

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Unlocking Hidden Meanings: Allegory and Symbolism

Some stories use allegory, which means that characters or events stand for bigger ideas. An allegory is like a puzzle, where you have to look beneath the surface to find hidden meanings. For example, a simple flower might represent love or hope, and a journey across the sky could stand for a person's search for meaning.

Symbolism is when objects, animals, or actions are used to represent feelings, themes, or ideas. The moon might represent mystery or change, while rain could stand for sadness or new beginnings. When you read, pay attention to these signs—they help you understand the author's message.

Learning about allegory and symbolism makes reading more interesting. It gives you a chance to exercise your mind.



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Unlocking Hidden Meanings: Allegory and Symbolism

Some stories use allegory, which means that (7)

characters or events stand for bigger ideas. An (15)

allegory is like a puzzle, where you have to look (25)

beneath the surface to find hidden meanings. For (33)

example, a simple flower might represent love or (41)

hope, and a journey across the sky could stand for (51)

a person's search for meaning. (56)

Symbolism is when objects, animals, or actions are (64)

used to represent feelings, themes, or ideas. The (72)

moon might represent mystery or change, while rain (80)

could stand for sadness or new beginnings. When (88)

you read, pay attention to these signs—they help (96)

you understand the author's message. (101)

Learning about allegory and symbolism makes (107)

reading more interesting. It gives you a chance to (116)

exercise your mind. (119)

### Comprehension Questions:

#### Literal Question:

What is an allegory?

#### Answer:

A story where characters or events stand for bigger ideas.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

#### Inferential Question:

Why might authors use symbols in their stories?

#### Answer:

To help readers find deeper meanings or themes.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

#### Vocabulary Question:

What does 'symbolism' mean in stories?

#### Answer:

Using objects or actions to stand for ideas or feelings.

#### Student Answer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Correct \_\_\_\_\_ Incorrect

### Notes:

### Scoring Guide

Text Level: F&P GRL X      Grade Level: 6      Word Count: 119

Total Words Read: \_\_\_\_\_

Errors: \_\_\_\_\_

WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM) \_\_\_\_\_

WCPM: Below grade level    At grade level    Above grade level

Prosody: 1    2    3    4

Comprehension: \_\_\_\_\_ / 3 correct

# How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

## Assess Oral Reading Fluency

- Give the student a copy of the passage. **Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.**
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- **Stop the student when one minute has passed.** Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the **Scoring Guide**. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
^ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric	1	2	3	4
<b>Expression and Volume</b>	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression
<b>Phrasing</b>	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing
<b>Smoothness</b>	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident
<b>Pace</b>	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
<b>First</b>	0 - 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	<b>Fourth</b>	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
<b>Second</b>	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	<b>Fifth</b>	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
<b>Third</b>	50 - 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	<b>Sixth</b>	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

\* Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

## Fluency Builder: Unlocking Hidden Meanings: Allegory and Symbolism

### Passage Details

Grade Level: 6

Reading Level: F&P GRL X

Word Count: 119

### High-Frequency Words

love, exercise, flower, moon, sky

### Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

- Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

Link to Writing or Discussion

- Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:  
"Describe a symbol you have seen in a story or movie."  
"Why do you think symbols make stories more interesting?"

Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)