

Instructional Overview

Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell

By: Tom L. Matthews

Grade Level: 6 / Guided Reading Level: X

Book Club

Instructional Focus:

Analyzing the Features of Nonfiction Text

Background:

Analyzing the features in a text is an important skill for readers to master as they develop into critical thinkers. First, students must learn to identify the features the author chose to include to support his or her text. Then, they must consider how the features contribute to the development of the ideas in the text in order to determine why the author included these features.

In this high interest photobiography, *Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* by Tom L. Matthews, students will examine and analyze the author's choice to include multiple nonfiction text features such as photographs, captions, invention drawings, and more as they seek to gain a deeper understand Bell's life and work.

Instructional Overview:

Meeting #1

Set Expectations for Book Club and Introduce Analyzing the Features of Nonfiction Text

Meeting #2

Exploring How Nonfiction Text Features Help Develop Ideas

Meeting #3

Reflecting on the Role of Nonfiction Text Features in Developing Ideas in a Text

Instructional Focus

Description of the Instructional Focus

List of Book Club Meetings and the Instructional Focus for Each Meeting

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Materials and Preparation:

- Determine which students will participate in *Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* Book Club (4-6 students)
- Gather copies of *Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell* by Tom L. Matthews (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Book Club Calendar (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Expectations for Book Club (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Book Club Reading Response Board (1 per student)
- Prepare Reader's Notebooks (1 per student)
 - These may be spiral notebooks or several sheets of lined paper stapled together, or bound in a folder.
- List It! Find It! Activity
- Identifying Features of Nonfiction Text graphic organizer
- Analyzing Features of Nonfiction Text graphic organizer
- Chart Paper and Markers
- Extra! Extra! Read All About It! Biographical Newspaper Article Culminating Activity
- Definition and examples of theme on chart paper or iPad
- Optional: Prepare Vocabulary Resources (1 set per student)
- Optional: Prepare Student Self-Evaluation Forms (1 per student per meeting)
- Optional: Prepare Assessment Resources (1 set per student)

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