



A Lesson on The Astronaut's Diary by Sieara Voegtle

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary, and Common Core.

Lesson Description: In this lesson each student will read a brief excerpt from the work of an astronaut, their routine, and what responsibilities they have. In the short story students will gain knowledge on new vocabulary, once they complete the reading each student will answer a variety of questions aimed toward vocabulary and recalling events in the text. There will be three parts involved in the lesson: vocabulary comprehension, a discussion and/ or collaboration among peers, and a reflection of the text.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4a: Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1b: Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1c: Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.9a: Apply grade 4 Reading standards to literature (e.g., ?Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., a character?s thoughts, words, or actions].?).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4a: Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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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.

The Astronaut's Diary

by

Content: We were exhausted from all the work. We slept in shifts. One of us had to be awake all the time. There was so much work to do.

Finally, we got to our destination. We had reached the space station. There, we would do more work, but we would have less pressure. We had so much to do every day on our ship. Now there would be more people to help us. We would be on a collaborative team. We would be able to share the work.

When we moved into the space station, I felt great. There was so much more space. We would have real beds to sleep in. We would have better food. They had a garden on the space station. They grew vegetables.

The six astronauts on the space station were happy to see us. They said, We have been waiting for you. We were glad to see them, too. We had been worried. We heard that one of them had been sick.

We asked how she was feeling. She said she was better now. It had been a cold. We were relieved. We could stop worrying now.

That first night on the space station was great. We had good food. We had a good dinner. Then we were going to sleep. But one of the astronauts said, We need to give you a job. Each person has to take turns staying awake. Here is the schedule. So I had a shift again.

I saw I was first. I would have to stay awake tonight. I was disappointed. I felt fatigued. I had been awake and working for 20 hours. But I knew it was my duty. So I sighed and said, See you in the morning.

I became an astronaut so that I could travel in space. Now I'm here. It is hard work. It's even more challenging than I expected.

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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: Relieved **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the text the author uses the word "relieved", from what you have read and using previous practices with vocabulary. What do you believe would be another word for relieved?

A: Destroy

B: Ease

C: Stressful

D: None of the above

Question: Can you choose the sentence below that uses the word "relieved" correctly?

A: I relieved the ball from my possession.

B: I relieved the kids to lunch, but only when the bell rang.

C: I was so relieved when my teacher told me I passed.

D: All of the above

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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 and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - What was the purpose of sleeping shifts...

What was the purpose of sleeping shifts and?why was this required for the astronauts? Do you believe this technique was the best possible idea for the astronuat crew? Explain. Once you have submitted your answer make sure to respond to a minimum of 2 other classmates. Make sure your response is detailed and describes what you agree/ disagree with. Make sure to be nice and respectful!?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 word?essay on what you believe your journey as an astronaut would be like. Make sure to look back and re-read the text for examples and similar ideas. Along with the prompt I expect you to use the word relieved in your response, please underline it.?

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