



A Lesson on The Astronaut's Diary by Jamie Kerr

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 30 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Space, collaboration, imagination

Lesson Description: This lesson plan will be used to help students with new vocabulary word comprehension. The student will also demonstrate creative writing skills.

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.RF.4.3: Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4: Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4a: Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.2a: Use correct capitalization.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.2d: Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.

=====

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 Astronaut's Diary

by

Content: We were exhausted from all the work. We slept in shifts. One of us had to be awake all the time. There was so much work to do.

Finally, we got to our destination. We had reached the space station. There, we would do more work, but we would have less pressure. We had so much to do every day on our ship. Now there would be more people to help us. We would be on a collaborative team. We would be able to share the work.

When we moved into the space station, I felt great. There was so much more space. We would have real beds to sleep in. We would have better food. They had a garden on the space station. They grew vegetables.

The six astronauts on the space station were happy to see us. They said, We have been waiting for you. We were glad to see them, too. We had been worried. We heard that one of them had been sick.

We asked how she was feeling. She said she was better now. It had been a cold. We were relieved. We could stop worrying now.

That first night on the space station was great. We had good food. We had a good dinner. Then we were going to sleep. But one of the astronauts said, We need to give you a job. Each person has to take turns staying awake. Here is the schedule. So I had a shift again.

I saw I was first. I would have to stay awake tonight. I was disappointed. I felt fatigued. I had been awake and working for 20 hours. But I knew it was my duty. So I sighed and said, See you in the morning.

I became an astronaut so that I could travel in space. Now I'm here. It is hard work. It's even more challenging than I expected.

=====

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: Exhausted **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in the passage wrote " We were exhausted from all the work". What does the word "exhausted" mean in the sentence?

- A: Bored
- B: Weak
- C: Excited
- D: Angry

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

- A: I played all day and now I am exhausted for dinner.
- B: I exhausted the movie I watched last night.
- C: My mother cleaned all day and is now exhausted.
- D: I got my report card from school and I am exhausted.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Collaborative **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author wrote " We should be on a collaborative team". What does the word "collaborative" mean?

- A: Another
- B: New
- C: Seperate
- D: Together

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

- A: This is a collaborative group project.
- B: Since this is a collaborative project I will be by myself.
- C: I enjoy working collaborative on my personal journal.
- D: Collaborative is important when taking my test.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Space **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in the passage says "It had been a cold". What does the word "cold" mean?

- A: Freezing
- B: Angry
- C: Sick
- D: Shy

Question: Which one of the following sentences is the word "cold" used correctly?

- A: Amy gave me the cold shoulder.
- B: The snow is making it so cold outside.
- C: She was so cold when she spoke to me.
- D: I hope I am not catching a cold.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Ship **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in the story says "We had so much to do everyday on our ship". What does the word "ship" mean in the sentence?

- A: Share
- B: Water
- C: Land
- D: Traveling vessel

Question: Which sentence below is the word "Ship " used correctly?

- A: The pirate ship floated along the shore.
- B: The ship was in the refrigerator.
- C: Ships are great for your diet.
- D: The ship was in the corn field.

=====

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 - Imagination

In 50 words or more, I would like for you to use your imagination and describe what the space ship looks like in this story using only words. I want to be able to visualize your description.

2 - Disappointed

In 50 words or more, explain to me why the astronaut was disappointed in the seventh paragraph.?

3 - The astronaut refers to "They"

Who is the astronaut referring to when he uses the word they in the following sentence. They said we have been waiting for you.

4 - The meaning of collaborative

In 50 words I would like for you to describe a situation that you have been collaborative.

=====

=====

Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here a 200?words essay decribing?why you would or would not want to spend the summer at the space station.....Make sure to provide specific examples. Tell me how you would spend your days.

=====