Unit 7: Reader's Workshop- If...Then: Getting to Know Your Characters Really Well

Content Area: **English Language Arts**
Course(s): **Reading K**
Time Period: **May**
Length: **30 Days**
Status: **Published**

Unit Summary

This unit uses children's natural inclination towards imitation and role-playing by inviting them to do this same sort of pretending with their characters. It focuses on comprehension skills such as inferring, activating prior knowledge, and synthesizing deeper understandings of characters by making connections and empathizing with a characters situations, experiences, and relationships. Children will be using their books to help them figure out how to act like the characters in those books. And, in the process of acting out their books, by being the characters in those books, readers will also come to know the characters (and perhaps themselves) better. Remember that even in low-level books, with what appears to be very undeveloped characters, children could learn to use illustrations, what's happening in the story and any relevant background knowledge to help them know their characters better. Teachers will want to gather their character books into various baskets and use shared reading and your read-aloud to scaffold this reading work.

Standards

LA.RL.K.5	Recognize common types of texts (e.g., storybooks, poems).
LA.RL.K.6	With prompting and support, name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.
LA.RL.K.9	With prompting and support, compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.
LA.RL.K.10	Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
LA.RF.K.4.A	Read emergent-readers with purpose and understanding.
LA.RF.K.4.B	Read grade level text for purpose and understanding.
LA.SL.K.1	Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
TECH.8.1.2	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.2.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.

Student Learning Objectives

Students will be learn to...

- focus on comprehension skills such as inferring and activating prior knowledge.
- synthesize deeper understandings of characters by making connections and empathizing with a characters situations, experiences, and relationships.
- act like characters from their books.

Essential Questions

- How do readers get to know the characters in their book?
- How can readers get to know their characters so that they may pretend to be them? How can readers perform books in book clubs?
- How can I read and reread my books to get ready to share them with an audience?

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that...

- readers can work together in book clubs to perform their books.
- readers get to know their characters so well that they can pretend to be them.
- readers have strategies to get to know their characters really well.
- readers reread their books to make the characters and stories come to life.

Application

Students will be able to independently use their learning to…

- identify main characters in text.
- perform as a character by using similar behavior and speech.
- point out how a character changes in a story.
- recognize feelings that literary characters feel.

Skills

Students will be skilled at …

- understanding characters.
- making connections and empathizing with a characters situations, experiences, and relationships.
- acting like the characters in their books.