Book Club

Poppy
By: Avi
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: S

Instructional Focus:

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

Background:

In literature, the central idea, or subject, that is being written about is the theme of the text. The theme is often repeated throughout the story and the author can choose to state it directly or indirectly. Additionally, a text can have multiple themes.

Themes help to organize the story and provide the reader with something to think about and learn from as they follow the characters throughout the text. As readers are able to sustain comprehension across longer texts, they will begin to be able to identify the theme of the story and notice how the author develops the theme through the characters' dialogue and actions, and the other story elements.

Instructional Overview:

Meeting #1

Introduce Theme

Meetings #2

(Chapters 1 – 4) Summarizing the Text

Meeting #3

(Chapters 5 – 8) Tracking Examples of Fear and Courage in the Text

Meeting #4

(Chapters 9 – 12) How do the Characters Develop the Theme

Meeting #5

(Chapters 13 – 16) How do the Other Story Elements Support/Develop the Theme

Meeting #6

(Chapters 17 – 20) How is the Theme Conveyed Throughout the Story

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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 *Poppy* Book Club (4-6 students)

❑ Gather copies of *Poppy* by Avi (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.

❑ "Somebody Wanted But So Then" Graphic Organizer

❑ "Tracking Fear and Courage" Graphic Organizer

❑ Compass score card for "Where Am I?" Game

❑ 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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