Unit 4: Building Blocks of Narrative: Character

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**
Course(s): **Creative Writing 1**
Time Period: **October**
Length: **3 blocks**
Status: **Published**

Enduring Understandings

Effective narratives include well developed, engaging characters.

Building a character requires a thorough understanding of the character by the writer.

Reflection by the writer can lead to compelling details and traits in the character.

Creating a graphic organizer or other graphic representation of the traits of the character can be helpful to the writer.

Essential Questions

Why are well developed, engaging characters essential to effective narratives?

Why must the writer look inward before turning outward?

Why does time and effort result in compelling character development for the writer?

How can using a graphic organizer or visualizing a character help the writer develop a complete, compelling character?

Content

Student generated material

A Rose for Emily by William Faulkner

Skills

Identify and portray offensive traits in a character in a writing prompt.

Identify and employ basic elements of character building in writing exercise, including descriptive detail, dialogue and plot devices.

Organize ideas according to effective narrative structure.

Read short fiction as model of using details, dialogue and plot to build characters.

Apply what they learned from reading model of character building in their own fiction.

Resources

A Rose for Emily by William Faulkner

Various Writing Prompts

Student Writing Journals

Chromebooks

Google Classroom

Standards

NJSLSA.R2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

NJSLSA.R3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

RL.11-12.2. Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.11-12.3. Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).

NJSLSA.W3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

W.11-12.3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

a. Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.

b. Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.

c. Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).

d. Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.

e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

LA.RL.11-12.2	Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to

	produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
LA.W.11-12.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.11-12.3.A	Engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance, establishing one or multiple point(s) of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters; create a smooth progression of experiences or events.
LA.W.11-12.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
LA.W.11-12.3.C	Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., a sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution).
LA.W.11-12.3.D	Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
LA.W.11-12.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.