



A Lesson on How the Firefly Got Its Light by Riley Bradshaw

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: Firefly gets his light

Lesson Description: This story talks about how the moon and a fly become friends. The moon is lonely and in need of a friend and he becomes friends with a fly who comes out at night. The moon says that if he becomes friends with him then he will give the fly light. Not only is this a good story for educational purposes but it can be a good story explaining friendship and social skills.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

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.RL.3.7: Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10: By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.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.L.3.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

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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.

How the Firefly Got Its Light

by

Content: This is a story based on an old folktale.?

This is a story about long ago. ?There was a little fly. ?It wanted to be special. ?The fly was?sad. ?It did not feel special. ?It looked at the bee and thought it was great. ?Look at how big it is. ?Hear it buzz. ?It looked at the butterfly and said, See how pretty. Look at the colors. ?Look at the?big wings. ?I am just like all the other flies.?

The fly stayed awake one night. ?It was worried. ?It was sad. ?All the other flies were?sleeping. ?A moth was awake. ?So was a mouse. ?They did not notice the fly. ?It was too small. ?It?was hard to see in the dark.?

The fly saw the stars. ?They were shining. ?I want to shine like that. That would be?special.?

The moon heard the fly. ?The moon said, Little fly. ?You can help me. ?If you do, I will help?you. ?I will make you shine.?

How can I help? ??

The moon said, You can be my friend. ?I am lonely at night. ?I come out when it is dark. ?Most animals are asleep. ?If you stay awake every night I will help you shine. ?Then you can be my?friend. ?

Yes, yes, the fly said. ?So the moon helped it. ?The moon told the fly the secret. ?The moon?told the fly how to shine. ??

The next night, the fly stayed awake. ?It used the secret. ?It was shining. ?On, off, it made its?body light. ?It looked like magic.?

Look, said the mouse. Look at that fly. ?How special. ?The mouse said, Id like to shine,?too. ?His mother said, NO! ?That would be dangerous. ?You know we need to be able to hide.?

The fly was very glad. ?The fly told the moon, I will always be your friend. ?When you?come out at night, I will be here. ?I will shine my light to welcome you. ?Then the fly went to?sleep. ?Finally. ?Now I have what I need.?

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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: Lonely **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "You can be my friend. I am "Lonely" at night."

What is the meaning of the word lonely?

A: Has no friends or company

B: Feeling happy

C: Being excited

D: Having a good nights sleep

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

A: I am lonely at the park with my friends.

B: When my family leaves I get lonely.

C: I feel lonely when I am going to eat at my favorite restaurant.

D: I feel Lonely talking with my parents.

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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Buzz **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What form of figurative language is "Buzz"?

A: Idiom

B: Simile

C: Onomatopoeia

D: Metaphor

Question: What is another example word similar to "Buzz"?

A: Bang

B: Lonely

C: Lovely

D: green

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Q: 3 WordPhrase: shining **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word "shining" mean in "The fly saw the stars. They were shining."?

A: something rusty

B: something really dark and dull

C: A form of smiling

D: reflecting bright light

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

A: The disco ball was shining bright for everyone to see.

B: The dog was shining on the bed.

C: My cats food was shining in the bowl.

D: At the restaurant we ordered a shining dish.

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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 - How did the firefly get its light?

In the story the firefly and the moon being to have a friendship. How and why did the fly get its light?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on Make sure to provide specific examples.

How do you think the story would be different if the animal wasn't a fly??

How do you think the story would ahve ended if there wasn't a positive approach by the moon and fly becoming friends??

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