Lesson Plan



LESSON TITLE: Malala's Magic Pencil

Teacher Name: Elizabeth Lisic

Addressed Standards:

Common Core ELA Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY. RL.8.1 / RL.8.2 / SL.8.1 / SL.8.4 / W.8.9

Grade level: 8th grade students

Objective

Students will understand the themes of hope, resilience, and the importance of education through the story of Malala Yousafzai as presented in "Malala's Magic Pencil." They will also engage in critical thinking and collaborative activities to reinforce these concepts and consider the impact of youth voice in society and consider their contributions to positive change.

Lesson Assessment

- Participation in class discussion and peer-to-peer activity.
- Quality and creativity of the "Magic Pencil Wish List."
- Engagement and thoughtfulness in activity presentation and reflection.

Opening

Hook:

Ask students: Why is it important for young people to have a voice in society?

Engage in a brief discussion on what students know about Malala Yousafzai. Ask questions like:

- Who has heard of Malala Yousafzai?
- What do you know about her?
- Why do you think she is famous?

Objective Sharing: Explain that today's lesson will focus on learning about Malala through her book "Malala's Magic Pencil" and understanding the themes of hope, resilience, the importance of education, and the power of youth voice in society.

Modeling

Read Aloud:

Before Reading engage students in a quick discussion about the book and ask some predictive questions.

- What do you think the story will be about based on the title and cover?
- What kind of magic do you think the pencil will have?
- Why do you think Malala might need a magic pencil? What challenges might she face?
- If you had a magic pencil, what changes would you wish for in your school or community? Why?



Read "Malala's Magic Pencil" aloud to the class. Show the illustrations if possible. During reading, pause occasionally to ask scaffolded predictive and reflective questions such as:

- What do you think Malala will do with her magic pencil?
- How do you think Malala feels when she sees other children who can't go to school?
- How have Malala's plans for the magic pencil changed?
- What do you think Malala will do next? What words or pictures make you think that?
- How would you feel if you couldn't go to school like some of the children Malala talks about?
- What do you think Malala means? What qualities is she showing?
- What did Malala learn about the magic pencil?

Guided Practice

Class Discussion:

After the read aloud, engage the students in a discussion about the book. Use data observed during the read aloud to scaffold inquiry and guide the discussion. Align questions to the themes noted in the lesson objective (hope, resilience, the importance of education, and the power of youth voice in society). Select questions based on students' understanding and try to ask a question that every student feels able to answer.

Reflection on the Story:

- What were some of the things Malala wished for with her magic pencil?
- How did Malala's wishes change throughout the story?
- What might be some reasons why Malala values education so highly?
- What did Malala use her magic pencil for in the end?
- Why does Malala decide to use her voice instead of the magic pencil to make a difference?"
- What message do you think Malala wants to share with her readers?
- How did Malala's story inspire you or make you think differently about your own life?

Application to Real Life:

- Have you ever wished you could change something in your life or community? What was it and why?
- What is one way you can help others in your school or community?
- What did you learn from Malala's story?
- What are some specific actions we can take to be like Malala and make a difference in our community?

Understanding Challenges:

- What were some of the challenges Malala faced in her pursuit of education? How did she overcome them?
- Why is it important to speak out against injustice, even when it is difficult or scary?



Independent Practice

Peer to Peer Activity

Setup: Students will group with their table partner.

Activity Instructions: Each group will create their own "Magic Pencil Wish List."

- Prompt: If you had a magic pencil today, what wishes would you make to improve the world? Why did you choose these?"
- Each student will write down what they would wish for if they had a magic pencil.
- Encourage them to think about personal wishes, wishes for their community, and wishes for the world.

Collaboration: Students will share their wishes with their table partner and discuss why they chose them.

Group Task: Each group will select one wish from each category (personal, community, world) to share with the class.

Group Presentations: Each group will present their selected wishes to the class.

Encourage students to explain why they chose these wishes and how they think these wishes could impact others.

Reflection: As a class, reflect on the common themes and ideas presented. Discuss:

- What similarities did you notice in our wishes?
- How can we work towards making some of these wishes come true in our school or community?

Closing

Summarize the key points of the lesson.

Reinforce the themes of hope, resilience, and the importance of education.



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