

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to analyze and interpret the main themes and characters in a short story.

Materials and Prep

- Copy of the short story (e.g., "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe)
- Pen and paper
- Quiet space for reading and discussion

No prior knowledge needed. Just come with an open mind and a willingness to engage with the text!

Activities

- Read the short story independently, taking notes on key themes and characters.
- Discuss your observations with a family member or friend, sharing your interpretations and listening to their perspectives.
- Write a short reflection on the story, highlighting the themes and characters that resonated with you the most.

Remember to support your interpretations with evidence from the text and consider different viewpoints during your discussions.

Eighth Grade Talking Points

- "Today, we're going to dive into a fascinating short story and explore its themes and characters."
- "As we read, let's pay attention to how the characters' actions and motivations contribute to the overall theme of the story."
- "When discussing the story with others, it's important to listen to different interpretations and consider how they might enrich our understanding."
- "In your reflection, think about how the story's themes relate to our own experiences and the world around us."