



A Lesson on The Red Apples by Megan Sugg

Grade Level: Grade 7

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: reading, vocabulary, written response, essay, morals and values

Lesson Description: Students will be required to read the short passage and answer multiple questions based off of the story. Vocabulary words and critical thinking will be integrated into the questions students will answer after reading the story.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.1: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.3: Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama.

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 Red Apples

by

Content: One windy day in March, Kitty Miller was on her way to school when she glanced into a store window and saw a great pile of lovely red apples. Oh, she exclaimed, how lovely! If only Mamma could have one!

Kitty's mother was extremely poor. She had been a dressmaker ever since Kitty's father died, and had to work hard to earn a living for herself and Kitty. Unfortunately, she had recently become very sick and was obliged to lie in bed all day long. When Kitty was away at school, the house was incredibly lonesome. She missed her little angel that is what she called Kitty. Kitty took great care of her mother. She cooked her food, mostly soup. They could not afford fresh fruit. Kitty would even sing to her mother at night.

When Kitty reached the school that day, her thoughts were full of her sick mother and the lovely red apples. She was usually an excellent student, but that day she made so many blunders that the teacher looked at her in surprise. The little girl could only sit at her desk, with her book before her, and dream of those red apples.

When school was dismissed, Kitty started slowly homeward. She had walked only a short distance when she saw a man in front of her drop his wallet. Running quickly forward, she picked it up. The wallet felt quite heavy in Kitty's little hand.

There must be a good deal of money in it, thought Kitty. How I wish I could keep it, so that I would then be able to purchase a red apple for Mamma, and so many other things she needs.

Kitty knew this would not be right, so she hurried after the man. Touching him on the arm, she said, Please, Sir, you dropped your wallet back there.

Thank you, dear, said the man taking the wallet. Then, noticing how poorly she was dressed, he said, Why did you not keep the wallet, my child?

Because that would be stealing, replied Kitty. But, she confessed honestly, before I thought I must give it back to you, I did wish I could keep it, for then I could buy Mamma a red apple.

The gentleman smiled kindly and said, You are a good little girl to return my wallet. I would like to give you a little present and then you can buy a red apple. He handed her a dollar and then said goodbye.

Kitty was so surprised that she started hastily for home, forgetting all about the red apples until she stood in front of the store. The store owner happened to look out and saw the same little girl who stood looking so longingly in at his window in the morning. He quickly picked out the biggest, roundest, reddest apple he could find. He took it out to Kitty and said, Would you like this one, my dear?

She took the apple and gave him the dollar. No charge, he said, returning it. She thanked him for my mother, and the good man thought of it for many a day. When Kitty reached home with her treasures, she found her mother fast asleep. She put the apple and dollar on a plate where her mother could see them when she awoke.

When Mrs. Miller was told the wonderful story, she kissed her little daughter and said, What have we learned from this wonderful day?

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: blunders **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author tells us in the story that "She was usually an excellent student, but that day she made so many blunders that the teacher looked at her in surprise." What does the word "blunders" mean in this sentence?

- A: decisions
- B: sucess
- C: careless mistakes
- D: remarks

Question: Which of the following sentences best uses the word "blunders" in a sentence?

- A: The cat was looking for blunders.
- B: The teacher was worried about the blunders the student was making in class.
- C: The mother gave her son blunders.
- D: Everyone was happy with their blunders.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: obliged **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: When the author tells us about Kitty's mother it is said that "Unfortunately, she had recently become very sick and was obliged to lie in bed all day long." What does the word "obliged" mean in this sentence?

- A: thankful
- B: willing
- C: volunteer
- D: required

Question: Which of the following sentences is the word "obliged" best used in?

- A: The child was obliged to eat the ice cream.
- B: Mary felt obliged after getting off the school bus.
- C: The police officer was obliged to help the little girl who couldn't find her parents at the park.
- D: Henry's mother felt obliged to reward her son for his rude behavior.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: dressmaker **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author tells us in the story that "She had been a dressmaker ever since Kitty's father died, and had to work hard to earn a living for herself and Kitty." What does the word "dressmaker" mean in this sentence?

- A: seamstress
- B: bus driver
- C: model
- D: makeup artist

Question: Which sentence below describes the word "dressmaker" the best?

- A: The dressmaker was really excited to go to the dance.
- B: The dressmaker created and designed her daughter's dress for the dance.
- C: The dressmaker went to the grocery store for supplies.
- D: The dressmaker wanted to decorate the house for the holidays.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: hastily **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: After Kitty received the dollar from the gentleman, the author tells us that "Kitty was so surprised that she started hastily for home, forgetting all about the red apples until she stood in front of the store." What does the word "hastily" mean?

- A: perfectly
- B: slowly
- C: happily
- D: quickly

Question: Which of the sentences below describes the word "hastily" the best?

- A: The horse was tired after his long trip and hastily headed back home.
- B: The pizza made the boys hastily happy.
- C: Realizing she was late for school, the girl hastily got dressed and ran out the door.
- D: The painting was so perfect and detailed that it looked like the artist worked hastily on it.

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 - Kitty's Sick Mother

The author tells us of Kitty's sick mother and how well Kitty takes care of her every day. Do you think it is right for a child to be looking after an adult? What are some solutions you can think of to make their living situation better?

2 - Kitty Returns the Wallet

When Kitty sees the man in front of her drop his wallet, she returns it to him, but not without thinking about it first. Why was Kitty questioning herself whether or not to give the man his wallet back? What do you think you would have done if you had seen someone drop their wallet without realizing it?

3 - Kitty Gets an Apple

After the man witnesses the kind act of Kitty returning the gentleman's wallet, he decides that he wants to reward the girl as well. Do you think he felt obliged to give her the apple? What would you have done if you were him?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: After Kitty's mother listens to her story she asks her?What have we learned from this wonderful day? Respond to this question with what you think Kitty had learned from the events that happened that day. Also, would you have done anything differently than Kitty in the story? Your answers should be at least two paragraphs long each with at least one?example?from the passage.?

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