



A Lesson on The Big Game by Megan Simon

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Writing, The Big Game

Lesson Description: This lesson's goal is to have students read and write critically. Students will be asked to read a short passage and respond in discussion questions that will require students to reread the passage. Students will also learn new vocabulary words through reading and rereading the passage. After reading the passage, students will also be asked to make their own ending to the story. This will engage the students in the story and have them think critically. Students will read the story of Little Pink Riding Hood. This lesson may be split into two days.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

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.RI.3.8: Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second/third in a sequence).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1b: Provide reasons that support the opinion.

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: Excited **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "The football game was Saturday and we were very excited." What does the word excited mean in this sentence?

- A: Scared
- B: Sad
- C: Hungry
- D: Happy

Question: What sentence below uses the word "excited" correctly?

- A: My dog was excited to get a bone.
- B: Joe sat down and ate his apple excited.
- C: Tommy hit me and my mom was excited.
- D: I was sick so I was excited.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Rushing **WordPhraseTier:** 2

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

- A: Yelling
- B: Running
- C: Looking
- D: Smiling

Question: What sentence uses the word "rushing" correctly?

- A: The movie was so scary Ben was rushing in class.
- B: My homework was late so I was rushing to get it done.
- C: I was rushing to make waves in the pool.
- D: Sally was so hungry she was rushing to the cafeteria.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Quarterback **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "He had been hoping to be quarterback ever since he joined the team." What does the word "quarterback" mean in this sentence?

- A: The mascot
- B: An important player
- C: Tired
- D: A slow runner

Question: Which sentence uses the word "quarterback" correctly?

- A: He was small, but he was a fast quarterback.
- B: Megan was a quarterback at lunch.
- C: Dan played quarterback at the park.
- D: A dog has a quarterback in his dog house.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Sack **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "You know the other players want to sack you." What does the word "sack" mean in this sentence?

- A: Hug
- B: Make fun of
- C: Push/shove
- D: Have fun with

Question: What sentence below uses the word "sack" correctly?

- A: Tommy is a strong player and will sack any runner on the other team.
- B: Annie brought her lunch in a sack.
- C: Molly takes a sack with her to trick or treat.
- D: Dylan was so tired he hit the sack.

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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 was the mother screaming?

Why was the mother screaming and then ran down to check on the brother?

2 - Why were they excited?

The football game was Saturday, why were the characters excited??

3 - Why couldn't the character sleep?

Why the night before the game could the one character not sleep well??

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: At the end of the reading passage it says, My mother was so worried then, but my brother was right. He plays quarterback every Saturday. She can't even go the games. Why do you think that the Mom can't go to any of the football games???What do you think will happen next in the story??You are to write 1-2 paragraphs on why the Mom can't go to the games and if you think maybe she will go to one ever and why or why not.?Please be detailed and try and use some of the new words you have learned this week in class.?

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