

Lesson Plan: Inferring (Ford, 3/06)
Third Grade

Materials:

- Overhead of inference sheet
- Overhead
- Overhead markers
- Student copies of inference sheet
- My stuff (passport, lantern, family photo)
- Circle magnets
- *What's the Time, Grandma Wolf?*
- *The King who Rained*
- Non examples (*Cookbook, directions, coupons*)
- *An Angel for Solomon Singer*
- Overheads for *Solomon Singer*
- Teacher-selected reading text
- Sticky Notes
- Overhead of self-evaluation tool
- Student copies of self-evaluation tool
- Name cards
- Whole group assessment tool
- Individual assessment tool

Lesson Organization

1. Phase One: Introduction

- a. Pass out inference sheet. Have overhead model ready.
- b. Name and date inference sheet.
- c. Talk about “right there” clue.
Glasses, gray hair,
Fill in boxes in lines #1, #2, and #3
- d. Talk about “think and search” inference from the clue
Glasses (has trouble with vision), gray hair (old)
Fill in boxes in lines #1, #2, and #3
- e. Show harder clues
Passport, Lantern, Family photo
Fill in boxes in lines #4, #5, and #6
- f. Model inference for line #4
- g. Guide inference for line #5
Use “what” prompts as you write on overhead
- h. Practice inference for line #6
Pair-share-surface
Bring someone up to the overhead
Use “how” “why” prompts

2. Phase Two: Explicit Instruction

- a. **Discuss the importance of strategies:** Strategies help us solve problems we encounter when we are trying to read, write and learn.
Remind students of past strategy instruction/efforts
- b. **Identify WHAT the strategy is:** Inferring
- c. **Explain WHAT the strategy consists of:** “thinking and searching”, “Reading between the lines”; contrast with “right there” (**What’s the Time Grandma Wolf? example**)
- d. **Explain WHY this strategy is important:** Helps us think more accurately about what we are reading (**King who Rained example**) and more deeply about what we are reading
- e. **Explain WHEN to use this:** Almost all the time, used with other strategies like making connections, visualizing summarizing
- f. **Explain WHEN NOT to use this:** Coupon book, Cookbook, Directions,

3. Phase Three: Modeling

- a. **Read pages 1-6. Stop.**
- b. **Think Aloud using text on overhead. Invite students to write along.**
- c. **Focus on inferences unhappy, sad, depressed (line #7) clues:** *He did not like it, the hotel had none of the things he loved, Solomon Singer loved where he lived not at all.*
- d. **Guide with support focus on inferences down on his luck, not much money, (line #8) clues:** *a hotel for men, none of the things he loved, could not have a cat, or dog, could not even paint his walls*

4. Phase Four: Guided Practice (Large Group)

- a. **Read together 7-10 on the overhead. Stop.**
- b. **Invite on line #9 to find a right there clue and make an inference.**
- c. **Pair-share-surface**
- d. **Suggested:** *He would rather be back in the countryside (Indiana was mixed into his blood even now. Wishing for fields, stars and crickets.) Older (fifty-odd years later). Didn’t like living in the city. (He didn’t feel happy as he wandered.)*

5. Phase Five: Independent Practice (Large Group)

- a. **Read 11-14 on the overhead as small groups. Stop.**
- b. **Invite on line #10 to find a clue and make an inference.**
- c. **Suggested:** *Life is maybe going to change. (Solomon Singer smiled back, came back again the very next night)*
- d. **Invite students to use their individual books. Invite to find an example from their books on line #11.**
- e. **Model from teacher-selected book.**
- f. **Pair-share-surface.**

6. Phase Six: Transfer (Independent)

- a. **Explain task:**
 - **Read for 5 minutes.**
 - **Use sticky notes to mark any good examples.**
 - **Fill in Boxes 12-15 with examples from your own book.**
 - **Share with a buddy.**
- b. **Teacher will informally assess and collect 4 examples on overhead.**
- c. **Return to large group and share.**
- d. **Start with four examples on the overhead.**
- e. **Add a few more as time permits.**
- f. **Finish sheet with *What I Have Learned about Inferring***
- g. **Model on overhead. Pair-share-surface.**

7. Phase Seven : Closure

- a. **Finish Solomon Singer**
- b. **Pair-share surface**
- c. **Self-evaluation**
- d. **Pair-share-surface**