

Wonder: Activity Plan 3

Reading Skill:

2h. Content Domain Focus: Make comparisons within the text.

I can compare elements within the text.

I can make inferences from evidence in the text.

Vocabulary and Key Phrases:

Padawan, recess, homeroom, chalkboard, precept, plaque, graham crackers, cleft palate, saltine cracker, mac and cheese, cool beans, Darth Sideous, Wookiee

Prior Learning: Children will have read p. 15-42.

Reading Task: Read p. 43-65.

Reading Questions

p. 43-44 'Lamb to the Slaughter', p. 51-53 'The Summer Table'

p. 43. Ms Petosa calls August 'honey'. Where have you heard this kind of language before in the book? What do you think of Ms Petosa calling him this - he's 11?

p. 43. Julian interrupts Ms Petosa to ask August a question. Do you think Julian's interested in the answer? What does this tell you about Julian?

p. 44. Why does Ms Petosa move the conversation on? Do you think she realises what's going on? How do you know?

p. 44. How is August sure that Julian was being insulting?

p. 52. What does Summer think of Ms Petosa? What do you think August might think of her?

p. 44 & 53. On the very last lines of these pages, there's a similarity or a contrast. Do you notice it?

Deeper Reading:

p. 43 & 51. Compare August's feelings introducing himself to Ms Petosa and Summer and their reactions. What is the same and what is different?

p. 43 & 51. Compare what happens just after August introduces himself to Ms Petosa and Summer. Who is in control in each of the situations?

Related Activities

Punctuation and Grammar: Using the **Wonderfully Varied Sentences** sheet, children convert simple sentence paragraphs to mixed simple, compound and complex paragraphs. Then they will convert purely complex paragraph to a mixed one, with speech.

Challenge! Children write an imagined conversation taking place on another table in the lunch room, including a range of sentence types, speech and action/description.

Vocabulary: Using the **US Vocabulary** sheet, children match up US vocabulary with definitions, play a matching pairs card game and create short fact files for either 5 states of the USA (with interesting names) or 5 minor characters from Star Wars.

Challenge! Children research and create a glossary for typical American foods.

Comprehension: Children reread p. 54-56. Using the **Comparing Mom, Dad and August** sheet, they compare August and his mum's reactions to his first day at school. Others read p. 57-60 and compare his mum and dad's reactions.

Challenge! Children watch one of the **Augie Doggie and Doggie Daddy** episodes on the Internet. They explore how this cartoon and the characters are used by August and his dad in their relationship.

Precepts: Children reread p. 65. Using the **Precept Choice Cards** and **Precept Activity Sheet**, they choose a 'precept' and write a postcard about what it means and/or how they feel about it.

Challenge! Children explain in detail how August's paragraph about the precept on p. 65 represents him, his life and the book so far. They use incidents from the book and what they know of August's character and that of his family to back up their opinions.

Comparing Teachers: Children reread p. 45-48. They complete a table of evidence and inferred character of Mr Browne on the **Comparing Teachers sheet**. Others refer to p. 37-42 and compare Mr Browne & Mrs Petosa's characters, using evidence from the text.

Challenge! Children write two separate classroom scenes with contrasting teachers, where their actions clearly illustrate the character traits they have decided on beforehand.

Compare: Children reread p. 61-63. They compare the events and atmosphere of the two chapters, September and Jack Will. They talk to a partner about the difference between the two chapters in terms of how August feels and how they might feel. No recording.

Challenge! Children draft and rehearse a two-minute speech that explores the differences between the chapters, September and Jack Will. They are to be prepared to give the speech to a group if asked.