

## Materials:

- A copy of any 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' book
- Notebook or blank paper
- Pencil
- Optional: Thin black marker or pen for drawing

## Lesson Activities:

### Introduction: Wimpy Kid Style! (10 mins)

What makes the 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' books so much fun to read? Let's talk about it! Greg Heffley writes in a journal, not a diary! He uses everyday language, talks about normal (and sometimes embarrassing!) things that happen at school and home, and includes funny stick-figure drawings. It feels like a real kid writing it. That's called 'voice'!

### Activity 1: Deconstructing Greg Heffley (15 mins)

Open up a 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' book to any page with both writing and pictures. Let's look closely:

- **The Writing:** Is it formal or informal? (Informal!) Does Greg sound like he's talking directly to you? (Yes!) What kinds of things does he write about? (Everyday problems, funny situations, feelings). Notice how he uses capital letters sometimes for emphasis (like YIKES!).
- **The Drawings:** Are they super detailed? (No!) What do the drawings show? (Usually emotions, actions, or funny exaggerations). How do they help tell the story or make it funnier?

### Activity 2: Your Own Wimpy-Kid Moment (10 mins)

Think about something funny, annoying, or just \*interesting\* that happened to you this week. It doesn't have to be a huge event – maybe it was something silly at lunchtime, a chore you didn't want to do, or a misunderstanding. Brainstorm a few ideas.

### Activity 3: Journal Time! (20 mins)

Choose one of your ideas. Now, pretend you're writing in your \*own\* journal, Wimpy Kid style!

- Start with the date.
- Write in the first person ('I did this...', 'I felt...').
- Use your natural, everyday language. Don't worry about sounding too formal.
- Describe what happened and how you felt about it. Try to add a little humor if you can!
- Don't forget to maybe add some WORDS IN CAPS for emphasis!

### Activity 4: Add Some Art! (15 mins)

Read through your journal entry. Where could a simple drawing add to the story or the feeling? Think about:

- Showing your emotion (a drawing of your face looking annoyed, happy, surprised).
- Illustrating the action (a quick sketch of what happened).
- Adding a funny exaggeration.

Draw 2-3 simple, stick-figure style pictures right next to your writing, just like Greg Heffley does. Use pencil first, then you can go over it with a thin marker if you like.

### **Wrap-up: Share Your Story (5 mins)**

Read your journal entry and show your pictures! What did you enjoy about writing and drawing in this style? Was it easy or tricky to capture your 'voice'?

Great job creating your own Wimpy Kid-inspired journal entry today!