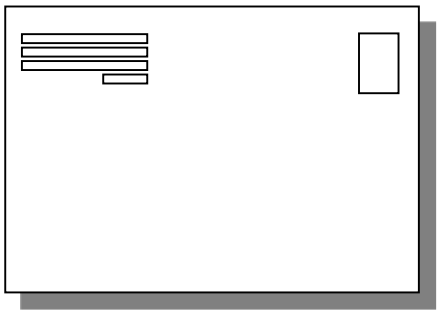
LETTER WRITING WITH POINT OF VIEW



Essential Questions

- WHAT IS FIRST PERSON POINT OF VIEW?
- HOW DOES POINT OF VIEW AFFECT A STORY?
- WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF A FRIENDLY LETTER?

Learning Intention / Overview

This activity will allow students to demonstrate understanding from a character's point of view (1st person). There are numerous ways for readers to respond to literature. This promotes insight into text and allows students to reveal their thinking, feelings, and reactions to the literature they have read. This activity will also review and practice how to write a friendly letter correctly.

Methods / Teaching Strategies

- Whole Group Discussion
- Independent Writing
- Personalized Learning

Assessment of Learning

- Letter
- Demonstrates an understanding of first person point of view through a character role.

How might you customize or alter this lesson?

Key Learning Areas

Reading and Writing

Concepts Taught

Point of View

Friendly Letter

Target Age

9 – 12 Year Olds

Duration

1 x 60 minute Session

You will need:

Charlotte's Web Book,

Pencil, Letter Form

edgalaxy.com

Cool Stuff for Nerdy Teachers

Online Resources:

- http://edgalaxy.com/education-quotes
- http://edgalaxy.com/classroom-posters-charts/2013/9/10/14-educational-quotes-posters
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPnYfwLOw84

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Teaching Instructions

1. **Review with students the following TWO types of point of view.**

1st Person Point of View

***Told by a character in a story**

***Uses pronouns I, me, we, us**

3rd Person Point of View

***Told by a narrator (someone not in the story)**

***Uses pronouns he, she, they, them, or character's names**

2. **Discuss the following sentences from chapter 1 of Charlotte's Web.**

1. "Where's Papa going with that ax?" said Fern to her mother as they were setting the table for breakfast.
2. "Please don't kill it!" she sobbed.
3. "What's that?" he demanded.

Explain that who tells the story and how it is told are critical. This tone and feel of the story that is demonstrated through a specific character contributes directly to the story.

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3. **Introduce the task of writing a friendly letter from a point of view of ONE of the characters from <u>Charlotte's Web</u>. List the parts of a friendly letter on the board and discuss them orally.**

   - ✓ **Heading-address of one writing the letter and date**
   - ✓ **Greeting-Dear and name of who you are writing to**
   - ✓ **Body-Give all the information/detail**
   - ✓ **Closing-say goodbye (love, your friend, thank you)**
   - ✓ **Signature-name of one writing the letter**

4. **Choose one of the following characters from <u>Charlotte's Web</u>. (Wilbur, Templeton, Sheep, Charlotte)**

   Write a letter to Mr. Zimmerman. In your letter state your feelings, thoughts, reactions, likes/dislikes, confusing moments, hurtful events, etc.

   Fill out ALL parts of the letter form EXCEPT HEADING.

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Point of View Friendly Letter

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Point of View
Friendly Letter
Answer Key: Answers will Vary

Dear Mr. Zimmerman,

I am Templeton the Rat. I live in your barn and sneak around to find food. I have a tunnel that helps me get around without being seen. I really try to stay out of everyone's way but the other animals think of me merely as a rat. I'm not really as lazy as I seem. I was so… helpful to Charlotte by finding words to go in her web. This saved Wilbur's life. However, no one really knows how important I was in this. I just want you to know because of me that barn spider knew how to spell those adjectives correctly. All this hard work from the both of us is what brought your farm so much attention. Then at the end of the time at the fair I was the hero again. I climbed up high in the stall and rescued Charlotte's egg sac. Once again no one knew of my heroic deeds. I feel it is time for the whole truth to come out. Would you please contact the newspaper again and tell them my story?

Thank you,

Templeton the Rat

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