## Grade 5 Lesson 1

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# Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Language Arts
## Lesson Plan #1

<table>
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<tr>
<th>VISION-SETTING</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE.</th>
<th>What is your objective?</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student will be able to:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1. RL.5.2. Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text. <em>(main idea)</em></td>
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<td>2. RL.5.1. Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. <em>(inferences)</em></td>
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<td>KEY POINTS.</td>
<td>What knowledge and skills are embedded in the objective?</td>
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<td>1. A theme (or main idea) is the message or moral present in the story. Some are stated, while others are implied. Many times, good readers have to use the details and occurrences in the text to determine the theme.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. In order to argue that a certain theme is present, it is important that students be able to identify direct quotes in the literature that support the theme that they have discovered.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSESSMENT.</th>
<th>Describe, briefly, what students will do to show you that they have mastered (or made progress toward) the objective.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Students will be able to identify theme in a series of short passages, and determine the theme of a Marlins related article (utilizing quotes to support the theme).</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPENING (10 min.)</th>
<th>MATERIALS.</th>
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<tr>
<td>How will you communicate what is about to happen?</td>
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<td>How will you communicate how it will happen?</td>
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<td>How will you communicate its importance?</td>
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<td>How will you communicate connections to previous lessons?</td>
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<td>How will you engage students and capture their interest?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Read the following lyrics. When you are done reading, write in ONE SENTENCE what you believe the main idea (or theme) of the lyrics are. What is the artist trying to say?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enjoy the power and beauty of your youth; oh never mind; you will not understand the power and beauty of your youth until they have faded. But trust me, in 20 years you’ll look back at photos of yourself and recall in a way you can’t grasp now how much possibility lay before you and how fabulous you really looked…</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Everybody’s Free to Wear Sunscreen” - Baz Luhrmann</td>
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<td>After students have written for five minutes, the teacher will begin: Has anyone heard this song before? No? That’s okay! You don’t have to have heard the song to understand what it is trying to say. What is the artist trying to say about life? (Calls on hands) That’s right! He is trying to say to appreciate life when you are young.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme is a tremendously important part of understanding the world around us. Without figuring out the theme (or the moral or lesson), there is no purpose to reading. Every story has a theme. The theme is the important message the author wants to teach readers.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Today you are going to learn how to find the theme of a piece of writing. You are also going to learn how to identify quotes from the text to SUPPORT what you believe the theme is. We will also hear from one of our favorite Miami Marlins players!</td>
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<tr>
<th>DETERMINING METHODS</th>
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Students will complete the **theme guided notes** on the “Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice” handout, while the teacher reads the following from the PowerPoint:

- A theme is an _essential_ message or truth about life.
- A theme is ______ lesson or moral _______ that the character(s) and/or reader learn.
- Theme is the ___ central __ message expressed in a story.
- A ___stated___ theme is expressed directly by the author.
- An ___implied____ theme is suggested, or state indirectly through what happens to the characters.
- A ___repeating___ theme, or a recurring theme, is a message about life that is expressed regularly in many different cultures and time periods.
- The theme is a _____ sentence_______, it is NOT a word!!!

**Steps to Finding Theme:**

Step 1: Identify the main characters.

Step 2: Identify the character(s) initial situation.
- *What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the beginning of the story?*

Step 3: Identify the character(s) ending situation.
- *What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the end of the story?*

Step 4: Ask yourselves what the character(s) learned (or how the character changed) throughout the story.

Step 5: **Match** your answer with the multiple-choice answer it fits most closely.

**Watch and write** as I model the first example of how to identify theme (using the steps) while identifying two direct quotes as support.

- What is the theme of this short passage?
- Honesty is always the best policy.
- My two quotes:
  - “Impressed with his honesty, she allowed him to keep all three.”
  - “No it isn’t,’ she replied, grabbing it back from him. ‘And for your dishonesty, you now have no axe at all!’”

**PowerPoint**

“Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice” handout
**GUIDED PRACTICE (20 min.)**
How will students practice all knowledge/skills required of the objective, with your support, such that they continue to internalize the key points? 
How will you ensure that students have multiple opportunities to practice, with exercises scaffolded from easy to hard? 

You will have fifteen minutes to complete the two short passages for which you have to FIGURE OUT THE THEME. We have already practiced the steps and gone through the process on the first one as a class. The next two ("Guided Practice #1" and "Guided Practice #2") will be YOUR opportunity to shine.

When you are done completing the guided practice, we will hear from one of our favorite Marlins players, Justin Ruggiano, discussing the themes of his favorite songs and books!

**INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (10 min.)**
How will students independently practice the knowledge and skills required of the objective, such that they solidify their internalization of the key points prior to the lesson assessment? 

Now you will have the opportunity to identify theme on your own, utilizing an article about the Miami Marlins: "Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice" (Military Monday) handout. Read the short article and respond to the two questions that follow:

1. What is the theme of this article? What is this article trying to show about the Marlins team?
2. What are two quotes from the article that help support this theme?

**Lesson Assessment:** Once students have had an opportunity to practice independently, how will they attempt to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge/skills required of the objective? 

Teachers will utilize the exit slips (the closing activity) and the questions to the article to determine if students mastered the objective: identifying theme and supporting the theme with direct quotes.

**CLOSING (5 min.)**
How will students summarize and state the significance of what they learned? 

Today we covered a very important topic: theme and utilizing direct quotes to support our arguments. For our closing, I would like you to complete the “Exit Slip” at the end of your “Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice” handout. Great job today!
Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice

THEME - WHAT IS IT?

A theme is a________________________ message or truth about life.
A theme is__________________________________________ that the character(s)
and/or reader learn.

Theme is the________________________ message expressed in a story.
• A________________________ theme is expressed directly by the author.
• An________________________ theme is suggested, or state indirectly through what happens
to the characters.
• A________________________ theme, or a recurring theme, is a message about life that is
expressed regularly in many different cultures and time periods.

The theme is a______________________________________, it is NOT a word!!!

Here are some common themes found in literature:
• Good is stronger than evil.
• Nature is more powerful than humans.
• Enjoy life now because we all die too soon.
• A person determines his or her own destiny.
• Treat others the way you want to be treated.
• Honesty is always the best policy.

PROCESS TO IDENTIFY THEME IN PASSAGES

Step 1: Identify the________________________ characters.

Step 2: Identify the character(s)________________________ situation.

What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the beginning of the story?

Step 3: Identify the character(s)________________________ situation.

What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the end of the story?

Step 4: Ask yourselves what the character(s)________________________ throughout the story.

Step 5:________________________ your answer with the multiple-choice answer it fits most closely.
Marlins Teacher Modeled Example:

There once was a lumberjack who stood by the edge of a lake, cutting wood. He was having a tough time with a log, and winging his axe back powerfully to give a good whack, he accidentally let go and his axe plunged into the deep water.

Realizing that he’d just lost the main tool of his trade, he sat on the edge of the pool and began to weep. Just then, a water nymph appeared. She asked what was wrong, and the man explained what happened. “Fear not,” she told him. “I will retrieve your axe for you.”

With that, she dove into the water, and came back up with a golden axe. When she learned it was not the one he lost, she dove back down, coming up again with a silver axe this time. Again, the man told her that it was not his. On her third try, the nymph retrieved the very same axe the man had lost. Impressed with his honesty, she allowed him to keep all three.

When he returned to the lumberyard, he told the other workers what had happened. One less-than-honest man headed down to the lake himself, and intentionally threw his axe in. Then, he sat on the edge of the water and began to cry. When the nymph appeared, he explained his situation. Again, she dove into the water and pulled up a golden axe. “Is this the one you lost?” she asked.

“Yes! Yes! That’s it!” the man cried, seizing the prize from her hand.

“No it isn’t,” she replied, grabbing it back from him. “And for your dishonesty, you now have no axe at all!”

With that, she disappeared.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP</th>
<th>YOUR ANSWER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Step 1:</strong> Major Characters:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Step 2:</strong> Characters beginning situation:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Step 3:</strong> Characters end situation:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 4:</strong> What did the characters learn:</td>
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</table>
| **Step 5:** Which of the following is the theme of this passage? | **Circle the correct answer choice:** <br>a. Love is where you find it.  
b. Bravery is more honorable than cowardice.  
c. Loneliness leads to unhappiness.  
d. Honesty is always the best policy. |

**Provide 2 details from the text to support your answer.**
1. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
**GUIDED PRACTICE #1**

**The Wind and the Sun**

The Wind and the Sun were disputing which was the stronger. Suddenly they saw a traveler coming down the road, and the Sun said: "I see a way to decide our dispute. Whichever of us can cause that traveler to take off his cloak shall be regarded as the stronger. You begin." So the Sun retired behind a cloud, and the Wind began to blow as hard as it could upon the traveler. But the harder he blew the more closely did the traveler wrap his cloak round him, till at last the Wind had to give up in despair. Then the Sun came out and shone in all his glory upon the traveler, who soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on.

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<td><strong>Step 5:</strong> Which of the following is the theme of this passage?</td>
<td><strong>Circle the correct answer choice:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. nature is more powerful than humans</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>b. honesty is always the best policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. good is stronger than evil</td>
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<td></td>
<td>d. enjoy life now because we all die too soon</td>
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**Provide 2 details from the text to support your answer.**

1. ____________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________
The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

A Wolf found great difficulty in getting at the sheep that were protected by the shepherd and his dogs. But one day it found the skin of a sheep that had been shaved and thrown aside, so it put in on over its own fur and strolled down among the sheep. The Lamb that belonged to the sheep, whose skin the Wolf was wearing, began to follow the Wolf in the Sheep's clothing. So, leading the Lamb a little apart, he soon made a meal off her, and for some time he succeeded in deceiving the sheep, and enjoying hearty meals.

**GUIDED PRACTICE #2**

**The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing**

A Wolf found great difficulty in getting at the sheep that were protected by the shepherd and his dogs. But one day it found the skin of a sheep that had been shaved and thrown aside, so it put on over its own fur and strolled down among the sheep. The Lamb that belonged to the sheep, whose skin the Wolf was wearing, began to follow the Wolf in the Sheep's clothing. So, leading the Lamb a little apart, he soon made a meal off her, and for some time he succeeded in deceiving the sheep, and enjoying hearty meals.

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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 4: What did the characters learn:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Step 5: Which of the following is the theme of this passage?** | **Circle the correct answer choice:**
  a. Wolves are very creative and sneaky.
  b. Good cannot always overcome evil.
  c. Hunger can drive animals to do crazy things.
  d. Appearances can be deceptive.

Provide 2 details from the text to support your answer.
1. _________________________________
   _________________________________
   _________________________________
   _________________________________
2. _________________________________
   _________________________________
   _________________________________
   _________________________________
EXIT SLIP
King Midas wants more and more gold and is finally granted his wish: Everything he touches will turn to gold. The Midas touch! He is ecstatic, as even the flowers become gold under his powerful touch. Unfortunately, when King Midas touches his daughter, she turns into a gold statue, and it is at that moment he realizes that all the gold in the world does not compare to his daughter or her love.

What is the main theme of this passage?
   a. Gold is worth more than love.
   b. Golden statues are expensive.
   c. Be careful what you wish for.
MIAMI -- Military Monday had a little more meaning this week at Marlins Park.

With Monday being Memorial Day, the United States Marine Corps presented the colors before the Marlins faced the Nationals.

A short video tribute played on the scoreboard before the first pitch. The theme was "One nation. One moment."

The Star-Spangled Banner was performed by trumpet.

For the day, the Marlins wore a special cap, with a camo design on their team logo.

Logan Morrison belted a special home run in Miami's 5-3 win, and when he approached the plate, he saluted to the sky in honor of his father.

Morrison's father, Tom, passed away in December 2010. He was formerly in the Coast Guard.

"I try to keep the emotions in check, and try not to do too much at the plate," Morrison said. "I wasn't even thinking about it when I hit the home run, but when I was crossing the plate, absolutely. It was pretty cool.

"I had goosebumps going around the bases. Giving him a salute was pretty cool."

As an organization, the Marlins have actively supported the military. In recent years, players and team representatives have traveled around the world to visit the troops.

During the season, the Marlins have their "Outback Steakhouse Military Mondays" promotion. The team offers complimentary tickets for military employees, active duty and retirees, Reserve, National Guard and their dependents.
1. What is the theme of this article? What is this article trying to show about the Marlins team?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

2. What are two quotes from the article that help support this theme?

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________
Lesson 1

1. RL.5.2. Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text. (main idea)

2. RL.5.1. Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. (inferences)
Do Now

Read the following lyrics. When you are done reading, write in ONE SENTENCE what you believe the main idea (or theme) of the lyrics are. What is the artist trying to say?

Enjoy the power and beauty of your youth;
oh never mind;
you will not
understand the power and beauty of your youth until they have faded.
But trust me,
in 20 years you’ll look back at photos of yourself and recall in a way you can’t grasp now how much possibility lay before you and how fabulous you really looked…

“Everybody’s Free to Wear Sunscreen” - Baz Luhrmann
But...WHY?

• Theme is a tremendously important part of understanding the world around us. Without figuring out the theme (or the moral or lesson), there is no purpose to reading. Every story has a theme. The theme is the important message the author wants to teach readers.

• Today you are going to learn how to find the theme of a piece of writing. You are also going to learn how to identify quotes from the text to SUPPORT what you believe the theme is.

• We will also hear from one of our favorite Miami Marlins players!
A **theme** is an ___essential___ message or truth about life.

A **theme** is __________lesson or moral_________ that the character(s) and/or reader learn.

**Theme** is the ___central___ message expressed in a story.

- A ___stated___ theme is expressed directly by the author.
- An ___implied___ theme is suggested, or state indirectly through what happens to the characters.
- A ___repeating___ theme, or a recurring theme, is a message about life that is expressed regularly in many different cultures and time periods.

The **theme** is a _____sentence________, it is NOT a word!!!
Some Common Themes Found in Literature

- Good is stronger than evil.
- Nature is more powerful than humans.
- Enjoy life now because we all die too soon.
- A person determines his or her own destiny.
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- Honesty is always the best policy.
How do you FIND theme?

- **Step 1:** Identify the *main* characters.

- **Step 2:** Identify the character(s) *initial* situation.
  - *What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the beginning of the story?*

- **Step 3:** Identify the character(s) *ending* situation.
  - *What is the character(s) thinking or doing at the end of the story?*

- **Step 4:** Ask yourselves what the character(s) *learned* (or how the character changed) throughout the story.

- **Step 5:** *Match* your answer with the multiple-choice answer it fits most closely.
Miami Marlins Modeled Example

• Watch and write as I model the first example of how to identify theme (using the steps) while identifying two direct quotes as support.

• What is the theme of this short passage?
  • Honesty is always the best policy.

• My two quotes:

  • “Impressed with his honesty, she allowed him to keep all three.”

  • “No it isn’t,’ she replied, grabbing it back from him. ‘And for your dishonesty, you now have no axe at all!’”
Let’s Do It. Find THEME.

- You will have ten minutes to complete the two short passages for which you have to FIGURE OUT THE THEME. We have already practiced the steps and gone through the process on the first one as a class. The next two (“Guided Practice #1” and “Guided Practice #2”) will be YOUR opportunity to shine.
Video: Miami Marlin
Independent Practice

- Now you will have the opportunity to identify theme on your own, utilizing an article about the Miami Marlins: “Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Independent Practice” (Military Monday) handout. Read the short article and respond to the two questions that follow:

1. What is the theme of this article? What is this article trying to show about the Marlins team?

2. What are two quotes from the article that help support this theme?
Closing

• Today we covered a very important topic: theme and utilizing direct quotes to support our arguments. For our closing, I would like you to complete the “Exit Slip” at the end of your “Marlins Think Tank: Fifth Grade Theme Practice” handout. Great job today!