

Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plans and Practice Pages

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *The Summer My Father Was Ten* by Pat Brisson

Making Inferences Lesson Plan

Making Inferences
The Summer My Father Was Ten
By: Pat Brisson
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: Q

1
Get Ready To Read
Learn about the book
Get your brain ready to read
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

Summary
The Summer My Father Was Ten is a story that a father tells his daughter every year as they plant a garden together. When the father was growing up, he lived in an apartment next door to a man named Mr. Bellavista. Mr. Bellavista looked forward to planting a garden each summer. During the summer that the father was ten years old, he and his friends made some bad choices and ruined Mr. Bellavista's garden. This leads to the father apologizing to Mr. Bellavista and the beginning of a very special tradition.

Link to What You Know
Have you ever had someone break something that belonged to you? How did you feel?
Tell about a time when you made a bad choice or did something to hurt someone else. How did you feel?

Important Words to Know and Understand
Opera – A play in which all of the words are sung to music
Vacant – An empty space that is not being used

2
Learn About Comprehension Strategies
Think about the text you read
Know what to do

Why Readers Make Inferences While Reading
When readers make inferences they behave like reading detectives.
Sometimes the author does not give you all of the information you need to understand everything that is happening in a text.
Instead the author gives you clues. You can use the author's clues along with what you already know to make an inference. This is sometimes called "reading between the lines."
For example, if an author writes: "Jason made a terrible mistake and his face turned bright red," you can infer that Jason is embarrassed. This inference makes sense because you know that if a person's face turns red after making a mistake, it usually means that they feel embarrassed.
Illustrators also leave clues. Make sure to look at the pictures to learn more about characters, settings, problems, and solutions.

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Guided Reading Level

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3
Make Inferences While Reading
Look for clues that tell you how a character might be feeling or what they might be thinking
Study the pictures. What do you notice about the characters, setting, and events?

Time to Read
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.
Page 5 – Read the author's description of Mr. Bellavista. What do you know about people who don't talk to other people very often and spend a lot of time alone? What can you infer about the way Mr. Bellavista feels?
Page 12 – After the boys ruin Mr. Bellavista's garden, the author describes Mr. Bellavista's reaction. What can you infer about what Mr. Bellavista is thinking? How do you know?
Page 18 – What can you infer about the reasons why Mr. Bellavista isn't going to plant another garden? Why do you think so?
Page 23 – What can you infer about the way Mr. Bellavista is feeling now? Why do you think so?

4
Notice the Work You Did While Reading
Think
Reflect
Write

Time to Reflect
Think – What types of inferences did you make while reading *The Summer My Father Was Ten*? Did you make inferences to understand new words? Did you infer to understand how a character thinks or feels? What did you already know about people, places, or events that helped you make inferences?
Talk – Tell your reading partner about the best inference you made while reading this book? Explain why your inference was so helpful to you as a reader. Remember to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book too.
Reflect – Think about the extra information you learned while reading *The Summer My Father Was Ten*. What was easy about making inferences? What was difficult? How does making inferences help you to be a better reader?
Write – Glue your Strategy Slip into your reader's notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *The Summer My Father Was Ten*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Activate Prior Knowledge

Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

Key Vocabulary

Explanation of Strategy

1 **Get Ready To Read**
Learn about the book
Get your brain ready to read
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

3 **Identify the Author's Purpose While Reading**
Look for clues that tell you how a character might be feeling or what they might be thinking
Study the pictures. What do you notice about the characters, setting, and events?

2 **Learn About Comprehension Strategies**
Think about the text you read
Know what to do

4 **Notice the Work You Did While Reading**
Think
Reflect
Write

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1 **Get Ready To Read**
Learn about the book
Get your brain ready to read
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

3 **Visualizing While Reading**
Look for clues that tell you how a character might be feeling or what they might be thinking
Study the pictures. What do you notice about the characters, setting, and events?

2 **Learn About Comprehension Strategies**
Think about the text you read
Know what to do

4 **Notice the Work You Did While Reading**
Think
Reflect
Write

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Author's Purpose

Visualizing

1 **Get Ready To Read**
Learn about the book
Get your brain ready to read
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

3 **Synthesizing While Reading**
Look for clues that tell you how a character might be feeling or what they might be thinking
Study the pictures. What do you notice about the characters, setting, and events?

2 **Learn About Comprehension Strategies**
Think about the text you read
Know what to do

4 **Notice the Work You Did While Reading**
Think
Reflect
Write

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Synthesizing

Answer Key for Making Inferences with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Your Turn to Practice Making Inferences with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Page 5: Read the author's description of Mr. Bellavista. What do you know about people who don't talk to other people very often and spend a lot of time alone? What can you infer about the way Mr. Bellavista feels?

Page 12: After the boys ruin Mr. Bellavista's garden, the author describes Mr. Bellavista's reaction. What can you infer about what Mr. Bellavista is thinking? How do you know?

Page 18: What can you infer about the reasons why Mr. Bellavista isn't going to plant another garden? Why do you think so?

Answer Key for Identifying the Author's Purpose with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Your Turn to Practice Identifying the Author's Purpose with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Page 5: Why do you think the author is taking the time to tell us about Mr. Bellavista. What is important to know about him?

Page 12: The boys have destroyed Mr. Bellavista's garden. Look at the pictures. What does the author want you to know about the characters?

Page 18: Why do you think the author included this part in the story? What does the work tell us about the author's purpose?

Answer Key for Visualizing with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Your Turn to Practice Visualizing with The Summer My Father Was Ten

Page 9: Notice the way the author describes the vacant lot. Which words help you to visualize the setting? Point to the words that help you picture the lot in your mind.

Page 9: Notice the words the author uses to describe the boys playing in the garden. Point to the words that help you visualize the action on this page. How does visualizing the action help you to better understand the story?

Page 13: Notice the words the author uses to describe the father and Mr. Bellavista's actions on this page. How do the words make you feel?

Page 21: Notice the words the author uses to describe the garden. Which words help you visualize the plants in the garden? Why is it important to pay attention to these words?

Answer Key for Synthesizing with Summer My Father Was Ten

Your Turn to Practice Synthesizing with Summer My Father Was Ten

Page 8: What do you know about Mr. Bellavista and the boys in the neighborhood? What do you think of the father at this point in the story?

Page 13: You've learned more about the father. Is he a good person? Why or why not?

Page 18: The father is trying to solve a problem. What problem is he trying to solve? Do you agree with the way he is trying to solve it? Why or why not?

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Practice Pages and Answer Keys

Writing About Reading with Optional CCSS Alignment

"I Can" Statement →

Strategy and Text Based Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

Common Core Free Option

Reading Response Prompts for Each Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plan

4 Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizers

Making Inferences

Title: _____

What the Text Says	What I Know	What I Can Infer
Use an arrow to draw the text or picture.	What do you know about the text?	What do you know about the text?

Directions:
1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

Making Inferences

Identifying the Author's Purpose

Title: _____

Who is the author of your book?

What was the author's purpose for writing this book? How do you know?

To Persuade To Inform To Entertain

I know because...

What do you think author wanted you to think about while reading this book?

Draw a picture of the most important thing the author made you think about while reading.

Directions:
1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

Author's Purpose

Visualizing

Title: _____

What page did you use to practice visualizing?

Draw a picture of your mental image in the space below:

Write down some of the words that the author used to help you make this picture in your mind.

Show your picture to someone. Make sure that you drew all of the words that helped you visualize.

Directions:
1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

Visualizing

Synthesizing

Title: _____

At first I was thinking...	My new thinking is...	I used to think...
Because...	Because...	But now I think...

My new thinking is...
Now I understand...
After thinking about...
Because... Because... I conclude...
Because...

Directions:
1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

Synthesizing