

DIGITAL AND PRINT

THEME UNIT

that digs deeper into

THEME

Lesson 8
Reading Response Two

Objective: Students will write a reading response to show their understanding of theme by supporting the theme with evidence from the text.

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.5.2 CCSS RL.6.2

Materials:

- Reader's notebooks and writing utensils.
- Reading response rubrics for each student

Lesson 4 WHY IS THEME

THEME ONE

- Bravery can be more crucial than intelligence of time.
- Strong friendships are crucial to our lives.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

1. Bravery can be more crucial than intelligence of time: Without this theme, we wouldn't have found the Sorcerer's Stone and wouldn't have faced Voldemort.
2. Strong friendships are crucial to our lives: Without this theme, Harry would have been alone. There would have probably been way less adventures.

THEME TWO

- Despite any struggles, our families can tell us who we are.
- The desire for power can take over all our choices.

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

- Despite any struggles, our families can tell us who we are: Without this theme, we wouldn't have known who we are. It's all about Percy learning who his family is, and that the desire for power can take over our choices: with this theme, there would have been no adventures because the lightning bolt wouldn't have been stolen.

THEME THREE

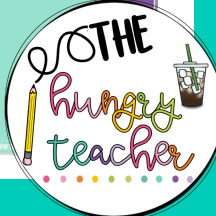
- Good things aren't always easy, but it can be worth it.

Holes

STUDENT NAME: _____		FINAL GRADE _____
READING RESPONSE RUBRIC		
Above Standard Level 4	At Standard Level 3	At Standard Level 2
Student identifies more than three different themes from the text.	Student identifies three different themes from the text.	Student identifies two different themes from the text.
Student supports more than three different themes from the text with a variety of details and evidence.	Student supports three different themes from the text with a variety of details and evidence.	Student supports two different themes from the text with a variety of details and evidence.
Student shows an understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.	Student shows an understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.	Student shows an understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.
Correctly used grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling with no errors.	Correctly used grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling with few errors.	Used grade level vocabulary.
Used varied vocabulary to enhance the text.	Used grade level vocabulary.	Used grade level vocabulary.
Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.	Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.	Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.

theme
LESSONS NOTEBOOK

4TH-8TH
common core



COMMON CORE ALIGNMENT FOR 4TH-8TH GRADE

common core standards

4TH GRADE

- RL.4.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text

5TH GRADE

Determine a theme of a story, drama or poem from details in the text; analyze how characters in a story or drama respond to events; analyze how a speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic;

6TH GRADE

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is developed through particular details; provide a summary of the text; analyze how an author uses rhetoric to present opinions or judgments.

Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres (e.g., literary and historical novels and fantasy stories) in terms of their similar themes and topics.

7TH GRADE

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

8TH GRADE

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.

Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, motifs, and character types from myths, traditional stories, and religious texts, such as the Bible, including describing how the work transforms the material.

MARTINA CAHILL – THE HUNGRY TEACHER

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TEN THEME LESSON PLANS

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them LESSONS NOTEB

Lesson 4 WHY IS T

THEME ONE

- Bravery can be more crucial than intelligence at time.
- Strong friendships are crucial to our lives.

- Bravery can be more crucial than intelligence of find the Sorcerer's Stone and wouldn't have fact
- Strong friendships are crucial to our lives: Without Ron. There would have probably been way less

THEME TWO

- Despite any struggles, our families can tell us who we are.
- The desire for power can take over all our choices.

Lesson 6 USING FAMILIAR BOOKS TO UNDERSTAND THEME

Book Title	Theme
EVIDENCE	EVIDENCE
Book Title	Theme
EVIDENCE	EVIDENCE
Book Title	Theme
EVIDENCE	EVIDENCE
Book Title	Theme
EVIDENCE	EVIDENCE

DATE: Type here

NOVEL: Type here

READING RESPONSE: Type here

STUDENT NAME: Type here FINAL SCORE/GRADE: Type here

READING RESPONSE RUBRIC

Above Standard Level 4	At Standard Level 3	Approaching Standard Level 2
Student identifies more than three different themes from the text.	Student identifies three different themes from the text.	Student identifies two different themes from the text.
Student supports more than three different themes from the text with a variety of details and evidence.	Student supports three different themes from the text with a variety of details and evidence.	Student supports three or less themes from the text with details and evidence.
Student shows an understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.	Student shows an understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.	Student shows some understanding of what theme is based on their reading response.
Correctly used grade-level vocabulary.	Correctly used grade-level vocabulary.	Correctly used grade-level vocabulary.
Used varied vocabulary to enhance the text.	Used grade level vocabulary.	Used grade level vocabulary.
Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.	Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.	Text is organized into a logical structure with similar points grouped into paragraphs.

TEACHER ANSWER KEY

1. Which of the following is the best theme for "Moving Day"?

- Growing up is hard.
- Friendship is the most important thing in life.
- Moving away is never easy.
- Home is where the heart is.

1. Based on your selection from question one, provide three supporting details of that theme from the text.

Answers will vary. Possible answers.

- Kelly doesn't want to leave her home at first.
- She can't stop thinking about all the things she is leaving behind at her old home in Kansas.
- "Karl would call it the new home, but it's not a home. They left their home back in Kansas."
- "It still doesn't feel the same as Kansas, but as Kelly thinks about the peace, and quiet, and the stars she can see outside her window, she realizes that maybe, just maybe, she can eventually call Colorado home."

1. Which would be a better title for the story based on its theme?

- Changes
- Home
- Colorado
- Kansas

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NOW 100% DIGITAL IN GOOGLE SLIDES

answer key

1. Which of the following is the best theme for Moving Day?

- A. Growing up is hard.
- B. Friendship is the most important thing in life.
- C. Moving away is never easy.
- D. Home is where the heart is.

D. Home is where the heart is.

• Based on your selection from question one, provide three supporting details of that theme in the text.

Answers will vary. Possible answers.

- Kelly doesn't want to leave her home at first.
- She can't stop thinking about all the things she is leaving behind at her old home in Kansas.
- "Kari would call me home back in Kansas."
- "It still doesn't feel like peace, and quiet, and quiet realizes that maybe home."

answer key

5. What are two other themes in Moving Day? Support your answers with evidence from the text.

Answers will vary. Possible answers.

- Growing up is hard
- Change are hard, but good things can come from them.
- Friendship come from unexpected places.
- Our family can be our home more than an actual house.

5. What are two other themes in "Moving Day"? Support your answers with evidence from the text.

"Four rooms!" Kari squeals. They both run up the stairs in and out of all four rooms. There are two huge rooms at the top of the stairs and Kari and Kelly each pick one.

"Maybe this won't be so bad," Kari thinks to herself, but she still isn't saying anything out loud.

"Girls! The moving truck is downstairs.

They spend the rest of the morning. Usually Kelly would be starting school in the morning. Usually Kelly would be starting school in the morning. Usually Kelly would be starting school in the morning. Usually Kelly would be starting school in the morning.

Feeling sorry for yourself, Kelly stops in the hallway, stopping point in unpacking. "It's my eyes for the second time today."

The next morning, while Kelly is getting ready, she notices someone here to see you."

6. What is the theme

Kelly finds this odd. "When I was a little girl, my dad always had a car in the garage standing in the kitchen. Kelly finds this odd. "When I was a little girl, my dad always had a car in the garage standing in the kitchen. Kelly finds this odd. "When I was a little girl, my dad always had a car in the garage standing in the kitchen.

The girl just laughs and says, "My dad's four wheeler. I live just down the street and eventually introduces her to the four wheeler."

The girls keep talking and laughing. They are in middle school. They are in middle school. They are in middle school. They are in middle school. They are in middle school. They are in middle school.

1. Which of the following is the best theme for Moving Day?

- A. Growing up is hard
- B. Friendship is the most important thing in life
- C. Moving away is never easy
- D. Home is where the heart is

1. Based on your selection from question one, provide three supporting details of that theme from the text.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Theme: Pre-Assessment

Read the following passage(s) and answer the questions on the next page(s).

Moving Day
By: Martina Cahill

Kelly stared out the window of the car. Sitting next to her was her sister, Kari, who seemed unaware that they were leaving the home they had grown up in. "I'm going to hate Colorado," Kelly thought.

Her parents kept telling her all the great things she would have to do when they moved, but it just sounded like an ugly, cold, and lonely place to live. Didn't her parents understand that they were ruining her life? She has to leave behind her friends, her school, and the home she has grown up in. It was horrible.

"Are we there yet?" Kari asks for what seemed like hundredth time. Kelly's mom told them it would be about a seven hour drive from Kansas, so Kelly knew they were still a few hours away, and she was tired, so she closed her eyes.

The next thing Kelly knew, she was opening her eyes to a truly beautiful sight. Huge snow covered mountains were all around her. Her mouth dropped open and her mother noticed. "I told you it was beautiful, Kelly."

Kelly had to agree, but she still didn't feel like talking to her mom, so she just kept her eyes on the mountains. Ten minutes later, after driving on curving and winding roads, they pulled onto a dirt road. "Just a couple more minutes," Kelly's dad says.

"Yeah, it's all right," Kelly says, looking out the window. "I've never seen anything like this before. It's beautiful." "It's not a home, but it's not a home. They left their home back in Kansas. Just like they left her friends, her school, and her whole life.

They pull into their driveway and they all get out of the car. "The moving truck will be here soon with all our stuff. Until then, why don't you girls go pick out your rooms. They are four for you to choose from," dad says as he unlocks the front door.

COMPLETE PRE AND POST ASSESSMENT WITH ANSWER KEYS AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS

Lesson 1

Objective:

Standards:

Materials:

Mini-Lesson:

PRE-ASSESSMENT

Lesson 2

Objective: Students will use their p...

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.4.4

Materials:

- Chart paper and chart markers
- Reader's Notebooks
- Copy of Interactive Reader
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Mini-Lesson

1. Explain to students that they will be learning more about the theme.
2. Begin by passing out...

Lesson 3

Objective: Students will use their p...

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.4.4

Materials:

- Chart paper
- Reader's Notebooks
- Copy of Interactive Reader
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers
- Books to read

Mini-Lesson

1. Explain to students that they will be learning more about the theme.
2. Start by passing out...
3. To...

WHAT IS

Lesson 4

Objective: Students will use their p...

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2

Materials:

- Chart paper
- Reader's Notebooks
- "Why is there..."
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, crayons

Mini-Lesson: 1. Explain to s...

Lesson 5

Objective: Students will write a reading response to show their understanding of theme by supporting the theme with evidence from the text.

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.5.2 CCSS RL.6.2 CCSS RL.7.2 CCSS RL.8.2 CCSS RL.8.9

Materials:

- Reader's notebooks and writing utensils.
- A way for you to show your reading response as you model it.
 - o This could be on your whiteboard, projector, chart paper, etc.

Background Information

During reader's workshop I have my students write one reading response per week, and that was the inspiration for the reading response lessons. Students have great thinking while they are reading and reading responses are the perfect (and simplest) way for them to showcase their thinking.

On that same note, (from experience) the first reading responses students attempt can be... well... discouraging (to say the least). Don't worry though, they will get better as you provide feedback and continue to model good reading responses.

READING RESPONSE ONE

the class for their first reading response. They will work independently on their own. This is what you will be doing in this...

Lesson 7

DIGGING

Objective: Stud...

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2

Materials:

- Chart paper
- Reader's Notebooks
- Copy of Interactive Reader
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers
- Books to read

Mini-Lesson:

1. Explain to students that they will be learning more about the theme.
2. Explain to students that they will be learning more about the theme.
3. Hand out...
4. ...

Lesson 8

Objective: Students will write a reading response to show their understanding of theme by supporting the theme with evidence from the text.

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.5.2 CCSS RL.6.2 CCSS RL.7.2 CCSS RL.8.2 CCSS RL.8.9

Materials:

- Reader's Notebooks
- Reading responses
- Scissors
- Glue

Mini-Lesson:

1. Today is the day we will be learning about the theme.
2. Your teaching time will be used to...
3. On a whiteboard, write the theme and have students share their thoughts about the theme.
4. Allow students to share their thoughts about the theme.
5. After the brain response, have students write their own reading responses.
6. ...
7. ...

Closing:

1. Allow students to share some of their reading responses. Other students could give them a feedback or response.

Lesson 9

CULMINATING ACTIVITY

Objective: Students will show what they know about theme.

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.5.2 CCSS RL.6.2 CCSS RL.7.2 CCSS RL.8.2 CCSS RL.8.9

Materials:

- Chart paper and markers
- Interactive notebook
- Reader's Notebooks
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, crayons

Mini-Lesson:

1. Explain to students that they will be learning about the theme.
2. This will help them to complete the...
3. Explain to students that they will be learning about the theme.
4. Depending on the time, have students complete their...
5. Show them that what you are doing is what they want, but with components...
6. ...
7. ...

Lesson 10

POST-ASSESSMENT

Objective: Students will show what they know about theme.

Standards: CCSS RL.4.2 CCSS RL.5.2 CCSS RL.6.2 CCSS RL.7.2 CCSS RL.8.2 CCSS RL.8.9

Materials:

- Copies of Post-Assessment for each student.
- Pre-Assessment with goal and reflection page for each student (should already be partially filled out from the pre-assessment).

Mini-Lesson

1. Explain to students that they are going to show what they have learned about theme throughout the unit. They will be taking the exact same test that they took for their pre-test. This will show them and you how much they have grown on the topic of theme.
2. When they are done with their post assessment, they will fill out their theme reflection sheet. (This can be found on page 6 of the unit and was filled out after they took their pre-assessment).
3. Pass out the post-assessments to students and explain to them that they will have the class period to take their assessment and fill out their reflection.
4. Explain that you will give them their goal and reflection page after their post-assessment.

Closing:

1. Student's should turn in their goal/reflection sheets and post-assessments by the end of the class period.

10 UNIQUE LESSON PLANS

THEME TOPICS IN LITERATURE

- Acceptance
- Adoption
- Ambition
- Apathy
- Art
- Beauty
- Betrayal
- Birth
- Bravery
- Change
- Community
- Cooperation
- Courage
- Creativity
- Culture
- Death
- Discovery
- Divorce
- Justice
- Kindness

THEME STATEMENTS

- Human beings are always searching

USING FAMILIAR BOOKS TO UNDERSTAND THEME

DIGGING DEEPER INTO THEME

BOOK

THEME 1

WHY IS THEME IMPORTANT ?

Theme:

Themes in book

Theme One

(glue this section

Book One

THEME 2

THEME

K

W

L

← Cut along dotted line

← Fold along solid vertical line

Theme 2

Theme 3

ALL ABOUT THEME



INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK LESSONS

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK

Theme: KV

Know:

- Sometimes parties have
- Theme can
- Sometimes one theme

Want to know:

- What
- Why do
- Know

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK

Theme:

Is: the moral of the story the story teaches us

Is Not: The topic or the

Themes in books my classmates and

Bravery
love
hate
family
courage
friendship
Sharing
Siblings
happiness
Youth

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

Why Theme is IMPORTANT

Book One Harry Potter

Theme One

These books would be way less interesting if the author didn't put a theme into the story

If you are teaching themes state

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

Bravery - Without this theme, Harry wouldn't have tried to find the Sorcerer's Stone and wouldn't have faced Voldemort.

Friendship - Without this theme, Harry would have never met Hermione & Ron. There would be way less adventures!

Family - Without this theme, this novel would have almost been non-existent. It's all about Percy learning who his family is, and therefore, who he is.

Power - Without this theme, there wouldn't have been a quest or adventures because the "horning" both wouldn't

This theme, Stanley to camp, made of the lessons he did. Theme, the book me awesome

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

Harry and how he deals with Malfoy.

Newt stands up to Ron, Harry and Hermione when they speak the magic words.

"It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies when they don't deserve it."

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

Friendship

One of the themes in Harry Potter is definitely friendship. Without the generosity of meeting Harry, the little bravery i

Good vs. Evil

Good vs. Evil. The best convinced Harry re Harry K want

Love in Harry's parent

INTERACT

Harry and the Sorcerer Stone

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK

Deeper Into The Theme and the Sorcerer Stone

• Percy and when h

• Anna get all of w

• Percy a meets

• Stanley won't

• Stanley other

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK EXAMPLE

All About Theme

Some Common Themes

Love
Friendship
Change
Power
Justice
Good vs. Evil
Family
Hate
Courage
Bravery
Friendship
Love
Power
Change

The of the Story.

THEME

Theme is the moral or lesson of the story.

Harry Potter

Bravery Friendship Love

Good vs. Evil Power Change

and a bit of Unhappiness

UPDATE

If you are teaching themes statements here, I have added updates to what the theme statements could be for each novel.

UPDATE

If you are teaching here, I have added updates to what the theme statements could be for each example.

Love is one of the most powerful things in the world.

INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK LESSON EXAMPLES

the hungry teacher newsletter

CCSS LITERATURE

READING UNIT

exclusive 3 lesson freebie

BE THE FIRST TO KNOW ABOUT NEW RESOURCES,
NEW BLOG POSTS, AND GET EXCLUSIVE FREEBIES,
LIKE THIS SENT STRAIGHT TO YOUR INBOX.

Objective I can determine the meaning of words in a text, including figurative language.

Meaning While you are reading, you will see many figurative words. The most important part of a text is to make sense of what the figurative words mean.

"Myra's head is as empty as a flower pot." -Holes

Objective I can quote accurately from the text, with help from my reading.

Meaning While you are reading, you will make inferences. You use what you already know (your schema) and evidence from the book to make a conclusion.

Lesson 17
Genre: Structures

Objective I can analyze how a particular sentence or chapter fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.

Meaning Authors have what is called an author's craft. Author's crafts are the parts of the story that make up the structure and author's use these to develop their stories: theme, setting, or plot.

TEXT SECTIONS

Epilogue A section or speech at the end of a book or play that serves as a comment on or a conclusion to what has happened.	Foreword A short introduction to a book, typically a person other than the author.	Synopsis An outline of the plot of a book, play, movie, or episode of a television show. On the back of books or inside the cover.
---	--	--

Genre examples:
Number the Stars
Diary of Anne Frank
Back of books

AUTHOR'S CRAFT

SYNTAX The process by which the writer reveals the personality of a character.	PARALLEL STRUCTURE Authors use parallel structure between paragraphs to show passage in time.
ASSONANCE The repetition of vowel sounds in nearby words. It's used to reinforce the meaning of words or to set the mood.	IMAGERY Visually descriptive or figurative language to help readers visualize.
FORESHADOWING A warning or indication of a future event.	FLASHBACK A scene in a book set in time earlier than the main story; Holes.

three free LESSONS

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