
Language Arts - Grade 5/6

TOPIC: Reading/Writing -- Making Judgments

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES: The skills for this activity focus on reading for information, understanding written material, organizing information in a variety of ways and writing for specific purposes.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Students at this level are learning to become flexible in the use of a range of reading and thinking skills to construct and extend meaning from text. These activities develop opportunities to discuss, and extend thinking about text. Before reading the poem, share any situations where you have made judgments, right or wrong, based on personal experiences.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Read the poem "Read Between the Lines".
2. Discuss, with a parent or friend, what the poem is about and why the author chose to call the poem, "Read Between the Lines".
3. Brainstorm instances of judgments being made in the poem and locate them in the text.
4. Prepare a written response to the poem. You may use prompts such as:

What does this poem make you think about?

What feelings did you experience?

I think the author wrote this because

When _____, I felt

5. Share your response with a friend.

Read Between The Lines

The little boy and little girl
Were playing "family."
He was the "daddy" and went to "work,"
She did "housework" for "free."
They did the jobs they learned from books,
From pictures that they read.
Pictures which showed what each parent did,
And that's what went on in their heads.

The teacher read a fairy tale
About a girl asleep.
"Her wicked stepmother cast a spell
Which made her sleep real deep."
Little Sally went home that night,
Afraid of what she might find.
Will her dad's new wife put her under a spell?
Was she the wicked kind?

For someone forgot to teach one little thing
A lesson for all little minds.
"Don't believe every word you read,
Think before the ideas you heed,
For even a weed grows from one little seed,
And read between the lines, yes always,
Read between the lines."

Jimmy read couple tales 'bout
Blind men in the town.
The blind men were poor beggar men,
Whose lives were always down.
Now Jimmy hadn't ever met
Someone who couldn't see.
He began to think how horrible
A blind man's life must be!

For someone forgot to teach one little thing
A lesson for all little minds.
"Don't believe every word you read,
Think before the ideas you heed,
For even a weed grows from one little seed,

Read Between The Lines (cont'd)

And read between the lines, yes always,
Read between the lines.”

Now boys and girls remember that
To read's a wonderful thing.
Books open your mind to the world
And ideas that they bring.
But take care that you don't forget
That all you read's not true.
Like all ideas in your head –
When reading, think them through.

For someone forgot to teach one little thing
A lesson for all little minds.
“Don't believe every word you read,
Think before the ideas you heed,
For even a weed grows from one little seed,
And read between the lines, yes always,
Read between the lines.”

Language Arts - Grade 5

TOPIC:

Advertisements

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES:

- Reading for information
- Understanding written material
- Organizing information in a variety of ways
- Writing for specific purposes
- Creating illustrations that support written work

INSTRUCTIONS:

Help your child locate the Classified section of the newspaper.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Cut out five advertisements from the classified section.
2. List words from the advertisements that are used to persuade people to buy the product.
3. Think of a product you want to advertise and the audience for this product.
4. Brainstorm a list of other persuasive words that may pertain to this product. Use a thesaurus to help you.
5. Choose the strongest words and create your own advertisement.
6. Ask someone to edit your work.
7. Illustrate your advertisement.
8. Share you advertisement with family and friends.

Language Arts - Grade 5

TOPIC: Television Review

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES:

- Viewing and analysing media
- Organizing information in a variety of ways
- Writing for specific purposes

INSTRUCTIONS:

Help your child select two appropriate television shows.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Watch two television sitcoms or family shows and make a chart to organize your thoughts about the show. Use the following categories: Actors/Actresses, Performance, Setting, Story Line, Dialogue and Overall Effect. Rate each category using a scale of: Poor Fair Good Excellent
2. Create a tally of the number of check marks in the good and excellent columns for each show.
3. Using the information from your tally which show was the best? How do you know this?
4. Do you feel that some of the elements are more important than others? Why? If so, do you agree with your tally? Explain.

