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A Lesson on My Summer by Aina Thompson

Grade Level: Grade 7

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 30 minutes or less

Lesson Keywords: "My Summer" themes

Lesson Description: Analyze the major themes in the literature.

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.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

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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.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.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.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

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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.

My Summer

by

Content: My maternal grandmother resides in Phoenix, Arizona. It has been roughly ten years since she relocated there. In fact, I was only 2 years old when she moved from Chicago. It was necessary?

for her to move to a warmer climate, because the winters in Chicago were far too cold for her to handle. She made an appointment with her doctor, who told my grandmother that she could not remain in such a cold climate. My grandmother was extremely disappointed to leave Chicago, especially because her friends and family lived there. However, soon enough she was able to make several new friends in Phoenix. So she was content.?

My mother frequently visits her in wintertime, but unfortunately, I'm unable to go then since I have to be in school. This past summer, though, I went for a lengthy visit. I stayed for the summer. I had never been away from home more than a few days before.?

I traveled by plane to Phoenix, alone, even though I had never flown on an airplane before. My mother cried at the airport, but I was all smiles. What a trip. I smiled all the way. Once we landed, the pilot informed us that it was 110 degrees outside. I thought there was absolutely no way I had heard him clearly. It had never been nearly that hot in Chicago.??

I deplaned and immediately spotted my grandmother. We were both so thrilled that I had finally arrived. She gave me a big, long embrace before we went to retrieve my suitcase from the baggage claim. It took approximately 10 minutes to receive it, and I was getting increasingly worried that the airline had somehow lost my luggage. However, it eventually appeared at the top of the baggage carousel.?

Afterwards, we stepped outside, and I was simply astonished. It felt exactly like walking into a heater. It was hotter than I had ever felt: 110 degrees.??

We walked to the bus stop, and thankfully, the bus came instantly. I boarded the bus and was so relieved that it had come so quickly. Also, the bus was nice and cool since it was airconditioned. It took us nearly 30 minutes to arrive on my grandmother's block. I didn't mind the long ride, because it was very interesting to view the city outside the window. I noticed that residents had brown grass, most likely because it had all dried out from the heat. They didn't have trees, but they did have really large cactus plants.??

When we stepped off the bus, we had to walk an additional three blocks before making it to my grandmother's apartment. Once again, I felt extremely hot. I turned to my grandmother and asked her, How can you possibly live in such a hot place??

Oh, you get accustomed to it, she told me. We adapt. We change the way we organize our day. You'll see that most people are not out during the sunniest parts of the day. It turned out she was right about that. Although it took a few weeks, I finally adapted to the heat. However, we stayed indoors when it was hottest, and only ventured out in the cooler mornings. In the evenings, it actually felt a little chilly.?

When the summer came to an end, it was time for me to return back home. Yes, my second plane trip. I was sorry to leave my grandmother, and I promised I would return sooner than next summer. My cousin met me at the airport, and she retrieved my suitcase. We both climbed aboard the bus, where she inquired about my trip. I exclaimed, It is always wonderful to spend time with grandma, but next time I think I'll go back in winter. When we got home, I wrote a letter to my grandmother.?

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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: exclaimed **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author states "I exclaimed, It is always wonderful to spend time with grandma, but next time I think I'll go back in winter." What does the author mean in this sentence?

A: cry out suddenly

B: sing

C: whisper

D: sadness

Question: Select the correct use of the word in the following sentences

A: I exclaimed her hair.

B: The boys exclaimed that I was mean.

C: I wish for my parents to exclaim the rules.

D: She looked in the mirror, exclaiming in dismay at her messy hair.

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Q: 2 WordPhrase: exclaimed **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author states "I exclaimed, It is always wonderful to spend time with grandma, but next time I think I'll go back in winter." What does the author mean in this sentence?

A: cry out suddenly

B: sing

C: whisper

D: sadness

Question: Select the correct use of the word in the following sentences

A: I exclaimed her hair.

B: The boys exclaimed that I was mean.

C: I wish for my parents to exclaim the rules.

D: She looked in the mirror, exclaiming in dismay at her messy hair.

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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 - What did the author mean by "maternal grandmother"?

What did the author mean by maternal grandmother?

2 - What was the conflict in the story?

What was the conflict in the story and how does the author use this conflict to teach a moral lesson?

3 - What was the conflict in the story?

What was the conflict in the story and how does the author use this conflict to teach a moral lesson?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on Make sure to provide specific examples.