

Overview for Grade 3 Unit 3, *Character Studies*

Session/Minilesson	Conferring and Small-Group Work	Mid-Workshop Teaching	Share	
BEND I: Getting to Know a Character as a Friend				
<i>Start with Assessment</i>				
1	Readers Notice How a New Character Talks and Acts	First Things First: Monitor and Support Volume, Stamina, Engagement; Don't Leave Earlier Learning Behind	Readers Can Make Different Kinds of Observations about a Character	Readers Have Two Roles in a Conversation
2	From Observations to Ideas: Readers Think, "What Is My Character Like?"	Introducing Small-Group Instruction	Adding On to Your Thinking	Grounding Your Ideas in the Text
<i>A Day for Assessment</i>				
3	Noticing Patterns, Seeing More: Growing Theories about a Character	Scaffolding Children's Work around Patterns	Noticing When a Character Breaks Patterns of Behavior	Dramatization Can Support Fluency and Comprehension
4	Growing Bigger Theories about a Character: Asking Why	Using Students' Data to Tailor Your Instruction	Readers Expect that Their Theories May Change	Extending a Theory by Writing Long
5	Using Theories about Characters to Predict	Lifting the Level of Predictions with Self-Assessment	Revisiting Predictions as You Read On	Reaching Back across the Text to Make an Even Stronger Prediction
6	Taking Stock and Self-Assessing: Looking at Checklists, Noticing Strengths and Weaknesses, and Making New Reading Goals			
BEND II: Following a Character's Journey				
7	Stories Are Shaped Like a Mountain: Readers Watch Characters Go Up—and Down	Supporting Readers Early On with Their Book Club Work	Preparing for a Club Talk: Readers Make Their Thinking Visible	Launching Book Club Conversations
8	Readers Expect Characters to Face—and React to—Trouble	Supporting Book Clubs to Work Effectively	Looking for Patterns in a Character's Reactions to Problems	Creating a Club Identity
9	Readers Notice the Roles Secondary Characters Play in the Main Character's Journey	Rallying Book Clubs around Shared Goals and Supporting Earlier Small-Group Work	Secondary Characters Can Fill More than Just One Role	Noticing Whether a Secondary Character's Relationship to the Main Character Is Positive or Negative—and if This Changes
10	Noticing the Roles Illustrations Play in a Story	Both Pictures and Words Create Images	Looking across Illustrations in a Book	Finding Evidence that Supports Illustrations in a Text
11	Readers Pay Close Attention to the Climax of a Story, Noticing How the Main Character Is Tested	Helping Clubs Grow Their Ideas through Conversation	Noticing the Choices Characters Make during the Climax of a Story	Using Knowledge of Story Structure to Guide Conversation
12	Readers Notice How a Character Resolves Big Trouble			
13	Readers Learn Lessons alongside Their Characters	Deepening Students' Level of Interpretation	Using Text Evidence to Deepen Interpretation	Rereading Older Jots through the Lens of Theme
14	Linger with a Story after It's Done: Looking Back to Analyze Author's Craft	Supporting Students with Analysis of Author's Craft	Introducing the "Analyzing Parts of a Story in Relation to the Whole" Strand of the Learning Progression	Studying Analytic Work against the Narrative Reading Learning Progression
BEND III: Comparing and Contrasting Characters Across Books				
15	Comparing Characters: Noticing Similarities and Differences	Supporting Clubs' Early Comparison Work	Comparing Secondary Characters	Grounding Comparative Thinking in the Text
16	Readers Compare the Problems Characters Face—and Their Reactions	Transferring the Work that Students Have Done across the Unit	Drawing on Earlier Character Work to Compare	How Might One Character Advise Another? Tapping into Characters' Problem-Solving Skills
17	Readers Ask, "What Makes You Say That?": Engaging in Text-Based Mini-Arguments about Characters	Providing Repeated Opportunities to Practice this Work and Offering Critical Feedback to Raise the Level of Students' Work	Preparing for Debate Work by Marking Text-Based Evidence	Using Debate to Enrich Book Club Conversations
18	Comparing and Contrasting the Lessons Characters Learn	Small-Group Work to Extend Interpretation and Analysis	Comparing Signals Authors Give Readers that a Character Has Learned Something Big	Writing to Grow Even More Ideas about Lessons Characters Are Learning
19	Celebration			