



# TOWN MEETING

## A Lesson on Community Meeting by Brittany Evers

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour

**Lesson Keywords:** Reading comprehension

**Lesson Description:** Throughout this lesson, students will read a story and answer questions pertaining to the story. They will also be asked to respond to an essay question using deep thought about the story they just read.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.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.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.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.4c: Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1a: Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1b: Provide reasons that support the opinion.

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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.

### Community Meeting

by

**Content:** At the meeting, one neighbor was shouting. I've had enough,"he said. This neighborhood has too many potholes. Other people?clapped. They agreed with the neighbor. There were potholes.

We cant fill in all the potholes until we know where they are,"said the Alderman. Please tell me when you see one. Then I promise?I will get it fixed. I need you to help me to help your community.

What about the snow plowing, a woman asked. No one came?to plow our street. We had to do it ourselves. We voted for you. You?need to help us. The Alderman answered. He said, There was so?much snow, that we could not get to the side streets quickly. But?they are going to try to do a better job next time. We know this is?important. We will fix it.

Lets talk about progress, the local librarian said. Are we?going to get the new library building?

I think we need a new park, first, said a parent.

A library is more important than a park, she answered.

No, its not. Youre wrong. Youre thinking about yourself.

Wait, now, said the Alderman. This ward belongs to everyone.?And both will help. We need the park. We need the library. And we?need more. Im trying to get it all. But were starting with the library.We dont have space for the books in the old one. We need a?computer area, too.

Im angry, the parent said. I wanted the park first. Im going?to vote for someone else to be alderman next time.?

Lets all work together, a teacher said. This is about what we?all need and want. We have a great community. Lets work together.?Everyone agreed. They clapped loudly. That is what we need to do,"said the alderman.

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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:** Answered **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** The Author of the story says: "A library is more important than a park," she answered. What does the word "answered" mean in this sentence?

- A: Said
- B: listened
- C: smiled
- D: thought

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

- A: She answered the phone.
  - B: She answered back, yes.
  - C: Answering this question is tricky.
  - D: Why can't you answer me?
- =====

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Space **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** What does the word "space" mean in the following sentence? We don't have space for the books in the old one.

- A: more room
- B: the nine planets
- C: solar system
- D: A shelf

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

- A: I want to go to Outer Space.
  - B: Have you ever been to Space?
  - C: Is there any space for my backpack?
  - D: You look spaced out today.
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**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Progress **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author in our story says: "Let's talk about progress," the local librarian said. What does the word "progress" mean?

- A: Something that has gotten better.
- B: Something that has gotten worse.
- C: Walking slowly.
- D: Standing still.

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

- A: We have made no progress.
  - B: Your progress report is very good.
  - C: The train progressed on slowly.
  - D: I have progressive insurance.
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**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Plow **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author in the story states: No one came to plow our street. What is the meaning of the word "plow"?

- A: To make bigger.
- B: Getting rid of.
- C: Paint.
- D: Redo.

**Question:** Which one of the sentences listed below uses the word "plow" properly?

- A: The skater plowed into me.
  - B: Do you want to take a plow at it?
  - C: Let's make a plow.
  - D: When are you going to plow the snow?
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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 are the people clapping?

In this sentence from the story: I've had enough," he said. This neighborhood has too many potholes. Other people clapped. Why were the other people clapping?

### 2 - The Alderman

Do you think that the Alderman was trying to do the right thing? If yes, explain why.

### 3 - What do you think?

What does the Alderman mean in the story when he says: I need you to help me to help your community. ?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** You are to write at least a paragraph on why the clapping from the beginning of the story, is different from the clapping at the end of the story? Make sure you explain why you feel that way.

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