



## A Lesson on My Summer by Nicole Cashen

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour 30 minutes

**Lesson Keywords:** Summer, write, vocabulary

**Lesson Description:** The lesson has students read a passage and respond to questions. The students will be required to reread the passage in order to answer the discussion questions. The students will acquire new vocabulary through reading and re-reading. The students will have to think critically to answer the discussion questions. After reading the passage, the students will have to write about a second summer visit to the grandmother's. This will allow students to interact with the passage and write creatively.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

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.RL.3.6: Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

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.RI.3.6: Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3a: Establish a situation and introduce a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

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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 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:** traveled **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "I traveled by plane to Phoenix." What does the word "traveled" mean in this sentence?

- A: To take down.
- B: To get off of something.
- C: To go on a trip.
- D: To fall off.

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

- A: The father and his son travelled to Mexico.
  - B: Children travelled when they feel off of their bikes.
  - C: Chris sat on his chair and travelled.
  - D: Travelled to book and had a good time.
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**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** heater **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** "I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater." What does the word "heater" mean in the sentence?

- A: A machine that makes the air warm.
- B: A natural way of making the air cooler.
- C: A cup of ice-cream.
- D: A machine that has three blades.

**Question:** In which sentence below is the word "heater" used correctly?

- A: I had such a headache that I had to turn the heater on.
  - B: The heater kept me cold all night.
  - C: The heater helped me read the new book.
  - D: It was so cold outside that we had to turn the heater on.
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**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** climate **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** "She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold." What does the word "climate" mean in this sentence?

- A: To move to a new place
- B: Causing someone to laugh
- C: The average weather pattern of an area
- D: The feeling of happiness

**Question:** In which of the sentences below is the word "climate" used correctly?

- A: Can you hand me the climate?
  - B: The climate made me cry.
  - C: I jumped over the climate.
  - D: The climate in Florida is very hot.
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**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** cactus **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** "They had really big cactus plants. " What does the word "cactus" mean in this sentence?

- A: A palm tree.
- B: A plant that has spikes and grows in warm places.
- C: A plant that is very green and needs lots of water.
- D: An animal that grows very big.

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "cactus" correctly?

- A: The cactus has spikes so I have to be careful when playing near the plant.
  - B: The cactus ate a huge fly yesterday.
  - C: I love to play with my cactus.
  - D: The house has a cactus in the driveway.
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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 - Is it easy to move to a new place?

In the story they stated, She was sorry to leave because she had her family here and her friends. But soon she made more friends in Phoenix. Do you think it is easy or hard to move to a new place??

### 2 - Why was the boy worried?

The boys stated, 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. Why was he worried? Would you have been worried??

### 3 - "How can you live in such a hot place?"

The boy asked his grandmother, How can you live in such a hot place? How can his grandmother live in such a hot place? Can the boy live in such a hot place? Could you live in a hot place??

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** The mother said to the boy, Next time I'll go with you.?Write a two paragraph essay on how the summer visit with the grandmother, mother, and son goes. Make sure you include new vocabulary you learned from the passage.?

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