



A Lesson on The Big Game by Tindara Dinovo

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Writing, Mood of story, character details and descriptions.

Lesson Description: The students will learn reading skills, critical thinking skills, and reading comprehension skills. Students will break into groups of four to ask discussion questions. The goal is to have students understanding the moods and feeling of characters in the story and to connect with those feelings. The students will be able to identify with characters in stories and to see how writing can effect the mood of a story.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

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.RL.3.7: Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

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.

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 Big Game by

Content: It was Friday. The football game was Saturday and we were very excited. My brother was going to be the quarterback for our team. It was the first time he would be in that position. He had been hoping to be quarterback ever since he joined the team. He said, That's the big job. That's the one that makes the big difference.

My mother said, Be careful, son. That's the big target, too. You know the other players want to sack you. You can get hurt.

Dont worry; Im tough and Im fast. Plus, I have great players who will block them.

That night I couldnt sleep well. I worried about my brother. My mother was right. He could get hurt.

The next morning, he left early to get to the game. When we got there, it was about to start. The team ran out on the field. He looked great. He saw us and waved.

Then it started. They were playing hard. One player in particular from the other team kept rushing at him. Then it happened. He knocked my brother down. My brother was slow to get up. My mother was screaming. The coach ran out on the field. He told my brother to take some time on the bench. He was afraid he had been hurt.

My mother ran down to check on my brother. But all he did was smile. Its just a bruise. Im fine. And dont worry, Ill be back. This is great. I love leading the team.

My mother was so worried then, but my brother was right. He plays quarterback every Saturday. She cant go to the games. She just waits at home and hopes to see him walking in smiling.

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: Difference **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the brother mean by using the word difference in the sentence, "That's the big job. That's the one that makes the big difference."?

- A: distinctive quality
- B: the same as
- C: common
- D: disagreement in opinion

Question: Which sentence below uses the word "difference" correctly?

- A: We had a difference of opinions.
- B: If ever there was a time of one guy making a difference, this is it.
- C: There is a big difference in our culture, we live in the same city and grew up together.
- D: There is a difference in our hair color.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: rushing **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word rushing mean in the sentence: "One player in particular from the other team kept rushing at him."?

- A: To move slowly
- B: Attack or charge
- C: delayed
- D: To be patient

Question: Pick the best sentence below using the word "rushing"

- A: Tom was patiently rushing to wait in the lunch line.
- B: They seemed in no hurry, rushing to school.
- C: I was rushing to catch the bus before it left.
- D: The plane was over an hour late. So we were rushing to get to airport and wait there.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: "screaming" **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in the sentence states that, "My mother was screaming" What does the word screaming mean?

- A: A loud piercing cry from fear or pain.
- B: happiness
- C: quietly
- D: whisper

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

- A: The boy was screaming in pain when the car hit him.
- B: We entered the quiet library screaming, no one heard us.
- C: The funeral was very quiet and sad everyone was screaming and praying.
- D: We were happy to leave the crowded station we were screaming and walking.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: leading **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author of the story say, " I love leading the team." What does the word Leading in the sentence?

- A: ordinary
- B: last
- C: the head of
- D: unimportant

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

- A: The quarterback was leading his team to the state championship game.
- B: The game was tied, we were leading.
- C: The outfit was plain and dreary, leading in the best sold item category.
- D: Leading everyone the runner finish the race last.

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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 - That's the big target, too?

Why does the mother in the story say, That's the big target, too? Give two example why she might say this to her son?

2 - Which character are you?

Which character do you relate to more? The mother, the sister or the brother? Why?

3 - Who telling the story?

Who's telling the story? What is the main idea of the story?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on the mood of the story? Describe the brother? The sister? The mother? They don't have name in the stories create more detail about them. Did you every play sports? Did you or someone you know get hurt??.... Make sure to provide specific examples.

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