Core Skills Analysis

English

- Analyzed the character of Squealer, focusing on his role within the narrative and how he functions as a persuasive speaker within the plot.
- Explored the literary device of irony, particularly how Squealer's speech contrasts between appearance and reality to influence other characters.
- Developed critical thinking skills by discussing the implications of manipulative language and propaganda as demonstrated through Squealer's dialogue.
- Engaged with the themes of power and control through the lens of character analysis and rhetorical strategies in the text.

Tips

To deepen Aiyana's understanding of character and literary devices, consider encouraging her to write a diary entry from Squealer's perspective, exploring his motivations and justifications. Role-playing debates where she defends or critiques Squealer's speech can foster empathy and critical thinking. Additionally, comparing Squealer's rhetoric to real-world examples of propaganda can build connections between literature and contemporary media literacy. Finally, examining other characters in 'Animal Farm' in relation to Squealer can help develop a broader comprehension of narrative function and thematic development.

Book Recommendations

- <u>Animal Farm</u> by George Orwell: A satirical novella that uses allegory to explore power dynamics and political corruption through the story of farm animals.
- <u>1984</u> by George Orwell: A dystopian novel examining themes of surveillance, propaganda, and the abuse of power, complementing the themes in Animal Farm.
- <u>The Giver</u> by Lois Lowry: A novel about controlled societies and the manipulation of truth, raising questions about power and individual freedom.

Learning Standards

- GCSE English Literature: Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, and to influence, in texts (AS2a).
- GCSE English Literature: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written (AS2c).
- GCSE English Literature: Explore themes such as power, control and propaganda (AS1a).

Try This Next

- Create a worksheet where Aiyana identifies examples of verbal irony in Squealer's speeches and explains their significance.
- Design a writing prompt that asks Aiyana to rewrite one of Squealer's speeches in a straightforward, honest manner to highlight the impact of his manipulative rhetoric.

Growth Beyond Academics

This activity likely supported Aiyana's analytical confidence and her ability to question the underlying intent in communication. Discussing a manipulative character such as Squealer may also have encouraged her to think critically about trust and truth, foundational skills for both emotional intelligence and social awareness.