



Reading Reinforcement 3-4 Syllabus

Course Goals

1 Genre Awareness

Students explore a variety of genres of literature by discussing, analyzing, and writing about their different conventions.

2 Active Reading Strategies

Students learn how to identify rhetorical strategies, literary devices, and broader themes in different forms of writing.

3 Writing after Reading

Students practice modes of writing (including summarizing, reviewing, and analyzing) that enhance reading comprehension.

Course Topics

1 Fairy Tales

Students identify common themes and analyze differences across different versions of classic tales.

2 Journalism

Students read and analyze newspaper articles and then learn how to create their own.

3 Non-Fiction

Students learn how to analyze informative and biographical pieces.

4 Frontier Fiction

Students discover how fiction can offer a window into American history.

5 Fantasy

Students read fantasy selections and create their own fantasy world.

6 Book Review

Students identify the purposes and methods of reviewing.

7 Comics

Students read comic strips and practice creating their own.

8 Poetry

Students learn how to analyze poetry and then write various types of poems.

9 Fables

Students learn through reading and writing how fables are used to convey moral lessons.

10 Tall Tales

Students explore the concept of hyperbole through reading tall tales.

Course Schedule

Day 1

Introduction to Course

Students introduce and receive an overview of the class.

Matilda

Students read excerpts from Matilda by Roald Dahl and show their comprehension of the material.

Summarization

Students practice summarizing the excerpts of Matilda that they read.

The Trumpet of the Swan

Students read an excerpt of The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White and discuss it as a class.

Day 2

Review

Students discuss the readings they did the previous day and discuss themes.

Informative Non-Fiction

Students discuss an informative reading and build their vocabulary.

Biography

Students read and discuss a biography of Theodore Roosevelt, then they write part of an autobiography.

Day 3

Historical Fiction

Students read and analyze an historical fiction selection and practice writing in that genre.

Print Media

Students compare and contrast what they have read so far with periodicals, particularly news stories.

Day 4

Opinion Pieces

Students read opinion pieces and write their own about an opinion they have.

Book Reviews

Students read examples of book reviews and then write their own.

Day 5

Comics

Students discuss the role of comics and how they are designed, then they create their own.

Newspaper Creation

Students use the news pieces and comic strips they created to make a newspaper page.

Day 6

Poetry Discussion

Students identify and discuss stylistic aspects of several poems

Writing Poetry

Students write poems after having read examples earlier in the day.

Day 7

Introduction to Folklore

Students learn the various types of written folklore that they will read over the next few days.

Aesop's Fables

Students read and discuss Aesop's fables and then write their own.

Kipling's Fables

Students read and discuss fables by Kipling, then compare and contrast them with Aesop's fables.

Day 8

Redwall

Students begin to read the story, Redwall, and discuss imagery and the use of description.

Tall Tales

Students read and discuss tall tales, while identifying instances of hyperbole.

Day 9

Pippi Longstocking

Students read and discuss excerpts of the story, Pippi Longstocking.

Fairy Tales

Students read and discuss several fairy tales while identifying common themes.

Day 10

Fantasy

Students read and discuss works of fantasy including the worlds the reading selections take place in.

Fantasy World

Students create their own fantasy world, then discuss all the material they have covered over the session.

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