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A Lesson on The Football Team by Racquel Skyers

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: lessonfarm.com

Lesson Description: Students will read a short story and answer the questions that follow.

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.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean).

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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.

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

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2b: Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.2c: Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because).

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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 Football Team

by

Content: A team is a group of people with a common goal. A schools football team has two goals. One goal is to win. That is what the team wants to do. The other goal is to build character. Character is what a person values, how a person relates to others. That is why schools have football teams. They want to help students build good values.

There are many character traits that a football player can develop. One is leadership. The quarterback of the team is a leader. The quarterback makes choices which play to make, who will get the ball. The quarterback has a big job. The quarterback has to inspire the players to work together. If they are losing, the quarterback has to work even harder, to give the players hope they still can win.

There is another leader, too. The leader of the defensive group. When the defensive group is playing, that means the team may lose points. So the leader has to keep the team members working together to stop that.

Each team member builds character. They learn to cooperate. They learn to make good decisions. They work hard. They practice every day. They learn to follow the rules. If a team member does not follow the rules, the entire team suffers.

Each team member has a position. Each position is part of winning. No one player has the ability to win the game for the team. Only if the team works together does a team win.

People often say, There is no I in TEAM.

Whether the team wins or loses, at the end of the game they congratulate the other team. That is called sportsmanship. While they fight to win during the game, it is just a game. They cannot be angry with the other team. If they are, they'll hear from their coach.

The coach makes sure the team reaches the schools goal. The coach cares about the whole team. The coach gives each player advice. When the team wins, everyone celebrates. And the coach is glad. But after the season is over, the coach is still happy. The coach gets to see the players as they go to school every day. The character they have built is part of their success in school, too.

Some coaches say that if you go into a classroom at their school you'll be able to tell the players. It is not that they are bigger than the other students. It is the ones who are helping other students work. Teamwork is part of their lives.

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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: inspire **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says "The quarterback has to inspire the players..." What does the word "inspire" mean in this sentence?

- A: discourage
- B: kick
- C: motivate
- D: chase

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

- A: A teacher has to inspire her students to do their best in school.
 - B: The dog inspired me all the way down the street.
 - C: The mouse had to inspire the cheese quickly.
 - D: Mary could not inspire the soccer ball into the net.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: goal **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "A team is a group of people with a common goal." What is the correct meaning of the word "goal" in this sentence?

- A: purpose
- B: score
- C: touchdown
- D: home run

Question: Which of the following sentences uses the word "goal" correctly?

- A: He punched the goal and was sent home.
 - B: I think the goal is broken.
 - C: The goal was still wet from the paint.
 - D: My goal is to climb to the top of the tallest mountain.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: quarterback **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the author in this story say a "quarterback" does?

- A: Gives money to the fans that cheer for the team.
- B: Dunks the ball into the basket.
- C: Hits the ball as hard as possible and runs.
- D: Makes choices and inspires the other players.

Question: In which sentence is the word "quarterback" used correctly?

- A: The quarterback told the players that they could win the game if they worked hard.
 - B: The quarterback gave me two dollars at the game last night.
 - C: The quarterback broke his arm trying to hit the ball with his bat.
 - D: The quarterback was swinging on the basketball hoop.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: sportsmanship **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In our story, what does the word "sportsmanship" mean?

- A: Yelling at your team for not playing well.
- B: Congratulating the other team, even if they lose.
- C: Sitting on the field and crying after they lose.
- D: Making fun of the other team after they win.

Question: Which of the following sentences uses the word "sportsmanship" correctly?

- A: Even though we lost, I showed good sportsmanship and congratulated the other team.
 - B: When we won the game, I showed good sportsmanship and laughed at the other team.
 - C: After losing the game, I screamed at my team for not winning and showed good sportsmanship.
 - D: When we lost the game, I stomped my feet and cried, proving that I had great sportsmanship.
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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 - Why is a quarterback a leader?

The author in our story says that The quarterback of the team is a leader. Explain why a quarterback of a football team can called be a leader.

2 - How do football players build character?

The author of or story says that one of the goals of a school's football team is to build character.? How do football players build character?

3 - How can a team show sportsmanship?

How can a football team show sportsmanship, both when they lose and when they win?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: In one paragraph, explain how you can build character.? Make sure to provide specific examples from the story.

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