

The Fun They Had

Short Story Lesson

PDF & Digital Formats



2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

RESOURCE INCLUDES

- Detailed Lesson Plan
- Comprehension Questions
- Graphic Organizers
- Answer Keys
- Assessment Criteria
- Final Assessment
- Google Slides Format
- Individual PDFs of student pages to post to Google Classroom™

EXAMPLE PAGES

LESSON PLAN



Lesson Overview: The teacher will read a short story out loud to the class, provide time for the comprehension questions and completion of the graphic organizers.

Materials Needed:

- Double-sided photocopy, or use the digital version of the provided short story analysis sheets, comprehension questions, Extend Your Learning choice board, and select 1 assessment sheet (rubric or points-based)
- Class set of "The Fun They Had" by Isaac Asimov short story (find this through a Google search for the short story name and PDF)

Due to copyright laws, I cannot provide a copy of this short story.

Teacher Instructions:

1. Read the short story out loud.
2. Provide students time to complete the comprehension questions.
3. Collect the questions for assessment.
4. Provide students time to complete the graphic organizers.
5. Collect for assessment.
6. Give students time to work on their Extend Your Learning activity.
7. Collect for assessment on the due date.

Answer Key Note:

A sample answer key has been provided for the short story. All items are subject to interpretation of the reader.

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LITERARY ELEMENTS	
Plot	
Plot is the major events that take place during the story.	
Inciting incident is the event that starts the story.	
Climax is the highest point of conflict in the story.	
Resolution is the ending of the story, where the conflict is usually resolved.	
Text Example	
Inciting Incident:	
Climax:	
Resolution:	
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"THE FUN THEY HAD" ANSWER KEY

Plot	Inciting Incident Tommy Finds a real paper book.
	Climax Tommy and Margie discussing all of the elements of a "old fashion" school.
	Resolution Margie goes back to her robot teacher and school routine.
Character	<p>Description</p> <p>Margie (Major/Dynamic) 11 years old. She is homeschooled by mechanical teacher. Once she learns about the way students were taught long ago, she wishes she could be taught that way.</p> <p>Tommy (Major/Static) 13 years old. Margie's friend. Knows more about books and education history than Margie.</p> <p>Mrs. Jones (Minor) Margie's mom</p> <p>County Inspector (Minor/Static) He arrives to "fix" Margie's mechanical teacher.</p> <p>Mechanical (Robot) Teacher (Minor/Static) Margie's teacher that needed to be "fixed"</p>
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Materials Needed:

- Double-sided photocopy, or use the digital version of the provided short story analysis sheets, comprehension questions, Extend Your Learning choice board, and student assessment sheet (rubric or points-based)
- Class set of "The Fun They Had" by Judith A. Schaerf (find this through a Google search for the short story name and PDF)

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Teacher Instructions:

1. Read the short story aloud.
2. Provide students time to complete the comprehension questions.
3. Collect the questions for assessment.
4. Provide students time to complete the graphic organizers.
5. Collect for assessment.
6. Give students time to work on their Extend Your Learning activity.
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Text Example

Inciting Incident:

Climax:

Resolution:

“THE FUN THEY HAD” ANSWER KEY

Plot

Inciting Incident

Tommy finds a real paper book.

Climax

Tommy and Margie discussing all of the elements of a “old fashion” school.

Resolution

Margie goes back to her robot teacher and school routine.

Character

Description

Margie: (Major/Dynamic) 11 years old. She is homeschooled by a mechanical teacher. Once she learns about the way students were taught long ago she wishes she could be taught that way.

Tommy: (Major/Static) 13 years old. Margie's friend. Knows more about books and education history than Margie.

Mrs. Jones: (Minor) Margie's mom

County Inspector: (Minor/Static) He arrives to “fix” Margie's mechanical teacher.

Mechanical (Robot) Teacher: (Minor/Static) Margie's teacher that needed to be “fixed”

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