



A Lesson on Chicago Changer by Elisha Farrell

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: Jane Addams

Lesson Description: Students should be able to use context clues to understand a word that they might not understand. They should be able to take information given to them and relate it to their own thoughts, experiences, or beliefs.

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.4.7: Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1a: Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1c: Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).

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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.

Chicago Changer

by

Content: Reform means to make things better. Jane Addams saw things in Chicago to reform. She saw poor people living in crowded neighborhoods. The houses were small. They did not have enough rooms for all of the people who lived in them. The streets were dirty. People did not have places to get clean water. They did not have places to wash. Jane Addams wanted to help poor people have a better life, and she did. She believed that helping poor people would make everyones life better. She would make Chicago better.

In 1889 Jane Addams set up a place to help people. She called it Hull-House. Hull-House was a settlement house. It helped immigrants to Chicago. Immigrants are people who move to a new country. The immigrants needed to find homes. They needed to learn English. They needed to learn about the city. Jane Addams wanted to teach them the skills they needed to live well on their own. When people came to thank her, that was fine. But she liked it better when they did not come back. She was glad that they were independent.

Jane Addams had more than one idea about how to help the people of Chicago. One thing she did was to live in the same community where the poor people lived. This helped her to understand their problems. She listened to them. She helped them work together to change things in their neighborhood. She was one of Chicagos first community organizers.

Another thing Jane Addams did was talk to Chicagos leaders. Jane Addams was a powerful woman. She knew the Mayor. She talked to him and the other leaders about the problems of the poor people. Sometimes the leaders listened. Sometimes they did not. Someone once heard the mayor say Here comes that woman again, lets get out of here.

But she kept trying. She made changes. She made the schools better. She helped to set up playgrounds. She made peoples jobs safer. She fought for people to get better pay. She even became the Garbage Inspector in her ward. Then she could help clean up the neighborhood.

Jane Addams worked with many other people to help families. She helped neighborhoods. She became famous around the world for her hard work. She won a Nobel Peace Prize. That is a very important honor. Jane Addams left Chicago an important legacy. Hull-House is still in Chicago today. It still helps people make progress. She showed how one person can make progress for a whole city.

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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: Settlement **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "Hull-House was a settlement house. It helped immigrants to Chicago." Using the context clues, what do you think settlement means?

- A:** A house for people to sleep in for the night.
- B:** A house for people to live in to help them get back on their feet.
- C:** A free house for rich people to stay in.
- D:** A house made for farm animals.

Question: Which one of the sentences below has the correct context for the word "settlement" house.

- A:** Tonya didn't want to live in a settlement house, she was tired of moving around
 - B:** Maybe if she visited a settlement house she would find the perfect horse.
 - C:** He packed his bags and left for America, where he would live out the rest of his life in a settlement home.
 - D:** The settlement house was very exclusive to paying members.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Legacy **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "Jane Addams left Chicago an important legacy." Based on the text as a whole, what do you think the word legacy means?

- A:** Story
- B:** Problem
- C:** Woman
- D:** Responsibility

Question: Which of the following is a synonym for Legacy

- A:** Riddle
 - B:** Inheritance
 - C:** Lady
 - D:** Tale
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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 - Why did the leaders sometimes say 'Here comes that woman again, let's get out of here.'
'Sometimes the leaders listened.' 'Sometimes they did not. Someone once heard the mayor say 'Here comes that woman again, let's get out of here.' Explain why the leaders would not want to be around Jane Addam. Why do you think some leaders would not listen?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 word?essay on Jane Addams and how she has inspired you to do something for your community. Make sure to provide specific examples of how Jane Addams helped her community.

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