

# Instructional Overview

**I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912**  
By: Lauren Tarshis  
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: Q

**Book Club**

**Instructional Focus for Fiction:**  
Sequence of events, including flashbacks; major/minor conflicts and resolution.

**Instructional Focus for Nonfiction (Informational Text):**  
Charts and Graphs

**Background:**  
Sequence of events refers to the order in which events occur in text. A standard plot is developed through the following series of events:

- conflict
- rising action
- climax
- resolution

Instructional Focus



Description of the Instructional Focus



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**Instructional Overview:**

**Meeting #1**  
Set Expectations for Book Club  
Share Facts About The Titanic and Introduce Tracking Sequence of Events

**Meeting #2** (Chapters 1–4)  
Sequence of Events and Flashbacks

**Meeting #3** (Chapters 5–8)  
Sorting Out the Sequence of Events in a Story

**Meeting #4** (Chapters 9–12)  
Major and Minor Conflicts in the Sequence of Events

**Meeting #5** (Chapters 13–16)  
Climax and Resolution as Part of a Sequence of Events in Fiction

**Cumulative Activity**  
Using Charts and Graphs to Support Information in a Text

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



List of Materials and Preparation



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**Book Club**

**Materials and Preparation:**

- Determine which students will participate in the **I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912** Book Club (4-6 students)
- Gather copies of **I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912** by Lauren Tarshis (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 Chart Paper (for KWL on the Titanic)
- Story Line Graph (1 per student)
- Titanic Infographic (1 per student)
- Titanic chart showing the size of the ship and the levels of the ship (1 per student)
- A map of the North Atlantic (use to track the Titanic's planned route)
- 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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