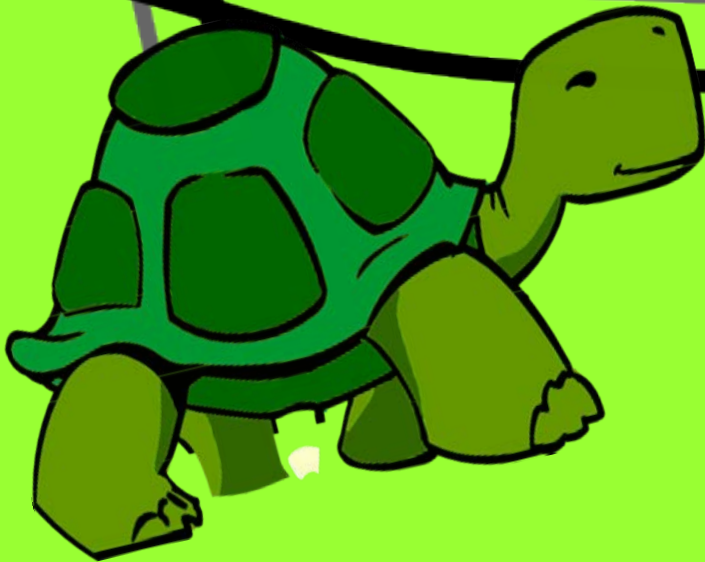


***A Novel Unit
for
tales of a fourth
grade nothing***

by Judy Blume



SAMPLE



ELA Core Plans

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans

*A Novel Unit
Sample
for
tales of a fourth grade nothing
by Judy Blume*

By Tammy D. Sutherland and Shannon B. Temple

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ABCs of tales of a fourth grade nothing

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Answer Keys

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Chapter Two

Name: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension

1. Who are Mr. and Mrs. Yarby?
2. Why was Fudge's crib moved into Peter's room?
3. Why does it bother Peter so much?
4. What did Fudge eat that was strange?
5. Does it work well when the Yarbys stay at Peter's?

Fudge!

In this second chapter, we learn more about Fudge and the things he likes and some mischief that he gets into. Let's take a closer look at him. Complete the following chart to begin analyzing him.

two interesting things that you have learned about him	
two descriptive words that seem right for Fudge	
one or two quotes from the story that other characters say about Fudge	

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Chapter Four

Name: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension

1. Where does Peter enjoy playing?
2. Why do leaves not turn colors other than brown in New York?
3. What does Shelia like to chant about Peter?
4. Who does Peter's mom leave in charge of Fudge when she goes home?
5. Why is *My Brother the Bird* a good title for this chapter?

Overlooked Idioms

This chapter is full of idioms - idioms that we often overlook because they are so common in our everyday conversations. An idiom is a phrase, saying, or expression that says one thing but means another.

Let's look back at some idioms in chapter three. The idioms are underlined.

But the next morning I put my foot down. (Peter made a decision and would not change his mind – he was really not “putting his foot down”.)

He'd had enough of Fudge's monkey business at meal times. (Fudge was goofing around – being silly. Fudge was not involved in business with monkeys.)

Now it is your turn to look at some of the idioms in chapter four.

Passage	Idiom	Meaning of Idiom
<i>My mother doesn't want me hanging around the park alone.</i>	Hanging around	
<i>She sticks to buses and taxis.</i>		She always rides buses and taxis.
<i>But he can't get it through his head that the birds aren't out to let him catch them.</i>		

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Chapter 10

Name: _____ Date: _____

Comprehension

1. What was the most important day in Peter's life?
2. What was Peter missing when he returned home from school?
3. What did Fudge do with Dribble?
4. What did Peter's parents surprise him with?
5. What did Peter name his surprise?

Verbs vs. Strong Verbs Verbs are words that describe the action in a sentence. Some verbs are said to be stronger than others - They SHOW and not just Tell! Here's how it works: take a verb like *talk* and another verb with a similar meaning like *mumble*. Now, compare these two sentences: 1) Sam talked to Joel. 2) Sam mumbled to Joel. In the first sentence, you learn that Sam talks, but in the second sentence you also learn how Sam talks. The word mumble means "to talk quiet and hard to understand". So, with the word mumble, the reader gets all the meaning of the verb talk, plus the additional meaning that explains how Sam talks as well. That is what makes it stronger! Strong verbs SHOW, not just TELL!

Read the following sentences from chapter ten. Circle each strong verb.

I nearly tumbled over it.

So I rushed into the kitchen and hollered, "Mom. . .where's Dribble?"

Fudge giggled and covered his mouth with his hands.

Fudge babbled. "No chew. No chew."

"Yes!" Fudge beamed.

Mom paced up and down in front of the elevator.

"This is an emergency," Mom wailed.

Fudge kneeled on a cot and peered out through the window.

Now, select two of the strong verbs you circled, and write a sentence or two of your own!

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Final Test

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Which of the following is the best overall tone of this novel?
 - a. profound and serious
 - b. lighthearted and touching
 - c. sarcastic and stern
 - d. resentful and angry
2. What genre is this novel?
 - a. historical fiction c. nonfiction
 - b. realistic fiction d. drama
3. Who is Shelia?
 - a. Peter's mom
 - b. Peter's teacher
 - c. Peter's doorman
 - d. Peter's neighbor
4. Fudge loves to play with _____.
 - a. socks
 - b. blocks
 - c. spoons
 - d. puzzles
5. Which of the following is something Fudge does that annoys Peter?
 - a. He marks all over his committee's poster.
 - b. He talks in his sleep.
 - c. He bothers his turtle.
 - d. all of the above

... They looked like a bunch of football players huddled together talking about the next play.
6. What is being compared in this simile?
 - a. the group people to a football
 - b. the group of people to football players in a huddle
 - c. talking and a play
 - d. a huddle and a play
7. Who is Dribble?
 - a. Peter's neighbor
 - b. Peter's best friend
 - c. Peter's pet
 - d. Peter's brother

This is just a portion of the test!

Thank you for taking look at our sample packet for the wonderful novel *tales of a fourth grade nothing!* [Purchase the entire unit today](#) and begin to use it immediately in your classroom. Then, you can use it year after!