

## Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan

### Big Idea/ Topic

How do I use text evidence to support my analysis and inferences in literary works?

### Standard Alignment

**ELAGSE6RL1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**ELAGSE6RL2:** Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

**ELAGSE6RL6:** Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

**ELAGSE6RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

### Instructional Design

<b>Materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan – This text and audio can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Fish Cheeks Opening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Prediction Chart</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Evidence Hunt</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson Description</b>	<b>Introduction to character analysis and citing explicit textual evidence</b>	
<b>Opening</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will display the “Fish Cheeks” Opening Activity and prompt students to make predictions about the story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will view the “Fish Cheeks” Opening Activity and make predictions about what the story will be about using the <a href="#">Prediction Chart</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
<b>Transition to Work Session/Mini-Lesson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The students will be instructed to keep their predictions out to determine if their predictions were correct.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will share their predictions as a class, in small groups or via chat.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The teacher will discuss the importance of making predictions</li> <li>Remind students that as they read, good readers monitor predictions, changing them or coming up with new ones if needed.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
<b>Work Session</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First read: The teacher and the students will read the short story "Fish Cheeks". Remind students that as they read, good readers monitor predictions, changing them or coming up with new ones if needed.</li> <li>Second Read: Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions, continually returning to the text. A variety of methods can be used to structure the reading and discussion (i.e., whole class discussion, think-pair-share, independent written response, group work, etc.) Sample questions can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does the speaker's family act during dinner?</li> <li>How does the minister's family act during dinner?</li> <li>Why do they act so differently?</li> <li>How does the narrator feel about her family and her Chinese heritage in this moment?</li> <li>What causes Amy to be embarrassed during dinner?</li> <li>What caused Amy to not enjoy her favorite foods during dinner?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will review their prediction as they read.</li> <li>Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions, continually returning to the text.</li> <li>Students will generate words that describe either Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones or Roger and will provide explicit textual evidence to support their answer using the <a href="#">Evidence Hunt activity</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
<b>Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The teacher will ask students to review their predictions and find the evidence to support their predictions. If they are incorrect, they will use evidence to identify</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review predictions and determine if they are correct. If they are correct, find the evidence to support predictions. If they are incorrect, use evidence to identify the moment</li> </ul>



	the moment they realized their prediction was incorrect.	in the story they realized their prediction was incorrect.
<b>Considerations for Unplugged Learning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prediction chart guide can be completed via paper and pencil or digitally by creating a shared online document.</li> <li>• The teacher can have students make a prediction by reading the title and the first paragraph.</li> <li>• The teacher will ask students to discuss their predictions with a partner or discuss as a whole group.</li> <li>• The Evidence Hunt activity can be drawn and completed in their notebook or using a digital graphic organizer tool in Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.</li> <li>• Alternate lessons for this text are available from <a href="https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/fish-cheeks">CommonLit</a> and can be found here <a href="https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/fish-cheeks">https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/fish-cheeks</a></li> <li>• For other considerations, visit the <a href="#">Universal Design for Learning in Education</a> webpage.</li> <li>• <b>Make sure to follow your district’s guidance on appropriate online tools to use with students.</b></li> </ul>	

### Evidence of Student Success

- The teacher will use the guided reading questions and the Evidence Hunt Activity as a formative assessment.

### Student Learning Supports

- The prediction chart guide can be completed via paper and pencil or digitally by creating a shareable online document.
- The teacher will ask students to discuss their predictions with a partner or discuss as a whole group.
- The Evidence Hunt activity can be drawn and completed in their notebook or using a digital graphic organizer tool in Microsoft Word, Google Docs, etc.
- Alternate lessons and the audio for this text are available from [CommonLit](#) and can be found [here](#).
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.
- Students may need a [list of character traits](#) to generate ideas.
- The audio of the text can be used for students who need this accommodation
- Model with the students how to fill in the evidence chart by filling in the first couple of rows together as a class.
- Provide an opportunity for students to store new words that they encounter. Students could use a chart to keep track of these new words and their meanings as they read.

### Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- **Asynchronous:** Student works completely independently. Reads/listens to short story, downloads “Fish Cheeks” Opening, Prediction Chart, Evidence Hunt and uploads completed work to teacher for e-feedback.
- **Synchronous:** Instructor displays the opening activity, allows students time to reflect and prompts them to share on-line though live video. Students read/listen independently, complete handout independently, and teacher can choose to return to Zoom/Teams/Google Classroom to solicit student response and evaluate understanding. Alternatively, teacher could put students in electronic “groups” and allow time for group discussion and collaboration.



- **Offline/Unplugged:** Students are provided with printed materials: “Fish Cheeks” Opening, Prediction Chart, text and works independently.

## Engaging Families

- Ask parents or guardians about traditions they have.
- [Literary Elements and Techniques | Characterization](#)
- **Source: PBS Learning Media**
- **Resource Type: Video**
- Explore characterization and how authors reveal qualities of characters in this short animated video from WNET.
- *Skill: Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how settings shape the characters or plot).*
- Parents/Guardians may choose to read aloud with student or have student read to them.
- Parents can reinforce student’s understanding of character traits by using examples from stories and movies with which the student is familiar of a story or drama interact (e.g., how settings shape the characters or plot).



Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan

**Big Idea/ Topic**

**Introduction to Short Story Unit**  
**Skill: Plot Elements**

**Standard Alignment**

**ELAGSE6RL1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**ELAGSE6RL3:** Describe how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves towards a resolution.

**ELAGSE6RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

**ELAGSE6L6:** Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher- led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**Instructional Design**

Lesson Description	Introduction to Short Story Unit (Plot Elements)
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan – This text and audio can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Fish Cheeks Warm Up</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Narratives PowerPoint</a> or watch <a href="#">Learn Plot Diagram Using Movie Clips (5:45 minutes)</a>.</li> <li>• Student Handout(s)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Plot Diagram</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Interactive Plot Diagram</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Narratives Guided Notes</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



<b>Opening</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Fish Cheeks Warm Up</a> Asks: “In your home, are the following actions polite or rude?”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students respond to the prompt by answering Yes or No.</li> <li>• In your home, are the following actions polite or rude? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chewing with your mouth open</li> <li>2. Burping at the table</li> <li>3. Saying “please” and “thank you”</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>Transition to Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviews academic language/terms related to plot elements using PowerPoint “Plot Elements” or watching <a href="#">Learn Plot Diagram Using Movie Clips</a>.</li> <li>• Point of view (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>)</li> <li>• Plot elements (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution).</li> <li>• Conflict (internal/external)</li> <li>• Guided notes can be used for struggling learners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student takes notes during PPT presentation or during video using</li> <li>• Guided Notes document can be used if needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributes student handout “Plot Diagram” and has students complete the plot diagram as they complete the Second Read.</li> <li>• Students can also complete an <a href="#">interactive plot diagram</a> if technology is available.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Read: Reading may be silent reading, popcorn reading, teacher-led, or reading along with audio version of the story.</li> <li>• Second Read: Reading may be silent reading or reading along with audio version of the story.</li> <li>• Student completes “Plot Diagram” while reading “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan.</li> </ul>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If taught remotely: Teacher displays the plot diagram on the screen and invites students to provide input to complete the handout as a class. Teacher may solicit input in general or from specific students.</li> <li>• Teacher clarifies misconceptions, summarizes and encourages progress, and identifies next steps: Tomorrow, we’ll take a quiz and complete a quick write for “Fish Cheeks”.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses academic language to identify plot elements.</li> <li>• Asks clarifying questions; provides feedback to peers.</li> <li>• Summarizes and reflects on how author’s use plot elements to create an effective story.</li> </ul>



## Evidence of Student Success

- Student will be able to accurately identify the story's plot element and conflicts.
- Student will be able to support his/her responses using academic language and textual evidence.

## Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- **Asynchronous:** Student works completely independently. Views PowerPoint and takes notes, reads/listens to short story, downloads Plot Diagram worksheet and uploads completed work to teacher for e-feedback.
- **Synchronous:** Instructor displays writing prompt, allows students time to reflect and prompts them to share on-line through live video. Teacher presents PowerPoint or YouTube video and supplements explanations, asks questions, evaluates student understanding. Students read/listen independently, complete Plot Diagram handout independently, and teacher can choose to return to Zoom/Teams/Google Classroom to solicit student response and evaluate understanding. Alternatively, teacher could put students in electronic "groups" and allow time for group discussion and collaboration.
- **Offline/Unplugged:** Students are provided with printed materials: copy of notes, short story, and plot diagram and works independently.

## Student Learning Supports

- **For auditory/visual learners,** introduce elements of the plot diagram using the following [Learn Plot Diagram Using Movie Clips](#) (5:45 minutes).
- **For auditory learners or struggling readers,** utilize the "Fish Cheeks" Audio via Common Lit
- Teacher may choose to record narration over PowerPoint
- Teacher may use a document camera to annotate the "Plot Diagram" worksheet with students and save share the file with students.
- Students who may struggle organizing information could use the Guided Notes PPT or Handout for notetaking.
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.

## Engaging Families

- Parents/Guardians may choose to read aloud with student or have student read to them.
- Parents can reinforce student's understanding of plot elements and conflict by using examples from stories and movies with which the student is familiar.



## Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan

### Big Idea/ Topic

Short Story Focus – “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan & Formative Assessment

### Standard Alignment

**ELAGSE6RL1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**ELAGSE6RL3:** Describe how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves towards a resolution.

**ELAGSE6RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

**ELAGSE6L6:** Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain- specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**ELAGSE6W3:** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher- led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

### Instructional Design

Lesson Description	Short Story Focus “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan (Formative Assessment)	
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Fish Cheeks Review Quizizz</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Formative Assessment &amp; Key for “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan</a> This assessment and key can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> </ul>	
Opening	Teacher:	Student:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will review the plot of “Fish Cheeks” with <a href="#">Quizizz</a> activity.</li> <li>• Teacher can play live for synchronous contact and assign it as a HW to play asynchronously.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will play the “Fish Cheeks” Review game via Quizizz Live, HW or Activity Sheet.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For students working offline, the activity can be printed.</li> </ul>	
<b>Transition to Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduces today’s assessment, reviews learning targets (reading comprehension, plot elements, characterization, and conflict). Asks if students have any questions.</li> <li>The teacher distributes assessment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students access prior knowledge; participates by responding to teacher’s questions. Asks clarifying questions.</li> <li>Students prepare to begin assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher monitors students’ progress while taking the assessment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students complete the assessment independently.</li> </ul>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer students back to the story, “Fish Cheeks” and have them respond to the following prompt: “Think of an occasion when you felt different or didn’t fit in. How did you react? Did you try harder to fit in, or did you celebrate your individuality?”</li> <li>Teacher clarifies misconceptions, summarizes and encourages progress, and identifies next steps: Tomorrow, we’ll be looking at how an author uses conflict and characterization to develop a theme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think of an occasion when you felt different or didn’t fit in. How did you react? Did you try harder to fit in, or did you celebrate your individuality?</li> </ul>

### Evidence of Student Success

- Student success is defined as having achieved 80% proficiency.

### Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- Asynchronous & Synchronous:** Students complete the quiz in an electronic format with a free account via [CommonLit](#).
- Offline/Unplugged:** Student completes paper copy of quiz with a free account via [CommonLit](#).



## Student Learning Supports

- Students review for the quiz by re-reading and/or listening to the short story and reviewing PowerPoint notes.
- Teacher will provide necessary testing accommodations for students (small group, extended time, repeat directions, paraphrase directions, etc.)
- Chunk the assignment over multiple days
- Students can use dictation software to record responses
- Students can orally record their answers with voice recorder software.
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.

## Engaging Families

- Parents/Guardians may encourage student to prepare for quiz by reviewing PowerPoints, creating flashcards with academic terms, re-reading/re-listening to the short story, and reviewing student-completed handouts.



**Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan**

Big Idea/ Topic
Short Story Focus – Theme & “Names/Nombres”

Standard Alignment
<p><b>ELAGSE6RL2:</b> Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.</p> <p><b>ELAGSE6RL10:</b> By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.</p> <p><b>ELAGSE6L6:</b> Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain- specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</p> <p><b>ELAGSE6W9:</b> Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.</p> <p><b>ELAGSE6SL1:</b> Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher- led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.</p>

Instructional Design	
Lesson Description	Short Story Focus “Names/Nombres” and Theme
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Names/Nombres” by Julia Alvarez - This text and audio can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Identifying Theme in Five Steps” – PowerPoint</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Identifying Theme in Five Steps” – Guided Notes</a></li> <li>• Student Handout(s)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Plot Diagram</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Interactive Plot Diagram</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



<b>Opening</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher presents PowerPoint on “Identifying Theme.” Using prior knowledge from students’ reading of “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan, teacher provides explicit direction connecting students’ knowledge of plot, characterization, &amp; conflict to explore the theme(s) of “Fish Cheeks.” Teacher models this strategy, asks challenging questions, and clarifies understanding of key concepts.</li> <li>Guided notes can be used for struggling learners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student accesses prior knowledge of “Fish Cheeks” by Amy Tan</li> <li>Engages in note-taking on the 5 steps for identifying theme, participates in teacher-led discussion, and asks clarifying questions using the academic language of the standards.</li> <li>Guided Notes document can be used if needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Transition to Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides handout on “Plot Diagram” (identical to one used for “Fish Cheeks”), reviews key concepts, but adds that students will be including identifying theme to the worksheet. Distributes “The Names/Nombres” PDF to students.</li> <li>Students can also complete an interactive plot diagram if technology is available.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepares to work by gathering materials and asking clarifying questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First read: The teacher and the students will read the short story “Names/Nombres”. Remind students that as they read, good readers monitor predictions, changing them or coming up with new ones if needed.</li> <li>Second Read: Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions, continually returning to the text. A variety of methods can be used to structure the reading and discussion (i.e., whole class discussion, think-pair-share, independent written response, group work, etc.) Sample questions can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When Julia Alvarez first returned to the United States why did she want people to use her correct Dominican name?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Read: Reading may be silent reading, popcorn reading, teacher-led, or reading along with audio version of the story.</li> <li>Second Read: Reading may be silent reading or reading along with audio version of the story.</li> <li>Student responds to guiding questions during class discussion.</li> <li>Completes Plot Diagram, demonstrating proficiency in comprehension skills and concepts (elements of plot, characterization, conflict, setting, &amp; <b>theme</b>) during guided practice. Conferences with teacher and receives standards-based feedback.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What word can be used to describe Julia in High School?</li> <li>○ What is the main problem in the story?</li> <li>○ Why did Julia want to be called by her American nickname in high school?</li> </ul>	
<b>Closing</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informally assesses student understanding by reviewing plot diagram and theme as a class, provides feedback to students, and explicitly clarifies misconceptions.</li> <li>• Summarizes and celebrates progress towards understanding of plot elements and concept of theme. Identifies next steps – <i>Figurative Language</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shares and justifies work using academic language and textual evidence.</li> <li>• Provides peer feedback (if online) and asks clarifying questions.</li> <li>• Reflects on knowledge of key concepts and summarizes progress and understanding of concepts.</li> <li>• Posts their theme electronically via Padlet or using a sticky note.</li> </ul>

### Evidence of Student Success

- Formative assessment of prior knowledge (plot elements, reading comprehension) during opening class discussion and during independent/group work.
- Formative assessment: Accurate completion of plot diagram and identification of theme(s). Possible student responses may include the following: “The importance of Friendship,” “Positive activities can protect you,” “Hard work is rewarded in the end”.

### Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- **Synchronous Instruction:** Teacher uses video conferencing to introduce topic of theme using students’ prior knowledge from “Names/Nombres.” Teacher may use document camera or share screen to model how conflict and characterization contribute to identification of theme. Students then work independently or in virtual groups to complete assignment. At the end of the lesson, teacher and students return to video conference to assess students’ understanding and to clarifying any misunderstandings.
- **Asynchronous Instruction:** Teacher records video of herself/himself introducing the topic of theme and models how to identify theme using prior reading, “Names/Nombres.” Student works independently on plot diagram and theme handout and submits it electronically to teacher for his/her formative assessment and feedback. Teacher posts tomorrow’s warm up writing activity as on-line discussion topic for students’ response.
- **Offline/Unplugged:** Student is provided with print copies of PowerPoint notes, works independently on plot/theme activity and submits work to teacher for assessment and feedback.

### Distance Learning Supports

- Teacher may create small learning groups based on mastery of skills to work together to identify plot and theme for fairy tales, television shows, or movies.
- Teacher may create virtual groups based on reading ability (synchronous).
- Students who may struggle organizing information could use the Guided Notes for notetaking.



- Alternate lessons for this text are available from [CommonLit](#) and can be found [here](#).
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.

## Engaging Families

- Parents and Guardians are encouraged to support student learning by identifying plot elements, characterization, and theme from pop culture.



## Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan

### Big Idea/ Topic

Short Story Focus – Theme & “Names/Nombres”

### Standard Alignment

**ELAGSE6RL1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**ELAGSE6RL2:** Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

**ELAGSE6RL4:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

**ELAGSE6RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

**ELAGSE6W9:** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

**ELAGSE6L6:** Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

### Instructional Design

Instructional Design	
<b>Lesson Description</b>	<b>Short Story Focus “The Names/Nombres” and Figurative Language</b>
<b>Materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Names/Nombres” by Julia Alvarez</b> - This text and audio can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Figurative Language PowerPoint</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Figurative Language Guided Notes</a></li> <li>• <b>Student Handout(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">“Names/Nombres” Figurative Language Activity</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Opening</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warm up: “What is a nickname that you are called by friends?” Do you like it? Why or why not. If you do not have a nickname, what is a nickname you would create for yourself? Why?”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students respond in writing (3-5 sentences) to the following prompt: What is a nickname that you are called by friends?” Do you like it? Why or why not. If you do not have a nickname, what is a nickname you would create for yourself? Why?”</li> <li>Student engages with prior and personal knowledge in writing to connect to the theme of “The Names/Nombres.”</li> <li>If on-line, participates in group discussion and analyzes thinking. Asks thought provoking and clarifying questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Transition to Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher engages students by having students share their responses re: nickname</li> <li>Teacher presents PPT “Figurative Language” and provides explicit instruction on academic terms and examples.</li> <li>Guided notes can be used for struggling learners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student engages in teacher-led discussion. Prepares to take notes.</li> <li>Student takes notes and asks clarifying questions during PPT. Guided Notes document can be used if needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher then distributes the handout “The Names/Nombres – Figurative Language.” Students identify textual evidence as teacher monitors and assesses student progress. Allows students to productively struggle and make mistakes while conferencing with them and providing on-going support.</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engages in independent work or small group work using the activity to identify examples of figurative language from the short story.</li> <li>Conferences with teacher and receives feedback. Demonstrates proficiency in identifying key concepts.</li> <li>Submits assignment for formative assessment.</li> </ul>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviews key concepts of figurative language and invites students to share examples they identified from the text. Clarifies misconceptions in student understanding.</li> <li>Summarizes how figurative language is used to enrich the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student contributes to classroom discussion offering his/her textual examples of figurative language from the story. Provides peer feedback if working with a partner. And asks clarifying questions using academic language. Summarizes progress towards mastery.</li> </ul>



	<p>reader's understanding of the material.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher conducts Ticket Out the Door. This can be converted to a poll, shared document or can be completed via chat. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>I can identify different types of figurative language.”</b> 5 4 3 2 1</li> <li><b>Figurative language is when you state facts exactly as they are in the real world.</b> <b>True or False</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>The teacher can also use the <a href="#">Names/Nombres Quizizz</a> as a closing activity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students complete figurative language exit ticket.</li> </ul>
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### Evidence of Student Success

- Student mastery of content will be evidenced by accurately identifying examples of figurative language from the text.
- Formative assessments will include completion of the activity at 75% accuracy and participation in teacher-led discussion (if synchronous instruction).

### Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- Synchronous Instruction:** Students participate in group discussion of warm-up and analyzes thinking. Asks thought provoking and clarifying questions. During transition, students engage in teacher-led discussion. Student works independently or video conferences/on-line chats with partner during on “Figurative Language” worksheet and contributes to class discussion during closing.
- Asynchronous Instruction:** Teacher posts warm-up as on-line discussion topic prior to today’s lesson. Teacher audio/video records warm-up using anonymous student responses and transition to work session. Records audio for PowerPoint “Figurative Language” and models metacognitive response to figurative language. Students work independently on “figurative language” handout and upload assignment to teacher.
- Offline/Unplugged resources:** Teacher provides print copies of PowerPoint and handout. Student works independently and submits finished work to teacher for feedback and assessment.

### Student Learning Supports

- Students may access [Names/Nombres Quizizz](#) for additional practice
- Struggling learners can use Figurative Language Guided Notes if needed
- Auditory and visual learners’ needs are addressed through oral/visual lesson. Teacher creates differentiated groups or partners based on skill mastery.
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.
- Provide page numbers for the Figurative Language Activity for students who may have difficulty navigating lengthy texts.



## Engaging Families

- Parents/Guardians may encourage their students to access the on-line flashcards and quizzes for reinforcement of figurative language terms.



## Sample English Language Arts Learning Plan

### Big Idea/ Topic

Short Story Focus – Plot, Theme & Figurative Language “Names/Nombres”

### Standard Alignment

**ELAGSE6RL1:** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**ELAGSE6RL2:** Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

**ELAGSE6RL3:** Describe how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves towards a resolution.

**ELAGSE6RL4:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

**ELAGSE6RL6:** Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.

**ELAGSE6RL10:** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

**ELAGSE6W3:** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

**ELAGSE6W9:** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

**ELAGSE6L6:** Acquire and accurately use grade-appropriate general academic and domain- specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher- led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**ELAGSE6SL2:** Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study.

**ELAGSE6SL5:** Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify claims and findings and emphasize salient points.

Instructional Design		
<b>Lesson Description</b>	<b>Short Story Focus “Names/Nombres” Culminating Task</b>	
<b>Materials</b>	<b>Materials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Names/Nombres” by Julia Alvarez - This text and audio can be obtained with a free account via <a href="#">CommonLit</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Names/Nombres” Choice Board</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Names/Nombres” Choice Board Rubric</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Opening</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will pose the question: “The author did not state which friend won the boxing match. Why do you think he did that?”</li> <li>• This activity can be done orally or as a writing prompt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will respond to the question: “The author did not state which friend won the boxing match. Who do you think he did that?”</li> </ul>
<b>Transition to Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will introduce the “Names/Nombres” Choice Board by explaining that each square is an activity.</li> <li>• Students will select one activity to complete as their Short Story Unit Assessment.</li> <li>• The teacher will review the “Names/Nombres” Choice Board rubric which can be created using an online rubric maker like Google forms or by modifying the <b>Sample Rubric</b>.</li> <li>• All activities are adaptable for students with access to technology, low access to technology or no access to technology.</li> <li>• Students should have at least 2 class sessions to complete the assignment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will select one activity of their choice from the “Names/Nombres” Choice Board to complete independently.</li> <li>• Students should consider availability of technology when completing their selections.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Session</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>	<b>Student:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will distribute necessary materials to students based on their selection from “Names/Nombres” Choice Board.</li> <li>• The teacher will help students who require help selecting an activity and generating ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will complete the activity they selected from the “Names/Nombres” Choice Board.</li> </ul>



Closing	Teacher:	Student:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teacher will provide the opportunity for students to present their final product to the class via a Gallery Walk.</li> <li>• The teacher will provide the following prompt to guide the Gallery Walk: How are you able to see the theme “Friendship is better than competition” in this product?</li> <li>• The teacher could take pictures of each product and host a virtual gallery walk via Google Slides, Padlet or have them displayed in the classroom for in person instruction.</li> <li>• The teacher will explain the process of a Gallery Walk before students begin.</li> <li>• The teacher reinforces correctly expressed concepts and corrects for misconceptions and errors.</li> <li>• The teacher will remind students that all feedback should have a positive tone with suggestions for improvement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will view each product and make comments based on the prompt:</li> <li>• How are you able to see the theme “Names are important to identity” in this product?</li> </ul>

### Evidence of Student Success

- Summative assessment of students’ reading comprehension and critical thinking and ability to provide textual evidence as justification and use proper grammar will be determined per the rubric.

### Considerations for Online and Offline Learning

- **Synchronous:** Teacher employs video-conferencing to engage and informally assess students in class discussion and to address students’ questions.
- **Asynchronous:** Teacher records opening comments, warm-up, and choice board prompt (PowerPoint) and students respond in on-line discussion format. Student accesses PowerPoint and rubric; uses word processing software to craft activities and uploads to teacher.
- **Offline/Unplugged resources:** Student is provided a print copy of the PowerPoint and the rubric. Student hand writes or creates products and submits it to teacher for assessment.

### Distance Learning Supports

- Activities are differentiated to provide student choice.
- For other considerations, visit the [Universal Design for Learning in Education](#) webpage.



## Engaging Families

- Parents and Guardians are encouraged to support student learning helping with the projects and providing guidance on which option to choose.

