultz

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: Sharing, Vocabulary, Lesson, Short Story, Siblings, Essay, Discussion, Reading

Lesson Description: This lesson requires students to read a short story about two siblings, a brother and a sister, who learn about sharing. Then they will be taught vocabulary from the story, invited to discuss aspects of the story, and write an essay about their thoughts and what they think the moral of this short story is.

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.

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.L.3.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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.

Why Did Mamma Change Her Mind?

by

Content: Mamma Miller told Fay and Lonnie that they might have a party, so they tried to get ready for it. Mrs. Miller said they could invite ten children. You write to five girls, Fay, she said, and Lonnie will write to five boys.

Lonnie and Fay sat on the couch. They tried to think who they would like to come to their party. Make out your list first, said Lonnie. Fay did, and her brother agreed to all the girls.

As soon as Lonnie started writing his names, Fay began to find fault. I don't like boys, anyway, said Fay, only you, Lonnie. Let's have all girls at our party.

But it won't be my party too, said Lonnie, if you have all girls.

I don't care, all of those boys are horrid, Fay said, pointing to his paper.

You say that because you don't like boys, he said and then told his sister that every boy whose name he had written was just as good as gold. They were just as good as Lonnie Miller himself was, and everybody said he was one of the best boys that ever lived.

I won't play with him if he comes, Fay kept saying to every name Lonnie wrote.

You can have your party, said Lonnie, getting up out of the easy chair and sitting down in a smaller one, you and your girls. I'm going to play my video game.

I don't like boys, Fay kept saying, jumping down off the arm of the chair. But I like video games. Can we have your games at our party?

Lucia, their older sister, was passing the door just then, so she thought she would stop and see what all the noise was. I'm calling Mamma.

Mamma came hurrying in. When they told her about the invitations, she said, Your brother has been very good about this party. He was willing to let you have it with just girls. But I said it would be a party for both of you. So it will be a party for none of you. There will be no party.

But you said we could have a party for ten people.

I said that you could have a party for ten children, five boys and five girls. You took all ten. That is not fair. So there will be no party. When you learn to share, then you will have a party.

So there was no party. Months later, Mamma asked again, Shall we have a party? What do you think happened?

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: Horrid **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word "horrid" mean in the following sentence?

"I don't care, all of those boys are horrid," Fay said, pointing to his paper."

- A: Really cool
- B: Very unpleasant
- C: Sad
- D: Delightful

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

- A: I love dogs so much, they are horrid!
- B: I am feeling horrid today.
- C: My dad loves going to the movies and he says it's a horrid time.
- D: The kids at school are horrid.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Fault **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the word "fault" mean in the following sentence?

"As soon as Lonnie started writing his names, Fay began to find fault."

- A: Problems
- B: Pizza
- C: Frogs
- D: Responsibility

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

- A: It was his fault the window was broken.
- B: My favorite food is fault.
- C: I found many faults with your performance in the play.
- D: When I saw my grandma, I was fault.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Passing **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word "passing" mean in the following sentence? "Lucia, their older sister, was passing the door just then, so she thought she would stop and see what all the noise was."

- A: Painting
- B: Throwing
- C: Walking by
- D: Kicking

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

- A: I was passing the ball to Derek when my mom called out for dinner
- B: There is five seconds left in my soccer game and I decide to passing the ball into the goal and win the game.
- C: I was passing on a canvas for my art class.
- D: I was passing by my moms room when I overheard something I shouldn't have.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Invite **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the word "invite" mean in the following sentence?

"Mrs. Miller said they could invite ten children."

- A: Asking someone to go somewhere or do something together.
- B: To push.
- C: Telling someone they can't go somewhere.
- D: Go on a bike ride.

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

- A: It's such a beautiful day, we should invite today.
- B: I was told to invite the neighbor over for some tea after school.
- C: I grab a shopping cart and invite it all around the store.
- D: Invite Nathaniel because I don't like him very much, and I'd never hang out with him.

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 - Mamma's intentions

Why do you think Mamma told them they could have a party in the first place? Do you think she knew how Fay and Lonnie would act? What do you think her intentions were if any?

2 - Fay's feelings

How do you think Fay felt after Mamma told her about how good her brother was and how badly she was acting? Or after Mamma said there was no party after all?

3 - What would you have done?

What would you have done if you were Lonnie and your sibling wasn't letting you invite any of your friends to your party? Why?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post a 500 word essay on the following questions. Make sure to provide specific examples.

- What do you think happened after Mamma said that the kids could have another party? Do you think Fay learned her lesson from last time? What lesson can be learned from this short story?

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