

Instructional Overview

Book Club

Fantastic Mr. Fox

By: Roald Dahl

Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: P

Instructional Focus:

Character Traits

Background:

Authors paint a vivid picture of their characters in the reader's mind by using a variety of means. Descriptive adjectives, dialogue, and actions all help to bring each character's personality to life. It is important to teach readers how to identify a character's traits in order to better understand why a character acts a certain way and to discover how their traits contribute to the outcome of the story.

Fantastic Mr. Fox has an array of richly described characters, both in word and in action. Students will practice identifying a character's traits and use those traits to explain the character's actions and the story's outcome.

Instructional Overview:

Meeting #1

Set Expectations for Book Club and Introduce Character Traits

Meeting #2 (Chapters 1-4)

Describe a Character's Physical Traits (Outside Traits)

Meeting #3 (Chapters 5-8)

Identify a Character's Personality Traits (Inside Traits) Using Dialogue

Meeting #4 (Chapters 9-11)

Identify a Character's Personality Traits (Inside Traits) Using Actions

Meeting #5 (Chapters 12-15)

Identify Major and Minor Characters

Meeting #6 (Chapters 16-18)

Explain How a Character's Traits Affect the Outcome of the Story

Instructional Focus

Description of the
Instructional Focus

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

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Book Club

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Materials and Preparation:

- ☐ Determine which students will participate in the *Fantastic Mr. Fox* Book Club (4-6 students)
- ☐ Gather copies of *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl (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 Character Trait Puzzle (1 per student)
- ☐ Prepare They Said What? Sheet (1 per student)
- ☐ Definition and examples of Character Traits 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)

List of Materials and Preparation

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