

The Lemonade War



By

Jacqueline Davies

A Novel Study
by Nat Reed

The Lemonade War

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About the author: Nat Reed was a member of the teaching profession for more than 35 years. He was a full-time instructor at Trent University in the Teacher Education Program for nine years. For more information on his work and literature, visit novelstudies.org.

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Suggestions and Expectations

This curriculum unit can be used in a variety of ways. Each chapter of the novel study focuses on one or two chapters of *The Lemonade War* and is comprised of the following activities:

1. Before You Read
2. Vocabulary Building
3. Comprehension Questions
4. Language and Extension Activities

A **portfolio cover** (p.7) as well as a **Checklist** (p.6) are included so that students may track of their completed work.

Every activity need not be completed by all students.

Links with the Common Core Standards (U.S.)

Many of the activities included in this curriculum unit are supported by the Common Core Standards. For instance the *Reading Standards for Literature, Grade 5*, makes reference to

- a) determining the meaning of words and phrases. . . including figurative language;
- b) explaining how a series of chapters fits together to provide the overall structure;
- c) compare and contrast two characters;
- d) determine how characters ... respond to challenges;
- e) drawing inferences from the text;
- f) determining a theme of a story . . . **and many others.**

Themes which may be taught in conjunction with the novel include justice and fairness, the importance of family and friends, perseverance, selflessness, loyalty and trust.

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List of Skills

Vocabulary Development

1. Locating descriptive words/phrases
2. Listing synonyms/homophones
3. Identifying/creating *alliteration*
4. Use of capitals and punctuation
5. Identifying syllables
6. Identify *personification*.
7. Identify *singular/plural*
8. Identify *anagrams*
9. Listing compound words
10. Identifying parts of speech
11. Determining alphabetical order
12. Identification of root words
13. Identify/create *similes*

Setting Activities

1. Summarize the details of a setting

Plot Activities

1. Complete a *time line* of events
2. Identify conflict in the story
3. Complete Five W's Chart
4. Identify *cliffhangers*
5. Identify the climax of the novel.
6. Complete a Story Pyramid

Character Activities

1. Determine character traits
2. Identify the protagonist/antagonist
3. Relating personal experiences
4. Compare characters

Creative and Critical Thinking

1. Research
2. Write a newspaper story
3. Participate in a talk show
4. Conduct an interview
5. Create a poem
6. Write a description of personal feelings
7. Write a book review
8. Complete an Observation Chart
9. Complete a KWS Chart
10. Create a friendly letter.

Art Activities

1. A Storyboard
2. Create a collage
3. Design a cover for the novel
4. Create a comic strip

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Synopsis

Evan Reski is people-smart. He is good at talking to people, even grownups. His younger sister, Jessie, on the other hand, is math-smart – but not especially good at understanding people. She knows that feelings are her weakest subject. So when their lemonade war begins, there is no telling who will win – or if their fight will even end. (The publisher)

“[Davies] does a good job of showing the siblings' strengths, flaws, and points of view in this engaging chapter book.” ~ Booklist

A complete synopsis and other helpful reviews can be found online at such sites as:
<http://www.amazon.ca/The-Lemonade-War-Jacqueline-Davies/dp/0547237650>

Author Biography

Jacqueline Davies

I've always loved to write stories and poems. In fact, I wrote my first book when I was in elementary school. It was called "The Sad Shape," and it was about a circle who wanted legs. I still have that book! I bring it with me on school visits to show that all writers have humble beginnings.

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and lived in five states by the time I was eleven. Moving around so much made me a student of human nature. You have to pay close attention when you're always the new kid in town. To this day, one of my favorite things to do is people-watch. I never get tired of watching people go by, asking myself, I wonder what the story is behind that person?

Nowadays, I live in a small town about twelve miles outside of Boston, Massachusetts. I have three kids and one dog, and they're all pretty terrific. When I'm not busy with my kids and my writing, I like to read, go to movies, watch the Celtics and the Patriots, travel, and hang out with my friends. Sometimes, though, I just sit on my front steps and watch the people go by.



Courtesy of <http://www.jacquelinedavies.net/about.html>

The Lemonade War



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Name: _____

The Lemonade War

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Chapter 1



Before you read the chapter:

The **protagonist** in most novels features the main character or “good guy”. There are actually two protagonists in *The Lemonade War*, Evan Treski and his younger sister, Jessie. Think back on some of your favorite characters from past novels you have read or movies you’ve seen. What do you think makes for an especially interesting **protagonist**?



Vocabulary:

Choose a word from the list to complete each sentence.

complicated	direct	humiliated	humungous
disgust	genius	installed	economy

1. Jasmine felt quite _____ when she fell off the swing.
2. **Slump** is defined as *a drop in the activity of a business or the* _____.
3. Kevin was filled with _____ when he saw April bullying her younger sister.
4. Paula woke up to discover that she had a _____ red pimple on her nose.
5. “The instructions are much too _____ for such a young person,” Mr. Hunter said.
6. I doubt if there is a _____ route from Brisbane to your cottage.
7. While we were away for the holidays our neighbors _____ a huge satellite dish on their roof.
8. Most people consider Albert Einstein to be a _____.

Questions



1. What is the **setting** of the story at the beginning of Chapter One?

2. What were the following people doing as our novel begins?

Evan	
Evan's Mom	

3. Describe how Evan was feeling about his younger sister in this chapter. What had made him feel this way?

b. If you were Evan in this situation, would you feel the same way? Why or why not?

4. What two pieces of evidence do we have in this chapter which tell us that Jessie must be quite smart?

1	
2	

5. How did Jessie make things worse after Evan was hit in the nose with the ball? (Maybe she's not so smart after all.)

Good to Know ~ Stratego

Jessie informs us that Evan's favorite game is **Stratego**, a popular strategy board game for two players. The origins of *Stratego* can be traced back to the traditional Chinese board game *Jungle*, also known as "Game of the Fighting Animals". The modern game of Stratego was originally manufactured in the Netherlands and was introduced in the United States in 1961. The game is particularly popular in the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium where regular world and national championships are organized. The web site, *List Challenges*, ranks Stratego as the world's 15th most popular board game.



Language Activities



A. Anagrams

An **anagram** is a word that is formed by changing the order of the letters of another word. For example, the letters in the word **WAS** can also form the word **SAW**. Follow these directions to form the anagrams:



a) read the clue in the right-hand column.

b) Using the word in the left-hand column move the letters around in any order, but you must use all the letters.

Word	Anagram	Clue
palm		Provides light.
nose		Great periods of time.
step		Someone who is a bother.
elbow		Underneath
dim		Center
deal		To direct someone.
shut		Small buildings.

B. Place the following words from this chapter in **alphabetical order**.

face	1.
figure	2.
eyes	3.
flame	4.
fort	5.
game	6.
felt	7.
feel	8.
Evan	9.
fighting	10.

C. Onomatopoeia is the formation of words whose sound imitates the sound of a noise such as *hiss*, *buzz*, and *bang*. There are at least five examples of onomatopoeia in Chapter One. See if you can find three examples of this literary device and then tell what each sound represents.



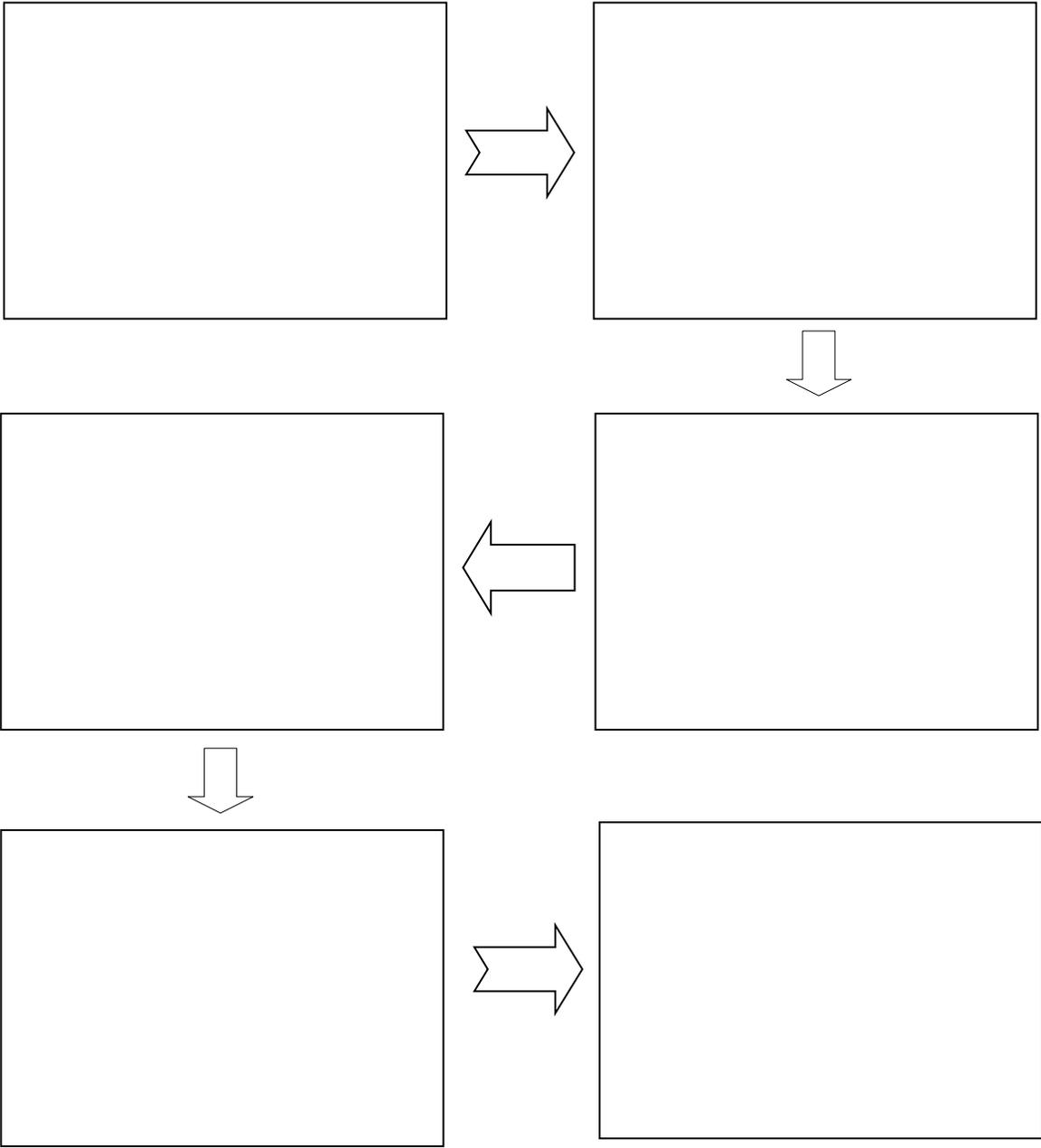
	The Sound	It is the sound of ...
1		
2		
3		

Invent your own examples of onomatopoeia and then tell us what sounds they represent.

	The Sound	It is the sound of ...
1		
2		
3		

D. Sequence Chart

Choose what you consider to be the six most important events in this chapter. In each of the six boxes below list the six events that you have chosen, describing what happened and telling why you consider this to be an essential part of the story.



E. 5 Ws and an H.

Choose an event from this section that you thought was really important and/or exciting. Using facts that you gleaned from reading about this event, fill in the balloons below, summarizing what you learned.



WHO?



WHAT?



WHEN?



WHERE?



WHY?



HOW?

Extension Activities

A. Storyboard

A storyboard is a series of pictures that tell about an important event in a story. A story-board can tell the story of only one scene – or the entire novel. Complete the story-board below illustrating the events described in this section of *The Lemonade War*. You may wish to practice your drawings on a separate piece of paper.



1	2
3	4
5	6

B. Poems Evan and Jessie Would Probably Enjoy.

Marian wrote the following **Haiku** poem about lemonade:

Lemonade

Lemonade in hand
Sipping it in the cool shade
It cools me off now
(hellopoetry.com)



Haiku is a Japanese poetry form. A haiku uses just a few words to capture a moment and create a picture in the reader's mind. It is like a tiny window into a scene much larger than itself.

Traditionally, haiku is written in three lines...

- ~ with five syllables in the first line
- ~ seven syllables in the second line
- ~ and five syllables in the third line.

The Haiku Poem

Now create your own Haiku Poem on a subject of your choice. Your poem must follow the format of a haiku poem described above (and doesn't need to rhyme).

Title: _____
