

Instructional Overview

The Wild Robot By: Peter Brown Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: R
Book Club
Instructional Focus: Determining Theme
Background: For readers to deeply comprehend a text, they must be able to determine one or more of the themes presented in the book, as well as analyze how the theme is developed over the course of the text. This level of comprehension requires readers to have the skills to summarize the main ideas and supporting details, as well as determine which details in the setting, story events, and character thoughts, dialogue, and actions support the author's theme.
The Wild Robot is a perfect novel for readers to practice the process of determining theme due to the author, Peter Brown's, use of both engaging text and illustrations. This text offers meaningful messages about caring for the earth, family relationships, and helping others; all of which readers will easily connect to.
Instructional Overview: Meeting #1 (Chapters 1 – 3) Set Expectations and Introduce Theme Meeting #2 (Chapters 4 – 20) Summarizing the Text Meeting #3 (Chapters 21 – 30) Identifying How Authors Develop Theme Meeting #4 (Chapters 31 – 40) Determining Theme Using Character Thoughts, Dialogue, and Actions Meeting #5 (Chapters 41 – 50) Supporting Theme with Setting Meeting #6 (Chapters 51 – 70) Supporting Theme with Story Events Final Meeting (Chapters 71 – 80) Discovering Multiple Themes
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Instructional Focus



Description of the Instructional Focus



List of Materials and Preparation



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Materials and Preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Determine which students will participate in the The Wild Robot Book Club (4-6 students)<input type="checkbox"/> Gather copies of The Wild Robot by Peter Brown (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare copies of the Book Club Calendar (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare copies of the Expectations for Book Club (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare copies of the Book Club Reading Response Board (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Reader's Notebooks (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare What's the Theme? Anchor Chart<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare "Curiosity Helps us Learn" in the Text (T-chart) (Could be added to Reader's Notebook)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Super Summaries Handout (1 per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Sum It Up! Graphic Organizer (Could be added to Readers' Notebook)<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Materials for the Culminating Activity—large paper, markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc.<input type="checkbox"/> Gather Sticky Notes and Chart Paper (for use throughout Book Club)<input type="checkbox"/> Optional: Prepare Vocabulary Resources (1 set per student)<input type="checkbox"/> Optional: Prepare Student Self-Evaluation Forms (1 per student per meeting)<input type="checkbox"/> Optional: Prepare Assessment Resources (1 set per student)
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