



A Lesson on My Summer by Daniela Valejo

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: reading, vocabulary,

Lesson Description: This lesson is designed to teach students reading and vocabulary comprehension as well as writing skills. Students will individually read the story to themselves and then the teacher will lead a class discussion of the story. Students will participate in the discussion, returning to the passage as many times as needed. After the discussion, students will individually complete the following questions.

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.RI.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.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

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.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

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.

My Summer

by

Content: My grandmother lives in Phoenix. It has been ten years since she moved there. I was only 2 years old when she left Chicago. She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold. She went to her doctor and he said that she could not stay in such a cold climate. She was sorry to leave because she had her family here and her friends. But soon she made more friends in Phoenix.

My mother goes to visit her in winter. I can't go because I have to be in school, but last summer I went for a long visit.

I traveled by plane to Phoenix. I had never been on an airplane before. It was very exciting. When we landed, the pilot said it was 110 degrees. I thought I had not heard him clearly. It had never been that hot in Chicago.

I got off the plane and saw my grandmother right away. We were both so happy I was there. She gave me a big long hug and then we went to get my suitcase. It took about 10 minutes to get it. I was worried that they had lost it, but then we saw it.

After that, we went outside. I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater. It was hotter than I had ever felt. It was 110 degrees.

We went to the bus stop and the bus came right away. I got on and was so glad it came so quickly. It was cool because it was air-conditioned. It took about 30 minutes for us to get to her block. I didn't mind the long ride because it was interesting to look outside the window. People had brown grass. It was all dried out. And they didn't have trees. They had really big cactus plants.

When we got off the bus, we had to walk three more blocks to her apartment. I became so hot again. I asked my grandmother, How can you live in such a hot place?

Oh, you get used to it, she said. It turned out that she was right. It took a few weeks, but I got used to the heat. But we stayed inside when it was hottest. We went out in the morning when it was cooler, and at night it even felt a little chilly.

I went home at the end of summer. My mother came to meet me at the airport. She picked up my suitcase, and then we got on the bus. She asked me all about my trip. I told her, You're lucky you don't go in summer. But it is always great to be with grandma. My mother said, I miss her a lot. Next time I'll go with you.

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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: Climate **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold" What does the word "climate" mean as used in the article?

- A: A season.
- B: The weather condition in a specific area.
- C: A time of day.
- D: A specific location

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

- A: The climate for today was very cold and windy.
 - B: The climate inside is much cooler than the climate outside.
 - C: I saw the news last night and the climate looks like it will be rainy.
 - D: The climate in Florida is much hotter than the climate in Chicago.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: "I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater." **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says "I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater." What does the phrase "being in a heater" mean in this sentence?

- A: It felt like she was cooking.
- B: The heater was turned on.
- C: She was not expecting the temperature to be so hot outside.
- D: The sun was the heater

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "heater" correctly?

- A: It is as hot as a heater in Florida today!
 - B: I left the heater turned on at home to keep the place warm.
 - C: The heater will keep the food warm until we get back.
 - D: I think the heater is broken because it is cold inside.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: "block" **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the word "block" mean in this sentence? "It took about 30 minutes for us to get to her block."

- A: The street where her grandmother lives.
- B: A shape.
- C: A large solid piece of hard material.
- D: A toy.

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

- A: Jamie dropped all the blocks on the floor.
 - B: I told the taxi he could drop me off on the next block.
 - C: I bought a block of cheese at the supermarket.
 - D: We used a block of wood for the fireplace.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: "chilly" **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: what does the word "chilly" mean in this sentence? "We went out in the morning when it was cooler, and at night it even felt a little chilly."

- A: Cool or cold.
- B: Uncomfortable.
- C: Hot.
- D: Unfriendly.

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

- A: She was acting a little chilly with me today after lunch.
 - B: The food got chilly since we didn't eat it right away.
 - C: It gets really chilly after the sun goes down.
 - D: Her hands were chilly.
- =====

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 - Time of year

The author says You're lucky you don't go in summer. But it is always great to be with grandma. Explain why you think she refers to her mother as lucky for not going during the summer time.?

2 - Different Plants

People had brown grass. It was all dried out. And they didn't have trees. They had really big cactus plants. Based on the article, why do you think the grass was brown and there were no trees? Explain your answer.?

3 - Climate Change

In the passage, the author says She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold. She went to her doctor and he said that she could not stay in such a cold climate. Why do you think her grandmother had to move to a warmer climate? Explain your answer.?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write a three paragraph essay describing a time you visited family or friends in a different place. Explain the differences you found with this location and the place you currently live in, and how the people you visited helped you during the trip. Relate your story to that of the child's in the passage above and be sure to use specific examples.?

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