

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the Grade 3 homeschool student will be able to analyze and interpret the story "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, identify the main characters and their traits, and discuss the theme of selflessness.

Materials and Prep

- Copy of the book "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein
- Pen or pencil
- Notebook or loose leaf paper

Activities

1. Introduce the book "The Giving Tree" to the student. Show them the cover and read the title and author aloud. Ask the student what they think the story might be about based on the title and cover.
2. Read the story aloud to the student, or have the student read it independently if they are able to.
3. After reading, have a discussion with the student about the main characters in the story. Ask them to describe the tree and the boy, and discuss their traits and actions throughout the story.
4. Guide the student in identifying the theme of the story. Ask them what lesson or message they think the author is trying to convey through the story. Encourage them to think about the concept of selflessness and how it is portrayed in the book.
5. Have the student write a short paragraph or draw a picture to summarize their understanding of the story and its theme. Encourage them to use examples from the book to support their ideas.

United States of America: Grade 3 Talking Points

- "The Giving Tree" is a popular children's book written by Shel Silverstein.
- The story revolves around a tree and a boy who develop a unique friendship.
- The tree is portrayed as selfless, always giving to the boy without expecting anything in return.
- The boy starts off as a young child and grows older throughout the story.
- The boy takes advantage of the tree's generosity, using its branches, apples, and even cutting it down for materials.
- As the boy grows older, he becomes more distant from the tree and only returns when he needs something.
- The story explores the themes of selflessness, friendship, and the consequences of taking without giving back.
- It teaches us the importance of appreciating and valuing the sacrifices others make for us.
- The Giving Tree is a thought-provoking story that encourages us to reflect on our own actions and relationships with others.