



## A Lesson on The Different Bird by Emma jade Cantrell

**Grade Level:** Grade 4

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour 30 minutes

**Lesson Keywords:** Inclusivity, birds, friendship

**Lesson Description:** This lesson will develop new vocabulary of students. The writing prompt will help students think critically and apply the text to classroom experiences.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.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.4.2: Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

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.RF.4.4c: Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1b: Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2b: Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1f: Produce complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons.

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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 Different Bird

by

**Content:** There was a bird that loved to listen to the other birds sing. The bird listened to their songs and thought, I wish I could sing like that, too. But, the bird was unable to sing. All that the bird could do was make little clicking sounds, and it could make a sound like the wind. Nothing happened when the bird tried to sing, just a click, click, click, whoosh sound came out. Thats all that anyone ever heard from the bird.

All the other birds laughed and laughed at her. They all joined in and taunted, Birds of a feather flock together. Even though you have feathers, youre not like us, so you cant be part of our flock.

Oh dear, sighed the bird. She sat in her tree and worried. She wasnt exactly sure what a flock was, but she knew the other birds laughed at her, and she knew it was because she was different. The bird said to herself, No other birds will want to be my friends because they all think Im strange.

Every day the bird tried so hard to sing, but every day she just made the same clicking sound.

One day, while perched in the forest, the bird heard a new sound. It was the sound of people talking. The bird stopped and listened intently.

Then, something very strange happened. The bird discovered she could talk, too. She was able to say the same words the people in the forest were saying.

A man said, Look at all the beautiful trees. Then the bird also said, Look at all the beautiful trees. Another man asked, surprised, Did you just hear that bird? It talked! The bird repeated, Did you just hear that bird? It talked!

Now, all the people in the forest stopped to listen to the bird speak. One person would say something, and then the bird would echo what he had said. The people left, saying What a special bird! They heard, What a special bird! as they walked out of the forest. The bird had followed them.

Every day after that, people would come to the forest, and the bird would repeat what they said. Now, all the other birds looked at her differently.

Youre our hero, they stated. Youre such a special bird.

After that day in the forest, the bird had many friends. She still couldnt sing, but she could talk. Although she was different, she and the other birds agreed that different was special. Being different felt very good. One bird said, Being different is like being a diamond. There are many rocks, but there are not many diamonds. Sometimes you dont see how bright a diamond is at first.

Now, we see how great you are. You are our diamond.

If you know someone who is different, remember this story. Everyone is special and everyone can do different things. Dont judge other people. See who they are; learn what they can do. Be their friend. If you do that, you will find many special people.

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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:** Taunted **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "They all joined in and taunted, ?Birds of a feather flock together." What does the word "taunted" mean in this sentence?

- A: explained
- B: teased
- C: encouraged
- D: angered

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "taunted correctly"

- A: Maya taunted her way to the bus stop.
- B: The cat taunted the ball across the room.
- C: The store taunted their new item in the window.
- D: The children on the playground taunted Henry because he wore glasses.

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Flock **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** "She wasn't exactly sure what a flock was, but she knew the other birds laughed at her, and she knew it was because she was different." What does the word "flock" mean in this sentence?

- A: group
- B: pattern
- C: machine
- D: loner

**Question:** Which sentence uses the word "flock" correctly?

- A: There was a flock stuck to the bottom of Sam's shoe.
- B: The sheep traveled in a flock towards the open field.
- C: Amber rode her flock to the bus stop.
- D: All alone, the bird was in a flock.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Echo **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "One person would say something, and then the bird would echo what he had said." What does the word "echo" mean in this sentence?

- A: to forget
- B: to defend
- C: to repeat
- D: to entertain

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "echo" correctly?

- A: The dog's echo slept at the foot of the bed.
- B: She used her echo to kick the ball.
- C: He would echo to himself after forgetting the question.
- D: Singing in the stairwell, David heard his voice echo as it bounced off the walls.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Diamond **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** "There are many rocks, but there are not many diamonds." What does the word "diamond" mean in this sentence?

- A: something forgettable
- B: something common
- C: something laughable
- D: something special

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "diamond" correctly?

- A: After months of looking for a job, getting hired was like finding a diamond in the rough.
- B: Pencils are like diamonds in a classroom, they are everywhere!
- C: Jenny's mom has a patch of weeds in her garden, they pop up like diamonds.
- D: Every grain of sand is like a diamond on the beach.

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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 and two peer responses for each topic.

### 1 - Author's Purpose

What is the author's purpose for writing this passage?

### 2 - Turning Point

What was the turning point in the story? How did this change the attitude of the special bird and the other birds? Identify the turning point with a quote from the passage.

### 3 - Making inferences based on the text

Using contextual evidence, make an inference?about?what type of bird the special bird is. Pull 2-3 pieces of contextual evidence to defend your claim.?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** You are to write and post here 200?words essay on the importance of including those who are different from you. Consider how our peer's differences can positively impact our classroom. Uses 2-3 quotes from the text to support your writing.?

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