



Grade 1 Reading Unit 4 - Understanding Fiction Through the Characters' Eyes

In this unit, your child will begin to focus on the characters in their stories. Through this character study, your child will begin to understand some deeper concepts within stories. He or she will begin to realize the theme as we focus on the character's feelings, motivations, and changes.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Identifying characters and story elements (characters, setting, events, problem, solution)
- Identifying life lessons/themes
- Retelling a story using the important events
- Analyzing character actions and motivations
- Identifying the main characters and minor characters
- Making predictions
- Reading with fluency and expression
- Rereading to gather more information

Questions to ask as your child is reading at home:

- Who is your main character?
- What did you learn about your main character?
- What predictions have you made from your just right book?
- What did you learn about other characters in your just right book?
- Can you retell the important parts of your just right book? (Emphasize going in chronological order)
- What did your character end up learning?
- What is the story's theme or life lesson?

Some books your child will enjoy in class are:

- Ira Sleeps Over
- Clifford and the Big Storm
- Franklin's Class Trip
- David Goes to School
- Little Yellow Chicken

Enjoy talking about the characters and stories that you are reading with your child. Discuss how and why the character's feelings change and talk about a life lesson the character may learn in the story. Understanding a character's feelings, actions, and changes throughout a story will allow your child to gain a deeper understanding of the text.