

Instructional Overview

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library
By: Chris Grabenstein
Grade Level: 5 / Guided Reading Level: V

Book Club

Instructional Focus:
Making Inferences

Background:
Strong readers make inferences to better understand a story's characters, determine a story's theme, and draw conclusions. In order to make logical inferences, the reader must combine clues in the dialogue, actions, events, and settings with their prior knowledge (schema) to "read between the lines" and determine what the author does not directly state.

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library is an ideal choice for a Book Club focused on making inferences for several reasons. First, it contains many "mini mysteries" which require the reader to make inferences in order to solve. Secondly, readers will need to use inferencing to discover the ways that the characters grow and change throughout this text, and last, making inferences will allow the reader to discover the text's themes of anti-bullying and the importance of friendship and teamwork.

Instructional Overview:

Meeting #1
Introduce Making Inferences

Meeting #2 (Chapters 2 – 11)
Making Inferences about the Setting

Meeting #3 (Chapters 12 – 21)
Understanding Characters by Making Inferences

Meeting #4 (Chapters 22 – 30)
Citing the Text to Support Inferences

Meeting #5 (Chapters 31 – 39)
Inferring the Author's Purpose

Meeting #6 (Chapters 40 – 50)
Making Inferences to Solve Mysteries (Drawing Conclusions)

Final Meeting (Chapters 51 – 56)
Reflecting on How Inferencing Deepens Text Comprehension

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Instructional Focus



Description of the Instructional Focus



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



List of Materials and Preparation



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Materials and Preparation:

- Determine which students will participate in the *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* Book Club (4-6 students)
- Gather copies of *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein (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.
- Prepare Example Emojis (1 per group)
- Prepare Making Inferences anchor chart (1 per student)
- Prepare Looking for Clues graphic organizer (1 per student)
- Prepare Character Growth graphic organizer (1 per student)
- Prepare Making Inferences Sentence Starters anchor chart and bookmark (1 per student)
- Prepare Solving the Mystery graphic organizer (1 per student)
- 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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