

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Introduction



Introduction

Holes is the story of the Yelnats family who believes that luck, destiny, and fate determine what will happen. Themes from this book include doing a job well and getting things done, homelessness, finding hope, overcoming what was believed to be impossible to overcome, and freeing a family that has been held back for generations. Change will take place in Stanley Yelnats' life and he will impact others throughout the story.

The story of *Holes* has a series of flashbacks and changes timeframes rapidly. Having a multi-colored or a multiple layered timeline will help keep storylines and timeframes straight.

Storylines include:

- Stanley Yelnats' trip to and time at Camp Green Lake
- Flashbacks as to how he came to be arrested, tried, and sentenced to Camp Green Lake
- The story of his great-great-great grandfather, Elya Yelnats, and his great-great grandfather, Stanley Yelnats
- The story of Kate Barlow and Sam the onion seller
- Hector Zeroni's story and how it follows along in Stanley's destiny dating back to Elya Yelnats

There is a wealth of resources available for teachers who would like to enjoy this novel with their classes, which can provide good supplemental information. In addition, there are lesson plans, multiple-choice tests, and study guides galore that anyone with a computer can easily access.

There is a Disney film of the book that Louis Sachar was a part of making that could be shown at the end of the novel. There are some small differences between the novel and the film version.

This lesson plan also encourages you to plan and complete a holiday service-learning project with your class, if possible.

AAA

Visit AAA and ask for a map of Texas. This map will support locations read about in the book.

Characters

Create a character chart to help keep track of the flashbacks and multiple parallel stories. You can organize them as follows:

Current Day

Stanley Yelnats IV
Stanley Yelnats III
Mr. Sir
Mr. Pendanski
Barf Bag
Rex / X-Ray
Alan / Squid
Jose / Magnet
Theodore / Armpit
Ricky / Zigzag
Zero
Warden
Twitch
Attorney General
Ms. Morengo
Clyde "Sweet Feet" Livingston

In the Past

Elya Yelnats
Madame Zeroni
Stanley Yelnats II
Kate Barlow
Myra Menke
Igor Barkov
Charles "Trout" Walker
Sam, the Onion Man
Mary Lou
Sheriff

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan Holes, Day 1



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a curse?

A curse is a prayer expressing a wish that harm, misfortune, injury, great evil, etc., be brought upon another person, place, thing, clan, nation, etc. Curses seem to have been a regular part of ancient cultures and may have been a way to frighten enemies and explain the apparent injustices of the world.

Belief in curses may make it easier to explain why bad things often happen to good people: they are cursed because of some bad thing an ancestor did.

Belief in curses makes it possible for people to pose as psychics, gypsies, clairvoyants, and the like who are capable of removing curses for a fee.

What is a superstition?

A superstition is a belief in something despite a lack of evidence. It is accounting for one mystery by using another. It is believing that the world is governed by chance and having a disregard in the cause and effect relationship. It is the belief in miracles, spells, charms, dreams, and prophecies.

Have a discussion with students about curses and superstition. Do they believe in curses? What superstitions do their families follow?

2. Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

Introduce 5 important, useful words from today's reading.

wasteland (3)	stifling (6)	vast (8)	perseverance (8)	society (8)
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- Show, say, explain, expand, explode or buzz about the word briefly and add it to the Word Wall.

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far.

- Mention the setting and main character.
- Point to each timeline item as you quickly review it.

As today is the first day reading *Holes*, have students read the cover and back. Many students are familiar with the story, so a conversation regarding the novel may take place regarding previously reading the book. Discuss how this time the reading will be deeper and the experience richer.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 3-10

Setting	Characters	Pages
Camp Green Lake	Warden, campers	3-4
Camp Green Lake	Judge, Stanley	5
Bus	Stanley, Bus driver, Guard	6-10

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Discuss the story to *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, and why.

Students might mention:

- There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. There once was a lake but not anymore because it's all dried up.
- Now only rattlesnakes, scorpions, and yellow spotted lizards live on the lake.
- The philosophy of Camp Green Lake is: If you take a bad boy and make him dig a hole every day in the hot sun, it will make him a good boy.
- Stanley had been convicted of a crime and is given the choice of jail time or Camp Green Lake. He chooses Camp Green Lake.
- Stanley rides on the bus to the camp with only a bus driver and guard. He sees mostly fields of hay and cotton.
- Stanley didn't have friends at home; he was overweight and often teased by students and teachers at school.
- Stanley is innocent of his convicted crime; he was just in the wrong place at the wrong time.
- Stanley blames his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather. This was his family joke for everything that went wrong in their lives.
- Stanley remembers his father singing him the song "If Only."
- Stanley is Stanley Yelnats IV. Everyone in the family is amused that the name is spelled the same forwards and backwards.

- The first Stanley Yelnats lost his entire fortune when he was moving from New York to California when he was robbed by Kissin' Kate Barlow.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 5

"If you take a bad boy and make him dig a hole every day in the hot sun, it will turn him into a good boy" (p. 5).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Camp Green Lake believes that people can change by digging holes in the hot sun. **Write an argumentative paragraph that demonstrates whether or not you agree with Camp Green Lake's method of change.**

If you do agree, what is it about hole digging that has the power to change. If you do not agree, proceed by describing what is capable of changing a bad boy into a good one. Provide three reasons to support your argument.

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Describe a time when you broke a bad habit. How did you make this change?

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 2



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a wasteland?

A wasteland is an ugly and often devastated place that is barely inhabitable. It is a place that is often spiritually and emotionally unsatisfying, a land that is uncultivated and without vegetation, or a place that is neglected or improperly managed.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

barren (11)	desolate (11)	innocent (17)	attitude (17)	sanitary (19)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 11-20

Setting	Characters	Pages
Camp Green Lake office	Stanley, Guard, Mr. Sir,	11-15
Tent D	Stanley, Mr. Pendanski-Mom, Rex-X-ray, Alan-Squid, Jose-Magnet, Theodore-Armpit, Ricky-Zigzag, Zero	16-20

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley arrives at Camp Green Lake Juvenile Correctional Facility.
- Mr. Sir gives Stanley his clothing: 2 sets of long sleeve orange jumpsuits, an orange T-shirt, and yellow socks. He also gives him white sneakers, an orange cap, and a canteen.
- Stanley is to dig one hole a day every day, including Saturday and Sunday.
- The hole must be 5 feet deep and 5 feet across in every direction.
- Mr. Sir tells Stanley if he digs up anything interesting he is to report it to any of the counselors.
- There are no guard towers or fences at Camp Green Lake.
- Stanley is free to run away and escape if he pleases.
- Mr. Sir says there is no need for guard towers and fences since they have the only water for a hundred miles.
- Stanley is to stay at Camp Green Lake for the next 18 months.
- Stanley was assigned to D tent and Mr. Pendanski as his counselor.
- Stanley got the cot and crate previously assigned to Barf Bag.
- All the boys in D tent have nicknames.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 17

“I want you to know, Stanley, that I respect you,” Mr. Pendanski said. “I understand you’ve made some bad mistakes in your life. Otherwise you wouldn’t be here. But everyone makes mistakes. You may have done some bad things, but that doesn’t mean you’re a bad kid” (p. 17).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today’s prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Mr. Pendanski assumes Stanley has made mistakes and deserves to be at Camp Green Lake. Stanley wants to tell him that he is innocent. He doesn’t because he knows that Mr. Pendanski won’t believe him. Mr. Pendanski believes that life is fair. Stanley is receiving a first-hand lesson that life is not. Think of a time when someone accused you of something you did not do. In a letter to Stanley describe the situation. In an **argumentative paragraph explain why you were innocent. Provide three reasons to support your answer. Include how you felt when you were unfairly accused for something you did not do. Finally, describe one positive lesson you learned by reflecting on this experience.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan Holes, Day 3



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is destiny?

Destiny is an event (or a course of events) that will inevitably happen in the future. It refers to a predetermined course of events. It is a concept based on the belief that there is a fixed natural order to the universe. Destiny could mean something is meant to be.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

scarcity (21)	torment (23)	humiliating (24)	coincidence (24)	destiny (24)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 21-32

Setting	Characters	Pages
Camp Green Lake	Stanley, Clyde Livingston	21-23
At school	Stanley, Derrick Dunne	23-25
In the dry lake bed	X-ray, Zero, Mr. Sir, Stanley, Magnet, Zigzag, Mr. Pendanski	26-32
Latvia	Elya Yelnats, Myra Menke, Igor Barkov, Madame Zeroni	28-32

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley had trouble getting used to the four-minute, cold showers.
- The food all tasted the same, but Stanley ate it anyway.
- Stanley tells his tent mates he was sent to Green Lake for stealing Clyde "Sweet Feet" Livingston's sneakers.
- Clyde Livingston was Stanley's hero. He was a famous baseball player.

- In court, Clyde Livingston said the shoes were for auction to help the homeless.
- Derrick Dunne bullied Stanley in school. The teachers did nothing and sometimes even joined in.
- Stanley claimed he was hit on the head with Sweet Feet's shoes as he was walking home.
- Sweet Feet once lived in the homeless shelter.
- In court, Stanley told the truth. The judge called the crime despicable and suggested Camp Green Lake may improve Stanley's character.
- Stanley had a difficult time digging his hole.
- The lake was covered with holes reminding Stanley of pictures he'd seen of the moon.
- Mr. Sir told Stanley he was digging to build character, not digging looking for anything.
- Stanley's great-great-grandfather was Elya Yelnats. He was born in Latvia and fell in love with Myra Menke when he was 15.
- Myra was to choose between Elya and Igor Barkov, a 57 year old pig farmer.
- Elya went to Madame Zeroni for help winning Myra's love.
- Madame Zeroni tried to convince Elya that Myra wasn't good enough for him.
- Madame Zeroni told Elya to carry a tiny piglet up the mountain to drink from a spring every day singing a special song.
- After giving the pig to Myra's father, Elya was to carry Madame Zeroni up the mountain to drink or he and his descendants would be doomed for eternity.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 21

"Stanley couldn't help but think that there was something special about the shoes, that they would somehow provide the key to his father's invention. It was too much of a coincidence to be a mere accident. Stanley had felt like he was holding destiny's shoes" (p. 21).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

When Stanley picks up Sweet Feet's shoes, he gets the sense that he found them for a reason, like it was his destiny. Destiny suggests that life – or a part of your life – has already been decided for you. Do you believe that you have a destiny, that your life has already been decided for you? What are the things in your life that you can change? What are the things that you cannot? Reflect on whether or not you believe in destiny. **Write an argumentative paragraph that supports or disproves the idea of destiny. Provide three reasons to support your argument.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 4



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



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Are yellow-spotted lizards poisonous?

These lizards only exist in Louis Sachar's novel *Holes*. However, there are many types of lizards that are similar to what is described. You can do a simple Google search of Texas lizards to look at some examples.

The Gila monster is the only venomous species of lizard native to the USA. It is found in the southwest deserts and Mexico. They average 1.5 feet in length.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

preposterous (34)	wound (35)	compound (37)	lullaby (38)	predatory (42)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 33-42

Setting	Characters	Pages
Latvia / Green Lake	Elya, Stanley, Myra, Madame Zeroni, Zero, Zigzag	33-37
America	Elya, Sara	38-39
Green Lake	Stanley, Mr. Pendanski, yellow-spotted lizards	39-42

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Elya and Igor's pigs weighed exactly the same.

- Stanley's hands blistered and he was very hot and tired. He digs much slower than the other boys.
- Myra's father gave Myra the opportunity to choose which man she marries.
- After being turned down by Myra, Elya signs on to work as a deck hand to America.
- Zero was the smallest kid in Group D but was the fastest hole digger.
- After coming to America, Elya learned English, then meets and marries Sarah Miller.
- After his barn was struck by lightning for the third time, Elya told Sarah about Madame Zeroni and the curse.
- Elya taught Sarah the pig lullaby. She changed the words so they'd rhyme and then sang them to her son Stanley.
- Stanley had trouble getting out of the hole after he finished digging. He finally had to dig steps in the walls to climb out.
- Yellow spotted lizards have exactly 11 spots, a yellow-green body, red eyes, black teeth, a white tongue, and are 6-10 inches long.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 39

“‘If only, if only,’ the woodpecker sighs,
‘The bark on the tree was as soft as the skies.’
While the wolf waits below, hungry and lonely,
Crying to the moo—oo—oon,
‘If only, if only’” (p. 39).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Recall a time in your life when you found yourself in a situation that was quite different from how you hoped it would be. Reflect on this situation and think about the positives that came from this experience. What did you learn during this time? What opportunities came from this experience?

Write a letter to yourself that would have encouraged you during this time in your life. **In an argumentative paragraph persuade yourself that life will be better in the future. Provide three positive outcomes that will come from this experience.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 5



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

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PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a fossil?

A fossil is the remains or evidence of any creature or plant that once lived on the Earth. It is the remains (or an impression) of a plant, animal, or organism that existed in a past geological age (thousands or millions of years ago) and that has been excavated from the soil. Some fossils are leaves, shells, or skeletons that were preserved after a plant or animal died. Others are tracks or trails left by moving animals.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

sprawled (44)	radiated (45)	ached (48)	horizon (49)	fossil (51)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 43-54

Setting	Characters	Pages
Wreck Room	Stanley, X-ray, The Lump, Squid, Zero	43-47
The lake	Stanley, Mr. Pendanski, X-ray	48-54

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley showered for the second day in a row without using soap.

- Stanley almost gets into a fight with The Lump. The rest of his tent mates have his back.
- X-ray tells Stanley that the 2nd hole is the hardest to dig.
- Everything in the Wreck Room was broken, missing a leg, or leaning.
- Zero knew details about Clyde Livingston's shoes.
- Stanley is given the nickname "Caveman." He feels like he belongs now.
- Stanley had a very tough time getting up as every muscle and joint ached.
- While digging the 2nd hole, Stanley felt it would take a miracle for him to finish.
- Stanley found a fossilized fish in his hole.
- X-ray told Stanley that if he finds anything else he should allow X-ray to get the credit for the find.
- Stanley feels accepted by the group and thinks how Derrick Dunne would go from bully to bullied if he was at Camp Green Lake.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 46

"Dear Mom,

Today was my first day at camp, and I've already made some friends. We've been out on the lake all day, so I'm pretty tired. Once I passed the swimming test, I'll get to learn how to water ski" (p. 46).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Stanley is not telling his mother the truth, because he does not want her to worry. Instead of telling the truth, he is telling her what he knows she would like to hear. He is giving her the "if only, if only" version.

Pretend you are Stanley and write an honest letter about the reality of Camp Green Lake. **In an argumentative paragraph prove that Camp Green Lake is unsuitable for youth. Using three examples to support your argument.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 6



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is self-esteem?

Self-esteem is your opinion of yourself. It is a sense of self-worth, the valuing of oneself as a person. High self-esteem is having a good opinion of yourself and low self-esteem is having a bad opinion of yourself.

Self-esteem is very important because it can affect how you think, act, and even how you relate to other people. It affects your potential to be successful. Low self-esteem can cause negative thoughts, which make it more likely that you will give up easily rather than face challenges.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

veterinarian (56)	worthless (58)	canteen (60)	glisten (60)	curiosity (60)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict* Cycle of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 55-63

Setting	Characters	Pages
The tent	Stanley, Magnet, X-Ray, Mr. Pendanski, Zero	55-58
The lake	Stanley, Zigzag, X-Ray	59-63

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- After digging his second hole, Stanley found Mr. Pendanski having a group session with the rest of the boys.
- Stanley wasn't sure how he'd answer Mr. Pendanski's question about what he wanted to do with his life.
- When asked who was to blame for him being at Camp Green Lake, Stanley responded with "my no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather."
- Stanley saw Zero smile for the first time.
- Stanley lost 5 pounds, his skin had gotten tougher, and it didn't hurt as much when he held the shovel.
- Stanley found a metallic gold tube while digging his hole.
- The gold tube had a heart with KB etched inside it.
- Stanley considered not giving the gold tube to X-ray and give it directly to the warden.
- Stanley suggested X-ray wait until tomorrow to turn over the gold tube so he would get a full day of rest instead of a partial day.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 57

"Nothing in life is easy. But that's no reason to give up. You'll be surprised by what you can accomplish if you set your mind to it. After all, you only have one life, so you should try to make the most of it" (p. 57).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Mr. Pendanski explains that it is important to be persistent and determined in pursuing your life goals. What are your life goals? How are you persistent and determined? Think about one goal you have for your life. What are some obstacles and challenges that might slow you down or prevent you from pursuing this goal? **In a motivational letter to yourself, provide three reasons why you should never give up on this goal. In an argumentative paragraph, argue why this goal is important to you.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 7



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is archaeology?

Archaeology is the study of past human life and culture by the recovery and examination of material evidence such as graves, buildings, tools, and pottery.

These include human artifacts from the very earliest stone tools to the man-made objects that are buried or thrown away in the present day.

Among the archaeologist's activities are locating, surveying, and mapping of sites and the excavation, classification, dating, and interpretation of materials to place them in historical context.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

wheelbarrow (69)	excavated (70)	gazed (71)	carted (73)	presumably (74)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 64-76

Setting	Characters	Pages
The lake	Warden, Mr. Pendanski	64-68
The lake	Warden, Mr. Sir, Mr. Pendanski	69-71
The Wreck Room	Stanley, X-Ray, Mr. Pendanski, Stanley's Mom, Zero	72-76

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- While in his cot, Stanley began to have second thoughts.
- He felt that he was in the right place at the right time and it still didn't help.
- After X-Ray gave Mr. Pendanski the gold tube, the Warden drove out to have a look.
- The Warden gave X-Ray a double shower, clean clothes, and the rest of the day off.
- The rest of the boys had their canteens refilled.
- Stanley was surprised that the Warden was a woman and more surprised that she knew his nickname was Caveman.
- The Warden gave Mr. Pendanski a choice of digging holes or filling canteens.
- The Warden started going through the piles of dirt around X-Ray's hole. She told Mr. Pendanski to bring back 3 wheelbarrows.
- The boys were split up into groups of two digging holes.
- Caveman and Zero worked as a team.
- The Warden and Mr. Pendanski stayed at the site for the entire day.
- The Warden was very anxious and looking over the boys' shoulders.
- One thing was certain: They weren't just digging to "build character." They were definitely looking for something.
- The next morning, the Warden directed the boys to the holes.
- 4 dug the holes and 3 moved dirt in the wheelbarrows.
- Stanley received a letter from his mom.
- In the letter, Stanley's mom made a joke comparing his father's experiment to the old woman in the nursery rhyme who lived in a shoe.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 71

"One thing was certain: They weren't just digging to 'build character.' They were definitely looking for something.

And whatever they were looking for, they were looking in the wrong place.

Stanley gazed out across the lake, toward the spot where he had been digging yesterday when he found the gold tube. He dug the hole into his memory" (p. 71).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

The author begins to describe Stanley as a budding detective. Pretend you are Stanley, take the clues you have gathered—the gold tube labeled "KB" and the warden's obvious excitement—and come up with a theory about what you are doing out there if not just "building character." **In an argumentative paragraph prove your theory. Provide three reasons to support your theory.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 8



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is the difference between power and authority?

Power can be defined as the ability to influence the outcome of events. Power may be correctly used or it may be incorrectly used. It may be power exerted by sheer force and coercion.

Authority, on the other hand, is subjective; it depends upon an individual's perception of its rightness. Authority is defined as the power or right to give commands, enforce obedience, take action, or make final decisions.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

collapsed (78)	relief (80)	calloused (81)	allergies (83)	magnets (84)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 77-87

Setting	Characters	Pages
The lake	Armpit, Warden, Zigzag, Stanley	77-79
The tent	Stanley, Zero	80-82
The tent, the lake	Squid, Stanley, Magnet, Mr. Sir	83-87

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- The boys kept digging in the same area for a week and a half.
- The Warden jabbed Armpit with a pitchfork causing 3 tiny spots of blood to appear.
- Zigzag hit Caveman in the side of the head with his shovel.
- The boys were back to digging their own holes on another side of the lake.
- Stanley was still sore from being hit in the head with the shovel.
- Zero asks Stanley to teach him how to read.
- Magnet steals Mr. Sir's bag of sunflower seeds and shares them with the rest of the boys.
- Zigzag throws Stanley the bag of seeds and they spill into Stanley's hole.
- Mr. Sir found sunflower seeds in Stanley's hole.
- Stanley takes responsibility for stealing the seeds and eating them himself.
- Mr. Sir takes Stanley to the Warden for punishment.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 81

"Dear Mom and Dad,

Camp is hard, but challenging. We've been running obstacle courses and have to swim long distances on the lake. Tomorrow we learn...to rock climb. I know that sounds scary, but don't worry...I'll be careful. It's not all fun and games here, but I think I'm getting a lot out of it. It builds character" (p. 81).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Other than the first sentence about camp being hard, Stanley's letter is a total lie. He doesn't tell his folks the truth, because he doesn't want to worry them. Reread Stanley's letter and find three untrue statements.

In an argumentative paragraph prove that Stanley's letter is inaccurate. Using quotes from the novel, disprove three untrue statements in Stanley's letter. Include page numbers for each quote.

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 9



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is poverty?

Poverty is hunger. Poverty is lack of shelter. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor. Poverty is not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty is not having a job, is fear for the future, and living one day at a time. Poverty is losing a child to illness brought about by unclean water. Poverty is powerlessness, lack of representation and freedom.

Poverty has many faces, changing from place to place and across time, and has been described in many ways. Most often, poverty is a situation people want to escape. So poverty is a call to action—for the poor and the wealthy alike—a call to change the world so that many more may have enough to eat, adequate shelter, access to education and health, protection from violence, and a voice in what happens in their communities.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

dread (89)	hearth (90)	recede (91)	innocent (92)	mole (95)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 88-100

Setting	Characters	Pages
Warden's Cabin	Caveman, Warden, Mr. Sir	88-91
The lake	Kissin' Kate, the guys, Zero	92-94
The tent	Zero, Stanley	95-100

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Upon arriving at the Warden's cabin, Stanley admits to stealing Mr. Sir's sunflower seeds while he was filling canteens with water.
- The Warden has Stanley get her make up case that contains her special nail polish.
- The special nail polish has a secret ingredient of "rattlesnake venom."
- The Warden hit Mr. Sir across the face causing him to scream and grab his face.
- Stanley had a long walk back to his hole with the rest of the Group D boys.
- While walking, he thought of his great-grandfather who was robbed by Kissin Kate Barlow.
- Stanley's great-grandfather survived 17 days before being rescued.
- When he was rescued, he was insane, saying he "found refuge on God's thumb."
- After arriving back at the hole, Stanley tells the rest of the group he took the blame for stealing the seeds and the Warden got mad at Mr. Sir.
- Stanley found his hole was half finished.
- Zero tells Stanley he dug Stanley's hole because he didn't steal the sunflower seeds.
- Stanley offers to teach Zero to read.
- Zero doesn't even know the alphabet, so Stanley starts by writing the letter A.
- Zero agrees to help Stanley dig his hole in return for learning to read.
- Stanley realizes the gold tube he found was a lipstick container.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 90

"So you think he stole your sunflower seeds?"

'No, he says he stole them, but I think it was--'

She stepped toward him and struck him across the face" (p. 90).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Clearly, this is not what the reader expected to happen. Nor is it what the warden expected to happen. Write about a time when you witnessed someone being treated cruelly. This could be a recent or past example of a person or an animal being treated unfairly. Describe the event, how you felt, and your reactions to it. If you had to experience it again, what would you do differently? What do you think you should do if you see someone being treated unfairly?

In an argumentative paragraph explain why one should stand up against cruel treatment of a human or animal. Provide three reasons to support your answer.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 10



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What are spiced peaches?

Spiced peaches are simply canned peaches or preserved peaches. They are not the sweet syrupy ones that are in supermarkets today, but homemade recipes that were passed down from mother to daughter as family heirlooms. In addition to peaches in the canning jars, typical recipes included: brown sugar, stick of cinnamon, nutmeg, vinegar, and cloves. The ingredients were boiled, poured into glass jars, and sealed to be enjoyed throughout the winter and spring months. Kate Barlow was famous for her recipe.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

delicious (101)	bushels (101)	swollen (104)	handsome (105)	extraordinarily (108)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict* Cycle of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 101-111

Setting	Characters	Pages
Green Lake, Texas	Katherine Barlow, Trout Walker	101-103
Breakfast, the lake	Mr. Sir, Zero, Caveman	104-106
Green Lake, Texas	Doc Hawthorne, Sam, Mary Lou, Katherine Barlow, Hattie Parker	107-111

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- 110 years ago, Green Lake was the largest lake in Texas. It was lined with peach trees.
- Miss Katherine Barlow won a prize every 4th of July for her spiced peaches.
- Katherine Barlow was Green Lake's only teacher.
- Charles Walker was known as Trout because his feet smelled so bad.
- Trout would show up to Ms. Barlow's night class for adults and act disrespectfully.
- When Stanley went to breakfast the next day, he saw Mr. Sir's face was swollen the size of half a cantaloupe.
- Mr. Sir choked a boy who asked what was wrong with his face.
- When Mr. Sir went to fill the canteens, he poured Stanley's on the ground.
- Sam the onion man helped people in Green Lake that Dr. Hawthorn couldn't.
- Sam's onion field was across the lake; he would row across the lake twice a week.
- Sam claimed the onions were good for digestion, the liver, stomach, lungs, heart, and brain.
- Sam and Katherine made a deal: Sam would fix the roof in return for 6 jars of spiced peaches.
- Sam and Katherine continued to make deals until the old run-down schoolhouse was a jewel of a building.
- Sam kissed Katherine in the rain when she said her heart was breaking.
- After seeing Sam and Katherine kiss, Hattie Parker said, "God will punish you."

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 111

"At that moment, however, Hattie Parker stepped out of the general store. They didn't see her, but she saw them. She pointed her quivering finger in their direction and whispered, 'God will punish you!'" (p. 111)

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Many have experienced injustice in life. If you have not experienced it firsthand, you have most likely witnessed injustice. Write about a time in your life when you experienced injustice or prejudice. Describe the event, how you felt, and how you reacted.

As an enlightened and responsible person, **write an argumentative letter to persuade that person that it is important to treat others with respect. Provide three reasons to support your answer.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 11



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

Who were the Outlaws of the Old West?

There were many outlaws of the Old West. Some of the most famous were Billy the Kid, Doc Holliday, the Dalton Gang, and many others that the movies have made famous. Many were wanted for murder, cattle rustling, or other offenses. Included is a website that provides an in depth list of outlaws. It will be of interest to notice the few numbers of women, which may be a good discussion topic for your class.

<http://www.legendsofamerica.com/WE-OutlawList.html>

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

declared (113)	drawl (113)	outlaw (115)	vile (118)	lapped (123)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 112-123

Setting	Characters	Pages
Town of Green Lake	Katherine Barlow, Trout Walker, Sheriff Sam	112-115
Camp Green Lake	Mr. Sir, Stanley, Hector Zeroni	116-119
Town of Green Lake	Kate Barlow, Sam, Trout Walker, Linda Miller-Walker	120-123

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Miss Katherine's head had been spinning since Sam kissed her.
- A mob of men and women storm into the school, led by Trout Walker.
- When Katherine goes to the sheriff for help, she finds him drinking whiskey.
- It is against the law for a Negro to kiss a white woman.
- Seeing the smoke rising from the schoolhouse, Katherine runs to the lakefront to warn Sam.
- Sam got in his boat and starts to row across the lake.
- Trout Walker smashes his boat into Sam's, then shoots and kills him in the water.
- Three days after Sam's death, Miss Katherine shoots the sheriff, then gives him the kiss he had been wanting.
- For 20 years, Kissing Kate Barlow is one of the most feared outlaws in the West.
- Stanley drinks sparingly, as he doesn't know who will be filling the canteens.
- Mr. Pendanski is aware of Mr. Sir not giving Stanley water and gives him extra.
- The rest of the boys don't like Zero digging Stanley's hole for him.
- Stanley feels justified in his trading of teaching Zero to read with digging holes.
- The swelling on Mr. Sir's face has gone down, but there are still 3 scratch marks on his cheek.
- After Mr. Sir takes his canteen and goes into his truck, Stanley is afraid to drink it.
- Stanley teaches Zero the alphabet and how to write his name.
- Zero tells Stanley his real name is Hector Zeroni.
- Kate Barlow returns to Green Lake after 20 years to find the lake no more than a pond and the peach trees dead.
- Trout Walker marries Linda Miller, a former student of Kate Barlow's. They break into her cabin and drag her out, looking for her loot.
- Kate tells them they (and their children and grandchildren) had better like to dig because they'll never find the loot.
- After being bitten on the leg by a yellow-spotted lizard, Kate Barlow dies laughing.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 112

"There were no telephones, but word spread quickly through the small town. By the end of the day, everyone in Green Lake had heard that the schoolteacher had kissed the onion picker. Not one child showed up for school the next morning" (p. 112).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

News often travels quickly through a small town, sometimes by word of mouth and sometimes through the local paper. Knowing that Katherine Barlow was a schoolteacher and that she had no children to teach on this particular day, pretend that she spent that time (before the angry mob arrived) constructing an editorial or an open letter to the local paper. Respond to the town's reactions.

As Katherine Barlow, include an argumentative paragraph that explains your views on love and what you believe to be right. An editorial is an opinionated article written for a newspaper. You need not provide any other view than yours. Keep in mind, however, that you are writing as Katherine Barlow: provide reasonable and rational statements to support your point of view. Maintain a professional tone and plead for the people of Green Lake to return to sanity.

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 12



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is lightning? What is thunder?

Lightning is electricity. It forms in the strong up-and-down air currents inside tall dark clouds as water droplets, hail, and ice crystals collide with one another. Scientists believe that these collisions build up charges of electricity in a cloud. The positive and negative electrical charges in the cloud separate from one another, the negative charges dropping to the lower part of the cloud and the positive charges staying in the middle and upper parts.

Lightning bolts are extremely hot, with temperatures of 30,000 to 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. That's hotter than the surface of the sun! When the bolt suddenly heats the air around it to such an extreme, the air instantly expands, sending out a vibration or shock wave we hear as an explosion of sound. This is thunder. If you are near the stroke of lightning, you'll hear thunder as one sharp crack. When lightning is far away, thunder sounds more like a low rumble as the sound waves reflect and echo off hillsides, buildings, and trees.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

humid (127)	delirious (128)	awkward (131)	cluster (139)	haze (139)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 124-139

Setting	Characters	Pages
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The lake	Stanley, Great-Grandfather	127-29
Camp Green Lake	Zigzag, Mr. Sir	130-31
The lake	Zigzag, X-ray, Squid, Mr. Pendanski, Warden, Zero	132-39

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- A storm is way off to the west. Stanley can count 30 seconds between the flash of lightning and clap of thunder.
- When the horizon lights up with a bolt of lightning, Stanley thinks he sees a rock formation in the shape of a giant fist with a thumb sticking up.
- Stanley's great grandmother was the nurse who treated his great-grandfather after surviving 3 weeks without food and water on God's Thumb.
- On Zigzag's birthday, he cuts in line and gets extra juice.
- Stanley has dug 44 holes.
- Mr. Sir is no longer depriving Stanley of water.
- Stanley feels awkward having Zero dig his hole.
- Everything the boys at Camp Green Lake eat comes in a can delivered by truck once a month.
- Zigzag starts pushing Stanley, trying to get him to fight.
- Mr. Pendanski tells Stanley to hit Zigzag.
- Zigzag starts pounding on Stanley, causing Zero to jump on his back and choke him to get him to get off of Stanley.
- Zigzag tells the Warden about Stanley and Zero's arrangement.
- The Warden asks Zero what Stanley taught him the previous day.
- The Warden says that nobody should be digging anyone else's hole anymore.
- Zero smashes Mr. Pendanski across the face with his shovel.
- Zero runs off across the lake.
- The Warden orders the counselors to guard the shower room and the Wreck Room to prevent Zero from getting any water.
- The Warden tells Group D they still have to dig 7 holes, although only 6 members remain.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 132

"It was possible, he realized, that he was somewhere near where Kate Barlow had robbed his great-grandfather. If that was really her lipstick tube he'd found, then she must have lived somewhere around here" (p. 132).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

In the book, *Holes*, there are many untold stories. One is how Stanley's great-grandfather came to be in the town of Green Lake and how he was robbed by the famous outlaw, Kissin' Kate Barlow. In one paragraph, **tell the story of the robbery. What was Mr. Yelnats doing there? What was Kate doing back in Green Lake? What did she say to Stanley's great grandfather? What did Stanley's great grandfather have that was so valuable? And where is it now? What did he say to her to convince her not to kill him?**

In a second paragraph write what you would do if you encountered Kissin' Kate Barlow. **Write an argumentative paragraph to convince Kissin' Kate Barlow not to kill you. Provide three reasons why she should let you live.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 13



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is dehydration?

Dehydration occurs when the amount of water leaving the body is greater than the amount being taken in. In a normal day, people have to drink a significant amount of water to replace this routine loss. Vital organs like the kidneys, brain, and heart can't function without a certain minimum of water and salt. The most common signs and symptoms of dehydration include persistent fatigue, lethargy, muscle weakness or cramps, headaches, dizziness, nausea, forgetfulness, confusion, deep rapid breathing, or an increased heart rate. Dehydration is a very serious condition, more than most people realize.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

urge (142)	ward (144)	fidgeting (144)	refuge (148)	compound (149)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict* Cycle of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar p. 140-150

Setting	Characters	Pages
Camp Green Lake	Stanley, Zero, Warden, Mr. Pendanski	140-43
D tent	Twitch, Stanley	144
The lake	Stanley, Mr. Sir, Twitch	145-47
Beyond camp	Stanley	148-50

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley is angry about having to dig 2 holes.
- None of the other boys offer to help Stanley dig Zero's hole.
- Stanley thinks he should go and search for Zero.
- Stanley has an idea to make a deal with the Warden regarding the gold tube and Zero.
- Mr. Pendanski has 2 black eyes and a bandage on his nose after Zero hit him with the shovel.
- The Warden, Mr. Pendanski, and Mr. Sir are in Stanley's tent discussing Zero being a ward of the state.
- The Warden tells Mr. Pendanski to destroy Zero's records.
- Twitch comes to Camp Green Lake to replace Zero. He is arrested for stealing a car.
- Stanley tries not to think about Zero, where he was, or how he was doing.
- Stanley jumps into Mr. Sir's truck, puts it in gear, and promptly drives into a hole.
- Stanley gets out of the truck and runs across the lake with his empty canteen.
- Stanley heads in what he thought was the direction of the Big Thumb.
- As he crosses the dried up lake, Stanley is surprised how far the holes extend.
- After an hour of walking, Stanley looks into a hole and sees a family of yellow-spotted lizards.
- Stanley finds an empty sack of sunflower seeds and wonders if it is the same one stolen from Mr. Sir.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 140

"He knew he never should have let Zero dig part of his hole for him. He still could have taught him to read. If Zero could dig all day and still have the strength to learn, then he should have been able to dig all day and still have the strength to teach" (p. 140).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

There is a saying that hindsight is 20/20. After the fact, it seemed so simple to Stanley that he had been wrong to let Zero dig part of his hole. However, before everything fell apart, it had seemed so right.

Write an argumentative letter to Stanley to convince him that it is not a good idea for Zero to dig part of his hole. With future insight, provide three reasons to support your answer.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 14



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a mirage?

Most often, people associate a mirage with parched faces looking out across the desert sand as two men stagger or crawl toward what they believed to be a thirst-relieving pool of water. As they near, however, the waters disappear; the vision is merely a **mirage**. How many times have such scenes been played out in movies? The characters may have been varied—cowboys in Death Valley of the US Southwest Desert or French Legionnaires in North Africa's Sahara Desert—but the symbolism was the same: men dying of thirst chasing an image that only existed in their minds. The dictionary defines **mirage** as "an optical illusion due to atmospheric conditions by which reflected images of distant objects are seen."

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

mirage (151)	shimmering (151)	barren (153)	nectar (156)	bacteria (156)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict* Cycle of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 151-158

Setting	Characters	Pages
Way out on the lake	Stanley, Mary-Lou	151-53
Under the boat	Zero, Stanley	154-58

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley feels hopeless, hot, tired, hungry, and, most of all, thirsty.
- Stanley sees what he believes is a fist with a thumb sticking up.
- Stanley feels he is being encouraged to go forward by the thumb.
- Stanley laughs at the sight of boat in the middle of the dried up lake.
- Zero crawls out from under the boat.
- Stanley follows Zero underneath, thinking he wouldn't have fit when he first arrived at Camp Green Lake.
- Under the boat, the temperature is much cooler.
- Zero tells Stanley he found 16 jars of what he calls "sploosh."
- Stanley was concerned about the contents of sploosh and what bacteria may be in it after over 100 years.
- The sploosh tasted warm, bubbly, mushy, sweet, and tangy to Stanley.
- Stanley watched Zero helplessly as he grabbed his stomach, fell to the ground, and groaned in pain.
- Stanley describes to Zero his plan to deal with the Warden.
- When asked to describe what the mountains looked like, Zero made a fist then raised his thumb.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 153

"The boat lay upside down, half buried in the dirt. Someone may have drowned here, he thought grimly—at the same spot where he could very well die of thirst.

The name of the boat had been painted on the back. The upside-down red letters were peeled and faded, but Stanley could still read the name: Mary Lou" (p. 153).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

On page 115, the author states, "These are the facts." Review this paragraph. In an **argumentative paragraph re-create the story, in detail, that supports these facts and explains why the boat sits upside-down, half buried in the sand of a dry lakebed. Include three details to your statement and include Trout, Katherine, Sam, and Mary Lou in your story. Describe what happened to Sam in the end, what Katherine did about it, and what happened to the town of Green Lake as a result.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 15



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is burlap?

Burlap is a woven cloth created from jute or flax fibers. Jute is an extremely versatile vegetable fiber known for its strength and durability, as is flax. These plants are not known for their silky or cottony textures, so the result is a coarse fabric with a large weave pattern and natural beige coloring.

Burlap is often used to form storage bags for grains, potatoes, apples and other bulky materials. Burlap is also biodegradable, which means all of those potato and apple sacks should eventually disintegrate without harm to the environment.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

burlap (159)	clutched (160)	rut (163)	frail (163)	altitude (166)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict* Cycle of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis, p. 159-168

Setting	Characters	Pages
across the lake	Stanley, Zero	159-62
up the mountain	Stanley, Zero	162-68

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley and Zero haven't gone far before Zero has another attack.
- The sploosh that saved Zero's life was now destroying him from the inside out.
- When Zero collapses again, the shovel balances on its tip before falling.
- Spelling words seem to help Zero concentrate on something besides the pain and weakness.
- Stanley isn't as scared of dying as he is worried about his parents' worry.
- When Stanley and Zero come to the end of the lake, huge white stone cliffs rise before them.
- The cliffs appear to be 50 feet in height.
- Stanley boosts Zero up before being pulled up.
- Zero has deep gashes in both hands from when he pulled up Stanley using the shovel.
- Stanley can no longer see Big Thumb. The walk is too steep to go straight up, so they zigzag going up.
- As the sky darkens, bugs come out of the weeds, swarming Stanley and Zero.
- Zero falls to his knees and throws up the sploosh.
- The higher they climb, the thicker the weeds.
- Stanley realizes there are no weeds on the lake and that they must be getting close to water.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 159

"‘I should warn you,’ Stanley said. ‘I’m not exactly the luckiest guy in the world.’ Zero wasn’t worried. ‘When you spend your whole life living in a hole,’ he said, ‘the only way you can go is up’" (p. 159).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Stanley and Zero are at rock bottom. Now the only way they can go is up. **In an argumentative letter, prove that Stanley and Zero are determined. How are they persevering during their challenging journey? Provide three examples that support your argument.**

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 16



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What are flashbacks?

Flashbacks are a device that allows the writer to present events that happened before the time of the current reading or the current events in the fiction. Flashback techniques include memories, dreams, or stories of the past told by characters. Flashbacks are useful for exposition, to fill in the reader about a character, place, or about the background to a conflict.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

gully (170)	meadow (172)	charity (177)	deserted (178)	feebly (178)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 169-179

Setting	Characters	Pages
The mountain	Stanley, Zero	169-71
God's Thumb	Stanley, Zero	172-75
Old Town of Green Lake	Sam, Mary Lou, Mrs. Gladys Tennyson, Doc Hawthorne, Hattie Parker, Jim Parker, Becca Tennyson	175-77
The mountain	Stanley, Zero	177-79

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley picks up Zero and carries him.
- As he climbs higher, Stanley's strength comes from deep inside.
- Stanley slips and falls, dropping Zero in a small muddy gully.
- Stanley crawls through the gully, splashing along, then digs a hole before sticking his head in and licking the dirt.
- Stanley finds an onion as he widens the hole.
- When Stanley wakes up, he is staring at a giant rock tower over 100 feet tall.
- He feels like the insides of his mouth are coated with sand.
- Zero tells Stanley he is the one who took Clyde Livingston's shoes.
- Zero's confession relaxes Stanley.
- Stanley finds more onions the next day.
- Sam's onion tonic helps Becca Tennyson break her fever.
- Becca gets sick because of bad meat she ate.
- Mrs. Tennyson says that Sam saved her life.
- Stanley and Zero sleep and eat onions for the next two days. Zero seems to be getting better.
- Stanley goes back down the mountain to get the shovel. He is surprised how far he had carried Zero up the mountain.
- Stanley has to sit and rest several times as he walks back up the mountain.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 177

"My husband knows exactly where I am now and how I am dressed, thank you," said Mrs. Tennyson. 'We have both been up all night and half of the morning with Rebecca. She almost died from stomach sickness. It seems she ate some bad meat.' Hattie's face flushed. Her Husband, Jim Parker, was the butcher" (p. 177).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Stanley picks up Zero and carries him up the mountain. As he climbs higher, Stanley's strength comes from deep inside. Pretend you are a news reporter.

Write an argumentative article that proves Stanley is a hero for not abandoning Zero and for carrying him up the mountain. Provide three facts to support your argument.

Close Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students' lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 17



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

Do onions really have healing powers?

Onions can decrease the risk of cancer, relieve congestion, reduce inflammation, and lower blood pressure. Onions and other members of their family—such as leeks, shallots, and scallions—contain dozens of compounds that provide protection from many conditions including cancer, high blood pressure, heart disease, high cholesterol, and asthma.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

contaminate (181)	sundial (183)	coincidence (185)	evicted (188)	compound (195)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 180-195

Setting	Characters	Pages
God's Thumb	Zero, Stanley, Clyde Livingston	180-88
Dry lake bed	Zero's Mom, Stanley's Mom	189-91
Near the Mary Lou	Stanley, Zero	191-95

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Zero is getting better.
- Stanley likes to eat the onions 1 layer at a time.
- The hole was as big as the ones they dug at Camp Green Lake with about 2 feet of murky water.
- Stanley was surprised he didn't get sick from the sploosh, dirty water, or onions.
- If Zero wanted to go into the homeless shelter, he had to find a woman who would pretend to be his mother.
- Zero tells Stanley he didn't know he and his mother were stealing when he was young.
- Zero didn't know the shoes were important when he took them from the shelter. He just needed shoes to wear.
- Zero says he ran out of the shelter, took off the shoes, and put them on top of a parked car.
- Zero believes he should have just kept the shoes. He was arrested the next day for stealing a new pair of shoes at a shoe store.
- Zero's strength returns and he helps dig the hole. It is over 6 feet deep. He puts rocks at the bottom to filter the dirt.
- Stanley and Zero use the Big Thumb as a sundial following the shade.
- Stanley and Zero believe they have been on the Big Thumb for about a week and have eaten almost 280 onions.
- Stanley reflects on being happy for the first time in a long while.
- Stanley believes when the shoes hit him, destiny hit him as well.
- Stanley thinks they could pass Camp Green Lake and walk down the road to civilization taking a bag of onions, 3 jars of water, and his canteen, refilling at the camp.
- Zero tells Stanley he was not always homeless and remembers a yellow room.
- Stanley and Zero decide to go back toward camp and dig in the hole where Stanley found the lipstick case.
- They dunk their caps in the water hole, and pack onions and 3 jars of water.
- Stanley slips and falls while walking down the mountain, losing about a third of their onions.
- Neither Zero or Stanley wants to be the first to take a drink of water.
- They rest in the shady side of Mary Lou on their way back to Camp Green Lake.
- Zero tells Stanley he used to stay in Laney Park.
- As they approach Camp Green Lake, they decide to hide until the camp went to sleep before going into the hole where he found the gold tube.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 191

“It wasn’t even noon yet when they reached the boat. They sat against the shady side and rested.

‘I don’t know what happened to my mother,’ Zero said. ‘She left and never came back.’

Stanley peeled an onion.

‘She couldn’t always take me with her,’ Zero said. ‘Sometimes she had to do things by herself’” (p. 191).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today’s prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Pretend you are Zero’s mother. In a letter to Hector, describe what happened to you on that fateful day when you did not return.

In an argumentative paragraph explain why you left Hector. Provide three reasons why you thought it was best at that time. Explain that it is not a day you can look back on fondly. In this letter, write down exactly what you would want to tell Hector if you ever saw him again. Ask him for his forgiveness.

Close Close by extending today’s lesson to life and the world.

Extend the reading to the students’ lives or to the world.

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 18



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is foreshadowing?

Foreshadowing is the use of hints and clues in a work of literature that tip the reader off to what is to come later in the story. Used well, it can increase tension and suspense. It sometimes is used to prepare the reader for a shocking discovery.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

astonishment (199)	precarious (200)	commotion (203)	gasp (203)	suppress (203)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, p. 196-208

Setting	Characters	Pages
The last hole	Stanley, Zero, Warden, Mr. Pendanski, Mr. Sir	196-208

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley falls asleep in the hole before Zero comes and wakes him up.
- Stanley begins to dig the hole. It is so dark, he can't see if he is digging anything up.
- Zero brings Stanley a box of sugar-frosted flakes, and he nearly gags on them.

- Stanley's shovel bounces off something hard. He uses his hand to feel around the edge of a box-like object that he thinks is a treasure chest.
- Stanley digs a tunnel under the object trying to free it. He is able to feel latches and a leather handle.
- The suitcase finally comes free. He hands the heavy bag to Zero.
- The Warden shows up, shining a flashlight in their faces as they try to climb out of the hole.
- Six yellow spotted lizards crawl on, over, and around Stanley and Zero, and they realize they are sitting on a lizard nest.
- The Warden tells them how she watched her parents dig holes her entire life, including Christmas.
- Mr. Sir shoots and kills a yellow-spotted lizard as it jumps towards Mr. Pendanski.
- Mr. Pendanski believes Stanley and Zero are going to die.
- The Warden has a plan to cover up the potential deaths of Stanley and Zero.
- She doesn't plan to turn over Zero's body.
- The Warden wonders why the yellow-spotted lizards have not bitten Stanley and Zero yet.
- Stanley doesn't want to die with images of the Warden, Mr. Sir, and the lizards in his brain.
- Mr. Sir tells Stanley that he is innocent and his lawyer came to pick him up the previous day.
- The Warden directed the counselors to give the campers breakfast and keep them quiet.
- With a lizard on his shoulder, Zero gives Stanley the thumbs-up sign.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 204

"‘Let her ask her questions,’ said the Warden. ‘Just so long as I have the suitcase, I don’t care what happens. Do you know how long...’ Her voice trailed off, then started up again. ‘When I was little I’d watch my parents dig holes, every weekend and holiday. When I got bigger, I had to dig, too. Even on Christmas’" (p. 204).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

The author reveals some information on the Warden's childhood. Pretend you are the Warden as a little girl on Christmas day and your parents want you to dig holes. **In an argumentative paragraph, argue why you should not dig holes on a holiday. Provide three reasons to support your answer. Think about how a childhood dedicated to digging holes could affect your entire life.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 19



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a tarantula?

A tarantula is a large, hairy spider. Tarantulas can be black, brown, gray, or even brightly colored. Most people are afraid of tarantulas because they are so large and weird looking, but the truth is that these spiders are not dangerous.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

fascinated (210)	authorization (213)	legitimate (213)	jurisdiction (216)	incarcerated (220)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis, p. 209-220

Setting	Characters	Pages
The last hole	Stanley, Zero, Mr. Sir, Warden, Ms. Morengo	209-214
Outside the Warden's office	Armpit, Magnet, Zigzag, Twitch, X-ray, Squid	215-220

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- Stanley greets the morning with 8 lizards in the hole with him.
- Neither the Warden nor Mr. Sir want to get the suitcase from the hole.
- Stanley is fascinated by a tarantula crawling across the dirt.

- The lizards look for shade as the sun rises.
- Stanley decides to try and crawl out of the hole and Zero says his legs are asleep.
- Zero notices Stanley's last name is his first name backward.
- Stanley's attorney shows up and threatens to file charges against the Warden, Camp Green Lake, and the state of Texas.
- The Warden spins a lie about Stanley and Zero sneaking into her cabin, stealing the suitcase, and falling into the hole.
- The Warden tries to say the Attorney General did not authenticate the court order and that is why she didn't release Stanley the previous day.
- The Warden claims that Stanley is hallucinating and needs medical care.
- Stanley and Zero stand up, stagger, and get out of the hole with the suitcase.
- The Warden tries to take the suitcase from Zero.
- Zero says it is Stanley's and has his name on it.
- The Warden is shocked that Zero can read Stanley's name.
- Mr. Pendanski brought each of the boys 2 orange juices and 2 bagels.
- The Warden begins to backpedal and change her story and her lies.
- Stanley's attorney and the Warden argue about opening the suitcase.
- Stanley refuses to leave Camp Green Lake without Zero.
- The lawyer asks to see Hector Zeroni's file.
- Armpit and Squid come out of the Wreck Room to see Zero and Stanley, then the rest of Group D follow.
- Zigzag tells Stanley about getting the pickup truck out of the holes.
- Squid asks Stanley to call his mother and say he was sorry.
- The Attorney General says he can't find any paperwork or information on Hector Zeroni.
- Stanley's lawyer tells Zero he's going home with them.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 213-214

"The Warden rushed to them. She hugged Zero. 'Thank God, you're alive,' she said, as she tried to take the suitcase from him.

He jerked it free. 'It belongs to Stanley,' he said" (p. 213-14).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

The Warden spins a lie about Stanley and Zero sneaking into her cabin, stealing the suitcase, and falling into the hole. **Pretend you are the Warden and write a statement to convince a judge of your lie. In an argumentative paragraph, defend your inaccurate side of the story. Provide three details to support your story.**

Character Based Literacy Program 40-Minute Lesson Plan

Holes, Day 20



Outcomes for Today

Common Core Standards Focus:

W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

PREPARE

Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Change Requires Effort Change is possible. Change requires three things: a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when I don't feel like working. It requires taking one step at a time.

What is a coincidence?

A coincidence is a happening that is the same by mistake or something that appears more than once in many places. It is an event that might have been arranged although it was really accidental.

Word Wall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

shame (223)	dedicated (227)	wellbeing (227)	tedious (228)	absentminded (231)
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READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Holes by Louis Sachar, pp. 221-231

Setting	Characters	Pages
Old Town of Green Lake	Sam, Walter, Bo, and Jess	221-222
The BMW	Zero, Stanley and Ms. Morengo	222-224
Stanley's	Clyde Livingston, Hector's Mom	227-231

RESPOND

Timeline Agree on the facts in today's reading and list the 3-5 most important on the timeline.

Students might mention:

- The yellow-spotted lizards don't come to the town of Green Lake until the lake dries up.
- Sam sells men in town onion juice to drink while hunting rattlesnakes to prevent yellow-spotted lizard attacks.

- Lizards don't like onion juice.
- Stanley and Zero don't open the suitcase until they get to Stanley's house.
- The lawyer keeps the windows open because the boys smell so bad.
- Stanley learns that Ms. Morengo is a patent attorney helping his father with his new invention.
- Stanley's father invents a product that eliminates foot odor. The new product smells like peaches.
- For the first time in over a hundred years, rain falls on the empty lake.
- Stanley's mother insists there are no curses.
- The Attorney General closes Camp Green Lake, forcing Ms. Walker to sell the land to a group who will turn it into a Girl Scout Camp.
- Inside the suitcase they find about \$20,000 in jewels and a stack of papers that include stock certificates, deeds of trust, and promissory notes.
- After legal fees and taxes, Stanley and Zero each get a little less than a million dollars.
- Stanley buys the family a new house with a laboratory in the basement.
- Zero hires a team of private investigators to find his mother.
- The Yelnats have a big party for the Super Bowl.
- Clyde Livingston is in a commercial during the Super Bowl.
- The commercial is for a product called Sploosh that neutralizes foot odor.
- Clyde Livingston's wife tells the Yelnats family that Clyde's feet smell really bad.
- Zero's mother is sitting behind him, playing with his hair.

EXPLORE

Analyze Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Paragraph, p. 227

"Stanley's mother insists that there was never a curse. She even doubts whether Stanley's great-great grandfather really stole a pig. The reader might find it interesting, however, that Stanley's father invented his cure for foot odor the day after the great-great grandson of Elya Yelnats carried the great-great-great grandson of Madame Zeroni up the mountain" (p. 227).

EXTEND

Write Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

In this novel, people are punished for bad deeds until the bad deed has somehow been righted. For example, The Yelnats family's luck changes for the better as soon as Stanley carries Hector Zeroni up the mountain. Rain falls again on Green Lake, but not until the Walker family is brought to justice. Write about a time in your life when correcting a mistake made your life better. Describe the benefits of fixing this mistake. **In an argumentative paragraph, prove why it is important in correcting a mistake. Provide an example from your past as a reason to support your argument.**