

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will understand the themes and characters of the novel "Frindle" by Andrew Clements. They will also explore the concept of language and how it evolves, encouraging creativity and critical thinking about words and their meanings.

Materials and Prep

- A copy of the novel "Frindle" (or access to a summary if the book is not available)
- Pencil and paper for notes and activities
- A timer (optional, for timed activities)
- A comfortable space for reading and discussion

Before the lesson, ensure the student has read at least the first few chapters of "Frindle" or provide a brief summary of the book's main plot and characters.

Activities

- **Character Mapping:** Have the student draw a map of the main characters in "Frindle," including a brief description of each character's role in the story. This will help them visualize relationships and character development.
- **Word Creation Challenge:** Inspired by the book, ask the student to create their own new word and define it. They can then illustrate their word and share it with you, explaining how it can be used in a sentence.
- **Group Discussion:** Engage in a discussion about the importance of language and how new words are created. Ask the student to share their thoughts on how they feel about the word "frindle" and what it represents in the story.
- **Creative Writing:** Encourage the student to write a short story or a scene where they use their newly created word. This will foster creativity and help them apply their understanding of language in a fun way.

Talking Points

- "What do you think makes a word popular? Is it how it sounds, what it means, or how people use it?"
- "In 'Frindle,' Nick creates a new word. Why do you think he chose to do that? What was he trying to accomplish?"
- "How do you feel about the way language changes over time? Can you think of any words that have changed meaning or are used differently now?"
- "Why is it important for us to be able to create and adapt language? How does it help us express ourselves?"
- "What did you learn about friendship and creativity from the story? How do they connect to Nick's journey with the word 'frindle'?"