

Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 4th

Subject: Language Arts - Reading

Written by: Alexis Reich

Overview & Purpose: The following lesson delves into the richness of literature through age appropriate reading books with a goal to build vocabulary, enhance behavioral awareness and promote an interest in reading.

	Teacher Guide	
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will embrace a deeper interest in reading • Students will build vocabulary through the understanding of keywords in reading • Students will engage in spoken English through guided discussion with teacher • Students will engage in interactive discussion and brainstorming during a group activity • Students will identify the tools of a spy and the expression of their findings • Students will be introduced to journal writing 	Materials Needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster paper - white • Color Markers • Reading book: "Harriet the Spy" by Louise Fitzhugh • Small notebooks for journal writing. • DVD "Harriet the Spy"
Instruction	<p>Teacher will introduce the reading book, "Harriet the Spy" which is exactly on the fourth grade reading level. The teacher will summarize that Harriet loves to spy on her friends and then write about them in a journal. Teacher writes keywords on the white board such as "spy", "journal", "investigate" and "findings". This is all done in word web format – a keyword in a circle with extending lines or rays with more words that describe the keyword. The teacher is constantly brainstorming with the students who will provide the teacher with information for the word web.</p> <p>Teacher now encourages discussion with questions such as, "How many of you would love to be a spy?" "What does a spy or a private detective do?" "What tools does a spy need? (Examples: telescope, mini-camera, recording devices)" "How does a spy write down their findings?" "Have you ever spied on your friends?"</p>	Cross Curricular Enhancement (Drama) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film: "Harriet the Spy" 1996 starring Michelle Trachtenberg <i>Paramount Pictures</i>
Activity	<p>The teacher places students in four groups of five students each. The students are presented with one large piece of poster paper and an assortment of color markers. The students are asked to brainstorm together on ways they would be a good spy and produce great news stories with the information. The teacher will demonstrate how to draw a perfect square with one diagonal line to create a category of the tools needed to spy and another category for ideas of the written findings as a result of the investigation.</p> <p>Teacher asks students: "Ok boys and girls, you are spies. What kind of tools will you need to spy on your subject? Remember all that we discussed? What did you see when you spied on your subject? On the left side of your large paper, draw pictures of all the tools you need to spy. On the right side of your paper, draw all the things you saw and found out about the person you spied on. Work with your group friends using the color markers. Be sure everyone contributes. I will be coming around to listen to your discussions and see your great work. At the end, you will present your work to the rest of the class."</p>	
Summary	<p>Students have become aware of a very interesting grade appropriate book. They have gained new vocabulary which served as a foundation to complete the tasks of the ending activity. Journal writing was introduced which could be extended by the teacher as an ongoing classroom activity. A love for reading has commenced through interesting literary works, activities and discussion.</p>	Additional Notes <p>Encourage your students to keep a journal of things they observe amongst their friends.</p> <p>Enhance the lesson through the introduction of the film "Harriet the Spy".</p>