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FREDDIE THE FLOUNDER LESSON PLANS



(Created by Nocola Williams, Author)

LESSON OBJECTIVES

You will read aloud *Freddie the Flounder*.

Children will:

- ✓ Use key details to answer questions.
- ✓ Use key details to describe major events in the story.
- ✓ Use key details to identify the main character.

ABOUT THE TEXT

Summary:

Yikes! As Freddie and his parents are out playing, a powerful current swishes his parents away. Join Freddie the Flounder as he faces his fears and goes on a quest to search for his missing parents. What interesting creatures will he meet along the way?

GENRE Fantasy

VOCABULARY

Prior to reading, briefly define the following words:

- current (page 4): something that flows; like a stream or river
- pant (page 7): to breathe hard and quickly
- burly (page 11): something with a large body
- scurry (page 13): to go or move quickly
- adieu (uh-doo) (page 14): goodbye; farewell

WORD BANK

Display a word bank that contains the vocabulary, and characters (Freddie, Mom, Dad, octopus, dolphin, clams, crabs, turtles)

Add to the word bank as needed.

NEW CONCEPT

DETERMINATION

When introducing this book explain that characters in stories, just like people in real life, often face difficult challenges and must face their fears.

A determined person or character decides to do something and then does it.

Determination means never giving up no matter what!

LESSON

ONE DAY LESSON

1. Introduce Freddie the Flounder

Show students the front cover of the book.

Read the title.

Read the name of the author and illustrator.

2. Set a Purpose for Reading

Tell children that they can understand a story better when they can keep track of what happens to the characters in the beginning, middle, and end.

DEPENDING ON THE AGE OF THE CHILD(REN), USE APPROPRIATE WORKSHEETS

3. Before Reading: Pass out worksheet A, B, **or** C to the children. Have children write their name at the top of the paper.

4. While Reading: Stop at the beginning (page 10); middle (page 29); and end (page 32) to discuss how Freddie is feeling after each event.

Beginning (sad), Middle (determined), End (happy)

5. After Reading: use these questions to discuss the main character.

Who is the main character? (**Freddie**)

How can you tell Freddie is the main character? (**Most of the story tells what happens to Freddie.**)

Who are some of the other characters? (**Mom, Dad, octopus, dolphins, clams, crabs, turtles**)

6. Complete worksheet A, B, or C according to the directions.

OPTIONAL LESSONS

DAY 2: SPOTLIGHT ON CHARACTERS (Worksheet D)

1. Read the assignment and hint to the children.
2. **Key Detail Focus:** Help children understand that Freddie the Flounder is the main character. The other characters are less important.
3. **DRAW:** Have children draw and color a picture of Freddie in the box.
4. **WRITE:** Children should use the word bank to help them write Freddie's name on the line provided.
5. **TURN AND TALK/STORY EVIDENCE:** Read aloud the Turn and Talk. Have children turn to a partner to discuss something that they have learned about Freddie, the main character.

DAY 2: SPOTLIGHT ON THE BEGINNING (Worksheet E)

1. Reread pages 4-10.
2. Use these questions to guide the discussion:
 - What is Freddie's problem? (*His parents have been swished away in a powerful current.*)
 - How does Freddie feel in this moment? (*Scared, sad, frightened, alone*)
 - ***Add these feeling words to your word bank.**
 - What does Freddie decide to do? (*Freddie is determined to find his parent. He sets out to find them.*)
3. On Worksheet E, read the assignment and hint to the children.
4. **Key Detail Focus:** Help children recall why Freddie is sad.
5. **DRAW:** Have children draw and color a picture of what happened to Freddie's parents.
6. **WRITE:** Children should use the word bank to help them write a sentence about their picture.
5. **TURN AND TALK/STORY EVIDENCE:** Read aloud the Turn and Talk. Have children turn to a partner to make connections to Freddie's feelings and his parents' disappearance.

DAY 3: SPOTLIGHT ON THE MIDDLE (Worksheet F)

1. Reread pages 11-29.
2. Use these questions to guide the discussion:
 - Can you name any of Freddie's animal friends from the story? (*octopus, dolphin, clams, crabs, turtles.*)
 - How do they try to help Freddie on his quest? (*Many of the animal friends suggest that he get some rest; Octopus offers him a blanket and pillow.*)
3. On Worksheet F, read the assignment and hint to the children.

4. **Key Detail Focus:** Guide children to understand that many animal friends offer to help Freddie. He is determined not to rest until he finds his parents.
5. **DRAW:** Have children draw and color a picture of one of the animal friends Freddie sees on his journey.
6. **WRITE:** Children should use the word bank to help them write a sentence about their picture.
5. **TURN AND TALK/STORY EVIDENCE:** Read aloud the Turn and Talk. Have children turn to a partner to talk about how Freddie shows determination.

DAY 4: SPOTLIGHT ON THE END (Worksheet G)

1. Reread pages 30-32.
2. Use these questions to guide the discussion:
 - What does Freddie do when he is feeling tired? (***Freddie lays on a rock and goes to sleep.***)
 - What does Freddie realize in the end? (***He realizes that he had been dreaming the entire time.***)
3. On Worksheet G, read the assignment and hint to the children.
4. **Key Detail Focus:** Guide children to understand that Freddie feels happy and relieved that he was dreaming and that his parents were not lost after all.
5. **DRAW:** Have children draw and color a picture of how Freddie feels at the end of the story.
6. **WRITE:** Children should use the word bank to help them write a sentence about their picture.
5. **TURN AND TALK/STORY EVIDENCE:** Read aloud the Turn and Talk. Have children turn to a partner to discuss a time when they felt relieved or happy like Freddie.

WRITING ACTIVITY (Worksheet H: REWRITE OR REDRAW THE ENDING)

Students can use worksheet H to rewrite or redraw the ending to the story. If this were not a dream, how would the story end? Would any of the animals go with Freddie to look for his parents? Would Freddie find his parents?

ART ACTIVITY: FREDDIE ORIGAMI (Worksheet I)

ORIGAMI INFOGRAPHIC (Worksheet J)

Children can use Worksheet I (Freddie Origami) to create their very own folded paper version of Freddie the Flounder. The infographic gives step-by-step instructions for cutting and folding the PDF worksheet.