



A Lesson on City Mouse - A Fable by Caitlyn Bogatin

Grade Level: Grade 6

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 30 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading, writing, the lesson to be learned.

Lesson Description: The purpose of this lesson is to give students the practice of reading and comprehension, writing and being able to explain what they comprehended. By reading and rereading students will be able to answer questions, have a discussion, and create a short essay about the moral of the story of the Country Mouse and the City Mouse.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1: Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.6: Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

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.

City Mouse - A Fable

by

Content: Once a little mouse who lived in the country invited a little mouse from the city to visit him. When the little City Mouse sat down to dinner he was surprised to find that the Country Mouse had nothing to eat except barley and grain.

Really, he said, you do not live well at all; you should see how I live! I have all sorts of fine things to eat every day. You must come to visit me and see how nice it is to live in the city.

The little Country Mouse was glad to do this, and after a while, he went to the city to visit his friend. The very first place that the City Mouse took the Country Mouse to see was the kitchen cupboard of the house where he lived. There, on the lowest shelf, behind some stone jars, stood a big paper bag of brown sugar. The little City Mouse gnawed a hole in the bag and invited his friend to nibble for himself.

The two little mice nibbled and nibbled and nibbled, and the Country Mouse thought he had never tasted anything so delicious in his life. He was just thinking how lucky the City Mouse was, when suddenly the door opened with a bang, and in came the cook to get some flour.

Run! whispered the City Mouse. And they ran as fast as they could to the little hole where they had come in. The little Country Mouse was shaking all over when they got safely away, but the little City Mouse said, That is nothing; she will soon go away and then we can go back.

After the cook had gone away and shut the door, they stole softly back, and this time the City Mouse had something new to show: he took the little Country Mouse into a corner on the top shelf, where a big jar of dried prunes stood open. After much tugging and pulling, they got a large dried prune out of the jar on to the shelf and began to nibble at it. This was even better than the brown sugar. The little Country Mouse liked the taste so much that he could hardly nibble fast enough. But all at once, in the midst of their eating, there came a scratching at the door and a sharp, loud MIAOUW!

What is that? said the Country Mouse. The City Mouse just whispered, Sh! and ran as fast as he could to the hole. The Country Mouse ran after, you may be sure, as fast as HE could. As soon as they were out of danger, the City Mouse said, That was the old Cat; she is the best mouser in town, - if she once gets you, you are lost. Imagine you were eating dinner and a lion came. That was how they felt.

This is very terrible, said the Country Mouse; lets not go back to the cupboard again.

No, said the City Mouse, Ill take you to the cellar; there is something special there.

The City Mouse took his little friend down the cellar stairs and into a big cupboard where there were many shelves. On the shelves were jars of butter and cheeses in bags and out of bags. Overhead hung bunches of sausages, and there were spicy apples in barrels standing about. It smelled so good that it went to the little Country Mouse's head.

He ran along the shelf and nibbled at a cheese here, and a bit of butter there, until he saw an especially rich, very delicious-smelling piece of cheese on a queer little stand in a corner. He was just on the point of putting his teeth into the cheese when the City Mouse saw him.

Stop! Stop! cried the City Mouse. That is a trap!

The little Country Mouse stopped and said, What is a trap?

That thing is a trap, said the little City Mouse. The minute you touch the cheese with your teeth something comes down on your head hard, and you're dead.

The little Country Mouse looked at the trap, he looked at the cheese, and he looked at the little City Mouse. If you'll excuse me, he said, I think I will go home. I'd rather have barley and grain to eat and eat it in peace and comfort, than have brown sugar and dried prunes and cheese, - and be frightened all the time.

The little Country Mouse went back home, and there he stayed all the rest of his life.

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: Cupboard **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: Use this passage to determine the meaning of the word cupboard: "The very first place that the City Mouse took the Country Mouse to see was the kitchen cupboard..."

A: A type of bookshelf.

B: A closet or cabinet, most often used indoors, that stores food.

C: A table used to eat dinner at.

D: A place for storing raw meat.

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

A: The cupboard was full of dirty clothes that needed washing.

B: There were many cows in the cupboard.

C: Max the dog ran through the cupboards chasing a bug.

D: The kitchen cupboard had jars of jams, boxes of pasta, and canned vegetables that were going to be used for lunch.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Queer **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "...very delicious-smelling piece of cheese on a queer little stand in a corner", what does the word "queer" mean in this passage?

A: Strange, different, odd.

B: Similar, same.

C: Familiar.

D: Happy.

Question: Which sentence below has the correct use of the word "queer"?

A: The weather was queer when it rained.

B: The book had a queer ending.

C: Its queer when dogs bark.

D: One penguin was queer compared to the other penguins because he could tap dance and not sing.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Bunches **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "The little City Mouse gnawed a hole in the bag and invited his friend to nibble for himself", what does the word "gnawed" mean?

A: To swallow

B: To grind

C: To spit

D: To nibble

Question: In which sentence is the word "gnawed" used correctly?

A: The dog gnawed the bone down to nothing.

B: The cat gnawed at the couch with its claws.

C: The car gnawed as it was driving on the interstate.

D: The pig gnawed on the gate with his nose.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Cellar **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "I'll take you to the cellar; there is something special there", what is the meaning of "cellar"?

A: A room above a ceiling.

B: A room below a house.

C: A room to park your car.

D: A room for your dog.

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

A: We went up to the cellar to play games.

B: We went down in the cellar to get the broom.

C: My mom parked the car in the cellar.

D: I jumped out of the cellar into the pool.

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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 two peer responses for each topic.

1 - The lucky City Mouse

He was just thinking how lucky the City Mouse was..., why did the Country Mouse think the city mouse was so lucky?

2 - It smelled so good that it went to the little Country Mouse's head.

It smelled so good that it went to the little Country Mouse's head, in this quote, what does the author mean by the smells went to the Country Mouse's head??

3 - Attitude change

In the beginning the Country Mouse thought the City Mouse was lucky, what changed his mind? Give at least two examples.?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Write the moral of the story, what is the lesson to be learned? Provide specific examples from the passage that support your answer,?has to be at least 300 words, 2-3 paragraphs.?

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