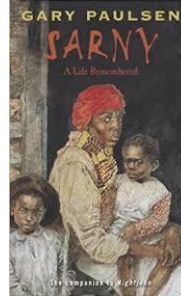


Sarny



ISBN-10 0-440-21973-6
ISBN-13 978-0-440-21973-6
Author Paulsen, Gary
Publisher Laurel Leaf
Copyright 1993
Lexile 840L
Genre Historical Fiction
Synopsis Sarny fled the plantation in the last days of the Civil War, suddenly a free woman in search of her sold-away children, until she found them and began a new life. Sarny's story gives a panoramic view of America in a time of trial, tragedy, and hope-for change, until her last days in the 1930s.
Themes Human Rights, Prejudice
Protagonist Female, African-American
Note Over the years, these books have been published in multiple editions. The page numbers in your book may be different than the ones on the lesson plan.

More Information www.scu.edu/character



Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Sarny, Week 1



PREPARE

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



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

Can one person's courage inspire a whole nation to step up for what is right?

Can someone's life be a source of courage for others?

Who were the courageous Bluecoats? How did they get their name?

In how many ways did Sarny show courage in leaving the plantation?

Is there such a thing as fake courage? What does it look like?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

signifies (2)	splinter (3)	cast-iron (3)	bound (2)	sprite (5)
molasses (9)	emancipation (17)	stammer (9)	resounding (18)	auction (13)
rumble(22)	bayonet (23)	whined (24)	shackles	bracing(25)
trotted (28)	rebel (30)	renegade (30)	scavengers (30)	looting (30)
dim (41)	chutes (35)	cleaver (36)	dawn(40)	hickory (40)

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

Read Read the selection.

p. 1-42

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Questions Map

- After reading the designated pages for this day's lesson plan, write down a list of at least 3 questions that you have about the characters, plot, historical facts, or any other questions that arise from reading. As you continue to read the book, if any of these questions are answered, go back and write down the answers under the questions.
- Continue adding at least 3 questions to your Questions Map. Refer to instructions in Day 1 Map section if necessary

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

KWL Chart- What have we learned about Sarny since reading *Nightjohn*? What else would you like to know about her life? Fold a piece of paper into 3 columns, Know, Would like to Know, and Learned. Fill in the first two columns with what you know and would like to know about Sarny. Fill in the last column as you read the story.

Nightjohn's Gift- For the rest of Sarny's life she will always remember and be grateful for the gift that Nightjohn gave to her and other slaves of learning to read and continuing a noble course in the face of fear. Nightjohn's gift is far greater than any tangible object he could have given them. Think about gifts that you can't touch that you have been given, such as the ability to read. Make a list of all of these kinds of gifts you can think of.

Soldier Savior- On page 24 Sarny describes the boy soldier who cut her chains and told her she was free. Draw a picture of that soldier based on her description.

New Things!- Sarny has never been off the plantation before. If she weren't so pre-occupied looking for her children, she would probably be looking at all the new sights around her with awe and great interest. Write a list of things that Sarny **sees** for the first time. Also, write a list of things that she **does** for the first time in this section.

Bill of Sale- Make a copy of what you imagine the receipt or bill of sale for Sarny's children looked like. Refer to pages 40-41 and make sure it reads exactly what she says it reads.

Discussion

Key Questions (p.1-5)

1. How old is Sarny when she starts telling this story?
2. What polite phrase that Sarny learned from Miss Laura means that a woman is old?
3. What simile does Sarny use for how she remembers things that Miss Laura told her?
4. What does the word 'signifies' mean?
5. Who was Martin? What happened to him?
6. Where is Sarny while she is writing her story? What is her life like?

Key Questions (p. 9-21)

1. What simile does Sarny use to describe how slowly the idea of learning to read caught on with the slaves at first?
2. Why did reading catch on better with the women at first?
3. What simile did Sarny use to describe how the reading amongst the slaves accelerated as they continued with it?
4. What happened as slaves started learning to read?
5. Why didn't Sarny run away until later in her life?
6. What happened to Delie (Sarny's mammy)?
7. What happened to Sarny's family at the end of Chapter 1?

Key Questions (p. 22-26)

1. What was the rumble or the sound of thunder that Sarny heard while she was chained?
2. What did it mean that the soldiers were wearing blue?
3. How did Waller die?
4. Who let Sarny free?
5. What did Sarny do as soon as she was released from the chain? Where was she going?

Key Questions (p. 27-34)

1. What does Sarny see for the first time in her life?
2. Why does Sarny not believe everything Billy says?
3. How long had Sarny's children been gone when she started searching for them?
4. Who caught up with Sarny?
5. What did Sarny describe Lucy?
6. How does Sarny know how to measure approximately one mile?
7. What supplies did Sarny and Lucy have with them?
8. What did the Union officer warn them about?
9. What new word did Sarny learn from the officer?
10. What is a hex sign? Why did Lucy make the hex sign over the dead soldier's bodies?

Key Questions (p. 35-42)

1. What was happening to Mr. Greerson when Sarny found him?
2. Why didn't Greerson tell Sarny where her children were?
3. What did Lucy suggest Sarny could do to find where her children went?
4. When did they find the papers that told where Tyler and Dellie were sold?
5. Where had they been sold and to whom?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph

Page 5:

Ain't that something? That a sprite everybody looked right over, clean over the top when they were busy to see something, would be the one to live and live and write it all down. Ain't that something?

Writing Prompt

In this paragraph, Sarny is describing herself. She is amazed that someone who seems so insignificant, especially to herself, would be known by many in the present and future because she is the one that told their story. It takes courage to tell your story. What would you write about if you were to write about your family, your community, your group of friends, or your culture?

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) telling your story. Remember that a narrative is when you tell a story.

Key Paragraph

Page 20:

I ran to the wagon and said things, wild things, said I would do anything for him only please don't take my children, not my heart, not all of me, not that.

Writing Prompt

In the above paragraph, Sarny pleads her heart out for Waller not to sell her children away from her. She is a desperate woman in this moment. There is little she wouldn't do to save her children. She knew Waller was a cruel man, but she used courage to do the only thing she was able to do, beg. Think of a time when you were in a desperate situation, a time when you were willing to do just about anything for something.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that moment.

Key Paragraph

Page 26:

I never looked back.

I left the house, left the buildings and the fields, left Waller dying in the dirt and the white women in the house and never once looked back. The other slaves—no, free people—would have to care for themselves now. Bluecoats coming, bringing freedom to everyone, sweeping clean all the dirt there was, but I didn't look back.

Had to find my children.

Writing Prompt

Sarny had never been off the plantation before in her life. Although her yearning for her children gave her motivation, it still took courage to go out into the unknown.

Think of a time when you or someone you know did something for the first time in your life that was scary or adventurous.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience.

Key Paragraph

Page 30:

“But there are still dangers. We are just an advanced unit. There are bands of renegade scavengers—rebel deserters—that we haven’t rounded up yet, killing and looting.”

Writing Prompt

In the paragraph above, a union officer warns Sarny and Lucy of the danger they put themselves in by travelling as two lone women. The officer represents heroism, not only by giving his advice, but by being a soldier fighting for the rights of others. Do you know any men or women who served in the military?

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) telling a story about someone you know in the military. If you don’t know anyone, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 42:

“It’s where we are going.” Had hope now, had a name, had a place. Had hope. Had something. “It’s where we are going.”

Writing Prompt

Hope is a key component in courage. Without hope, would you be able to have courage? Think of a time when you had a lot of hope which gave you the courage to do something.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Sarny, Week 2



PREPARE

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



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

How does taking a long journey require courage?

What does reconstruction mean? How is it like picking yourself up after you've been beaten?

Who earned the lavish lifestyle of the Southern plantation owners?

What is worth dying for?

How did being free take courage?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

specters (44)	feeble (46)	homespun (45)	recollect (49)	abomination (50)
brook (55)	whimper (59)	paddock (56)	elms (55)	fetches
gant (62)	vittles (63)	midday (66)	armor (67)	churned (66)
pitiful(74)	distraction (69)	speck (69)	rut (70)	prime (73)
fidged (78)	sass (79)	liberated (81)	suitable (80)	moral (80)

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

Read Read the selection.

p. 43-83

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Continue adding at least 3 questions to your Questions Map. Refer to instructions in Day 1 Map section if necessary.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Chart the Course- The soldier that Sarny asks directions from on page 50 tells her that New Orleans is about 350 miles due southwest. Print out a map of the United States and chart the course from where they are to New Orleans.

Sunacres- What a nice name for a plantation. Based on the descriptions Sarny gives of this place, draw a picture of Sunacres.

Postcard- Make a postcard from Sarny to Nightjohn. What would she tell him? Is she grateful to him?

Open Mind Portrait- Sarny

Fill out the Open Mind Portrait for with words, phrases and pictures of what is going through Sarny's mind up to this point in the story.

Sketch the Scene- This chapter contains a very important event in the story. It is when Sarny and Lucy meet Miss Laura. They are amazed at the sight of Miss Laura and her fancy carriage. Draw a picture of this scene using the descriptions Sarny gives in this chapter.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 43-54)

1. Why did Sarny and Lucy know it would be hard to get to New Orleans?
2. What method did Sarny use to know which direction was South?
3. What did Lucy wake Sarny up to see?
4. What was different about the two armies on the battlefield?
5. What did Lucy mean when she said, "Freedom sure costs a heap, don't it?"
6. Why did the officer on the horse recommend they don't go to New Orleans?
7. How far and in what direction was New Orleans from where they were?

Key Questions (p. 55-60)

1. What was "Sunacres?" Why did Lucy and Sarny go there?
2. Why did Sarny go in the house at Sunacres?
3. What did Sarny say about all the pretty things in the house?
4. What did they find in the house?
5. Why did they decide to take the little white boy with them?

Key Questions (p. 61-67)

1. Who was Tyler Two? What was wrong with him?
2. What additional supplies did they bring with them from Sunacres for their trip?
3. Why didn't Lucy and Sarny share their food with the other hungry people?
4. Why did Sarny say "Crazy life." on page 64? What did she mean?
5. Sarny reflects on the way her life has changed so much. What are some things she mentions to that effect on page 65?
6. What happened that slowed down their journey at the end of the chapter?

Key Questions (p. 68-76)

1. How long did it rain?
2. What did Sarny mean when she said "Young are tough."?
3. What did Sarny do when she woke up and realized it had stopped raining?
4. How did Sarny, Lucy, and Tyler Two almost die from gunshots? How did they survive?
5. Why did Sarny and Lucy stay with the blue soldiers for hours?

Key Questions

1. What slowed them down to a “frog crawl”?
2. What food did they find in a field by a house as they continued going south?
3. What did Sarny say about the carriage they saw coming while they were cooking in the fire?
4. Who was in the carriage? What was that person like?
5. Why were Sarny and Lucy so lucky to run into Miss Laura?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph

Page 47:

Lucy her smile was gone and she must have been thinking like me because she said, “Freedom sure costs a heap, don’t it?”

Writing Prompt

What does Lucy mean by this statement? Think about the heroes who have paid the price for our freedom. It is easy to take the things we enjoy for granted. Now think of a time when you didn’t appreciate something until you didn’t have it anymore.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 59:

“How far do you think we’ll get carrying a white child?”

I shook my head. “I don’t know but he’s needing help and it don’t matter what color he is, does it? Might be we could take him to a white family along the way. Just take him down the road a bit—”

Writing Prompt

In this paragraph we see another example of Sarny’s courage as well as her integrity. She didn’t care about what other people would think. She only cared about what was right. Think of a time when you cared so much about something that you didn’t care what other people would think about it.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 64:

Thought on Nightjohn. Just as my thinking closed down for the night I thought on Nightjohn and how he really started it all. Saved me. Hadn't we been able to read we wouldn't have found the paper about New Orleans...

Writing Prompt

In this paragraph, Sarny is reflecting on how much Nightjohn has affected her life by teaching her to read. Think about someone who has deeply affected your life.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) telling about how that person affected your life. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Pages 69-70:

Stupid. But I just couldn't sit any longer. Mud was still some bad and the wheelbarrow proved evil in the dark. Found every rut there was. But we started and I couldn't stop and by light we had made two good miles, maybe more...

Writing Prompt

Sarny's determination to keep going despite how hard it was showed her courage. Think of a time when you were determined to do something and wasn't going to let hardship stop you. Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 82:

Told her all of it even the name of the man took my children and all the time I was sitting there talking I thought on how it couldn't be happening. Never talked to a white woman except to say Yes ma'am and No ma'am, and here I was sitting in a fine carriage with this beautiful white woman that talked like molasses telling her everything. Everything. And she nodded and smiled and cried, a touch of a white hankie to the corner in her eye, and all the time I thought this ain't so, this can't be happening. But it was. All of it.

Writing Prompt

In this paragraph Sarny is not only surprised the new experience she is in, but she is also surprised by herself, that she is telling this strange woman everything. It must have taken her courage to talk so freely to and to trust a white woman after her lifelong bad experience with white people. Think of a time when you couldn't believe something that was happening.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Sarny, Week 3



PREPARE

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



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

Does it take courage just to be who you are? Why?

How do you know when to give up a fight?

What does New Orleans owe the slaves? How can it repay them?

How does courage pay off?

What do education and courage have in common?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

disruptive (84)	gala (86)	octoroons (86)	eunuch (87)	relish (91)
whooping (95)	hollering (95)	foregone (96)	faucets (102)	marveled (99)
vanished (115)	singular (115)	bustle (115)	awnings (117)	parcel (120)
aside (121)	caviar (122)	bulged (125)	stout (129)	bellered (129)
suckling (133)	gunnysacks (137)	wage (134)	primer (134)	colty (137)

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

Read Read the selection.

p. 84-137 (mid-page)

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Continue adding at least 3 questions to your Questions Map. Refer to instructions in Day 1 Map section if necessary.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Character Chart- Miss Laura

Using the diagram at the end of this day's lesson plans, make a character chart for Miss Laura. Consider four of her most dominant personality traits and find examples from the text to support it.

Character Interaction Chart- The three main characters in this novel are Sarny, Miss Laura, and Lucy. Consider how they each interact with one another. Fill out the Character Interaction chart at the end of this day's lesson plans accordingly.

Poster- Referring to the descriptions Sarny gives about the market scene in New Orleans on pages 115-120, make poster of what you imagine it to look like.

Open Mind Map- Sarny and Lucy

A lot has happened in the past few chapters. Lucy and Sarny's lives have completely changed. Fill out the Open Mind diagram for with words, phrases and pictures of what is going through Lucy and Sarny's minds up to this point in the story.

Letter to the Past- If you were Sarny and could write a letter to people from the past and tell them about the future, what would you say in a letter to either Martin or old Delie?

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 84-94)

1. In what two ways does Miss Laura get them past the officer on road with the big bay horse?
2. What did Sarny learn about the power of women through this experience?
3. What surprising thing did Sarny notice about Miss Laura when she turned her head to look out the window?
4. Who is Bartlett?
5. Why did Sarny hope there was a hell?
6. What was Albemarle? What was it like?
7. What did Miss Laura mean when she said "We all have our own quarters."?

Key Questions (p. 95-107)

1. What did Sarny think of New Orleans?
2. What did the officer in charge of the escort say was a "foregone conclusion"? Why?
3. What did Miss Laura say about Mr. Chivington?
4. What was Miss Laura's home like?
5. What are some things that Sarny and Lucy did that night that they had never done before?

Key Questions (p. 108-120)

1. What did Miss Laura hire Sarny to do? What did she hire Lucy to do?
2. What new skills did Sarny have to learn?
3. Who did all these things for Miss Laura before Sarny and Lucy came along? What happened to that person?
4. Who is Stanley?
5. What was Stanley like?

Key Questions (p. 121-132)

1. How many people were expected to come to Miss Laura's party?
2. How did Sarny get started into learning? (p. 123)
3. What big surprise did Sarny get when she greeted one big man at the door?
4. How did Sarny reclaim her children from Mr. Chivington?
5. What was the party for?

Key Questions (p. 133-137)

1. What were Miss Laura's meals like?
2. How much did Sarny get paid?
3. Who was Sarny talking about when she said he "made words so good I thought it must have come from God in some way"?
4. What did Tyler tell Sarny later in his life was one of his finest memories from his childhood?
5. What did Miss Laura and Sarny agree they had to do for Lucy soon?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph

Page 92:

"We each live in our own time." Her voice was soft. Like she was talking to a little girl. Soft with love. "And we must do the best we can with our time. Those who came before weren't as lucky as us and we aren't as lucky as some who may come later. We must live in our own time and do the best we can...we all have our own quarters."

Writing Prompt

What does Miss Laura mean when she says *we each must live in our own time and we each have our own quarters*? All of us have difficulties we have had to overcome. Think of a time when you suffered a very bad hardship.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 103:

Miss Laura she held up her hand. "There are no more quarters. Ever. From now on you won't speak of them, and tonight you will both have a hot bath with French perfumed bubble soap."

Writing Prompt

Can you imagine how happy Sarny and Lucy were to go from living in the horrors of slavery to living in a luxurious home working for a kind and generous woman? Miss Laura was a real hero to them. Think of a time when something that started really bad for you turned out really good in the end.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 118:

Found myself looking on a man 'bout as big as Nightjohn had been. Carried himself straight up and down. Deep black with a wide smile and eyes that seemed on the edge of laughing. Found myself looking on my next husband. But I didn't know it then.

Writing Prompt

In the above paragraph, Sarny is reflecting on the first time she met her husband, Stanley. She was nervous, but had the courage to talk to him and to try to learn how to be a good marketer. Think of a time in your life when you first met a person that would later be a very close friend of yours.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 132:

“To the end of the war,” Miss Laura said, “and the end of slavery but mostly to Sarny’s babies coming home.”

Drank to that and then went into my room and laid down next to little Delie and Tyler and closed my eyes.

Happiest day of my life.

Writing Prompt

How was Sarny’s heroic journey to find her children rewarded? What has been the happiest day of your life so far?

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

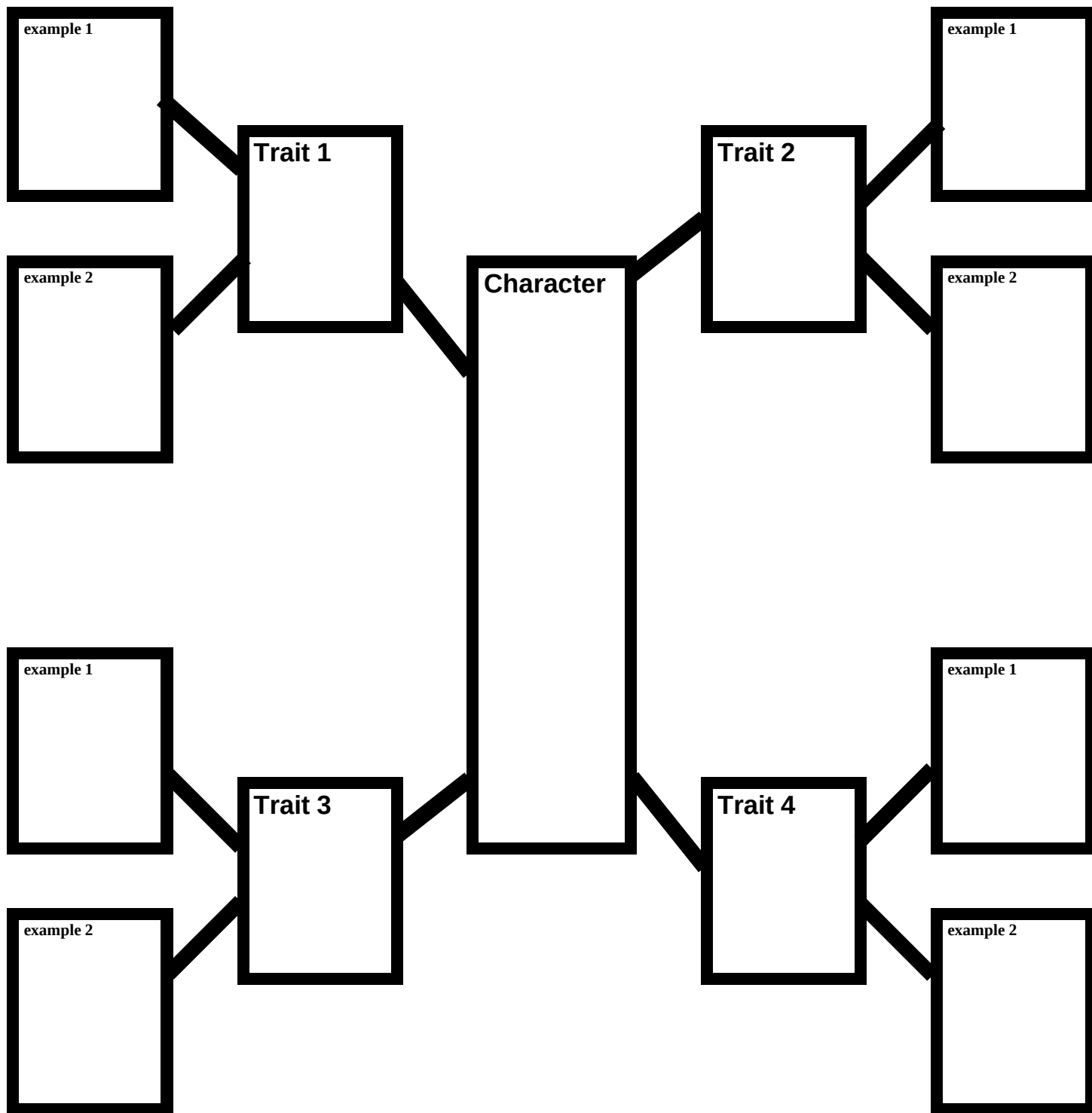
Page 135:

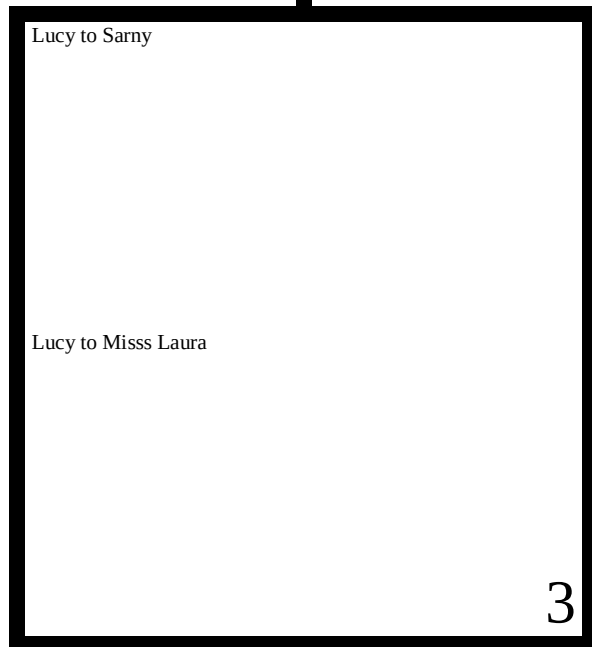
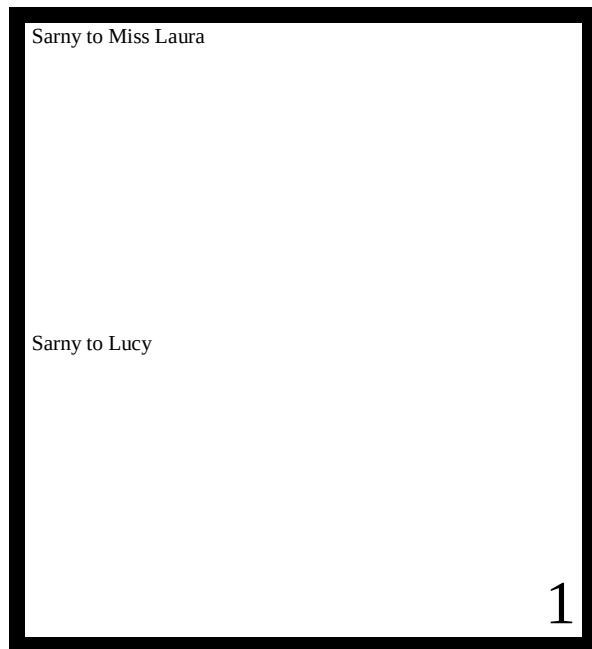
Started learning on the world. It went everywhere, went on forever. Read about other places, other times, other people. Read things made me laugh and some made me cry. Read on great men and some so downright bad they made Waller look good. Read every night when I could, when I didn’t have to work, sitting by the milk-glass lamp with the book while my babies slept.

Writing Prompt

All of the risks that Nightjohn and Sarny courageously took to educate the slaves is paying off every day of Sarny’s life. Sarny is describing how much she is learning. Think of a time when you learned something that affected you profoundly.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.





Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Sarny, Week 4



PREPARE

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



Courage Requires Fortitude. Courage is risk for a reason not for a thrill. Courage requires we moderate our impulses and emotions. Courage leads me to consider the Heroic Journey in which people live for purposes bigger than themselves and their wants and needs.

How can cowardice be disguised as courage?

The Aftermath

How long can a battle go on?

How important are the memories of the people who have lived before us?

What can we learn about courage from the lives of others?

Word Wall Here are vocabulary words to add to the Word Wall.

chicory (137)	dainty (138)	derby (138)	cordial	salon (141)
investing (144)	arithmetic (144)	sprites (145)	grudge (145)	fractions (148)
fretting (155)	harness (152)	stalls (158)	presently (155)	scuffed (158)
hearse (159)	lynching (160)	upholding (161)	grieved (162)	sunken (163)
influenza (175)	shrewd (172)	estate (172)	substantial (172)	edgy (175)

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

Read Read the selection.

p. 137-180

RESPOND

Timeline List the 15-20 most important on the timeline.

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

- First, *fix the facts*: who, what, when, where, why
- Then, decide on the most important events and begin your timeline with these.

Over the course of the next week, you will be required to read a number of pages. It would be best if you spread the reading out over the week and not try to do everything at the last minute before your next appointment.

Map Add to ongoing activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

Continue adding at least 3 questions to your Questions Map. Refer to instructions in Day 1 Map section if necessary.

EXPLORE

Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Character Chart- Lucy

Using the diagram at the end of this day's lesson plans, make a character chart for Lucy. Consider four of her most dominant personality traits and find examples from the text to support it.

Advertisement- If Sarny could advertise for her school in a newspaper or magazine, what would that look given that the people she wants to help can't read?

Historical Collage- Using sketches or magazines or other materials, create a collage depicting what was going on during this time in history in relation to the events of the chapter and race relations.

Sarny, Young and Old- At the beginning of the novel, when Sarny starts writing this book about her life she is 94 years old. Make a T-chart and on the left side write words and phrases that describe Sarny as a young girl before she was freed from slavery. On the right side write words and phrases that describe her as an old woman after all her life's experiences.

Plot Diagram- Fill out the plot diagram at the end of this day's lesson plans with the events that created the plot.

Discussion

Key Questions (p. 137-142)

1. Who was Carl Jefferson?
2. What was Carl like?
3. Why did Lucy leave?
4. Who was Buddy? How was he different than Carl?
5. What happened to Lucy?
6. What big news did Sarny tell Miss Laura when they were drinking coffee at breakfast one morning?

Key Questions (p. 143-150)

1. How much was Sarny's raise?
2. Why do you think Sarny never asked Miss Laura how she made her money?
3. What simile did Sarny use to describe Delie's mind?
4. What idea did Stanley suggest Sarny do? Why was Miss Laura against it?
5. What was Sarny's decision about teaching?
6. What happened to Sarny's school?

Key Questions (p. 151-158)

1. Why was Sarny confident no one would bother the school again?
2. Who was Haggerty?
3. Why was Sarny worried that Stanley wanted to talk to Haggerty?
4. What happened at the docks when Stanley talked to Haggerty?
5. What happened to Stanley?

Key Questions (p. 159-169)

1. Why couldn't they bury Stanley in New Orleans?
2. What was the conversation between Miss Laura and Sarny regarding teaching about?
3. What happened to Haggerty?
4. Where did Sarny move to after Stanley's death?
5. What bad news did Miss Laura tell Sarny?
6. What was the conversation between Miss Laura and Sarny regarding money about?
7. What happened to Miss Laura?

Key Questions (p. 170-180)

1. What kind of a funeral did Miss Laura ask for?
2. Who took Miss Laura's death harder than everyone else?
3. Who was Brune? Why did he have the children leave so that he could talk to her?
4. Where did Sarny and her kids move to after New Orleans?
5. Where did Tyler suggest they move next?
6. What happened to each of Sarny's kids by the time she was telling this story?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph

Page 137:

Later Tyler he told me, later when he was a man and doing man thinks, studying on being a doctor, later than that when he was married and giving me grandchildren, that later he told me once he thought the finest thing that ever happened to him was sitting by the river having me read Shakespeare on a summer day.

Writing Prompt

Sarny was a hero to her children in many ways. One way was in how she raised them and helped them enjoy life. In the paragraph above, she mentions how Tyler described one of his favorite childhood memories. Think of one of your favorite memories.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 149:

Won't have anybody lay a hand on me. "We burned you once, and if you don't shut it down we'll burn you again. And maybe we'll throw you in the fire when we do it. You understand?"

Writing Prompt

Sarny continues to show courage in the face of prejudice and oppression. In the above paragraph, she is threatened by hateful people. Yet she never gives up. Think of a time when you were threatened.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 152:

Should have kept my mouth shut. Knew it later and wish to God I had but I went home and Stanley he was just getting ready to go to work and I swore and told him.

Writing Prompt

While Stanley showed courage by going to talk to Haggerty, it was a bad decision. Sarny deeply regretted telling Stanley that she saw Haggerty burn her school. Think of a time when you regretted doing something.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can't think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

Page 164:

“Bartlett won’t be able to handle this. He will fall apart. You have always been the strong one, and I need your strength now. Will you help me?”

“Anything.” Meant it too. Would have died for this woman. Right now, instead of her I’d die. Take me, not her. “Just tell me what to do.”

Writing Prompt

Miss Laura is asking Sarny to have courage and take on her responsibilities because she knows she is strong and can handle it. Think of a time when someone believed in you and trusted you to do something.

Write a short narrative (1-3 paragraphs) describing that experience. If you can’t think of a time in your life, make it up.

Key Paragraph

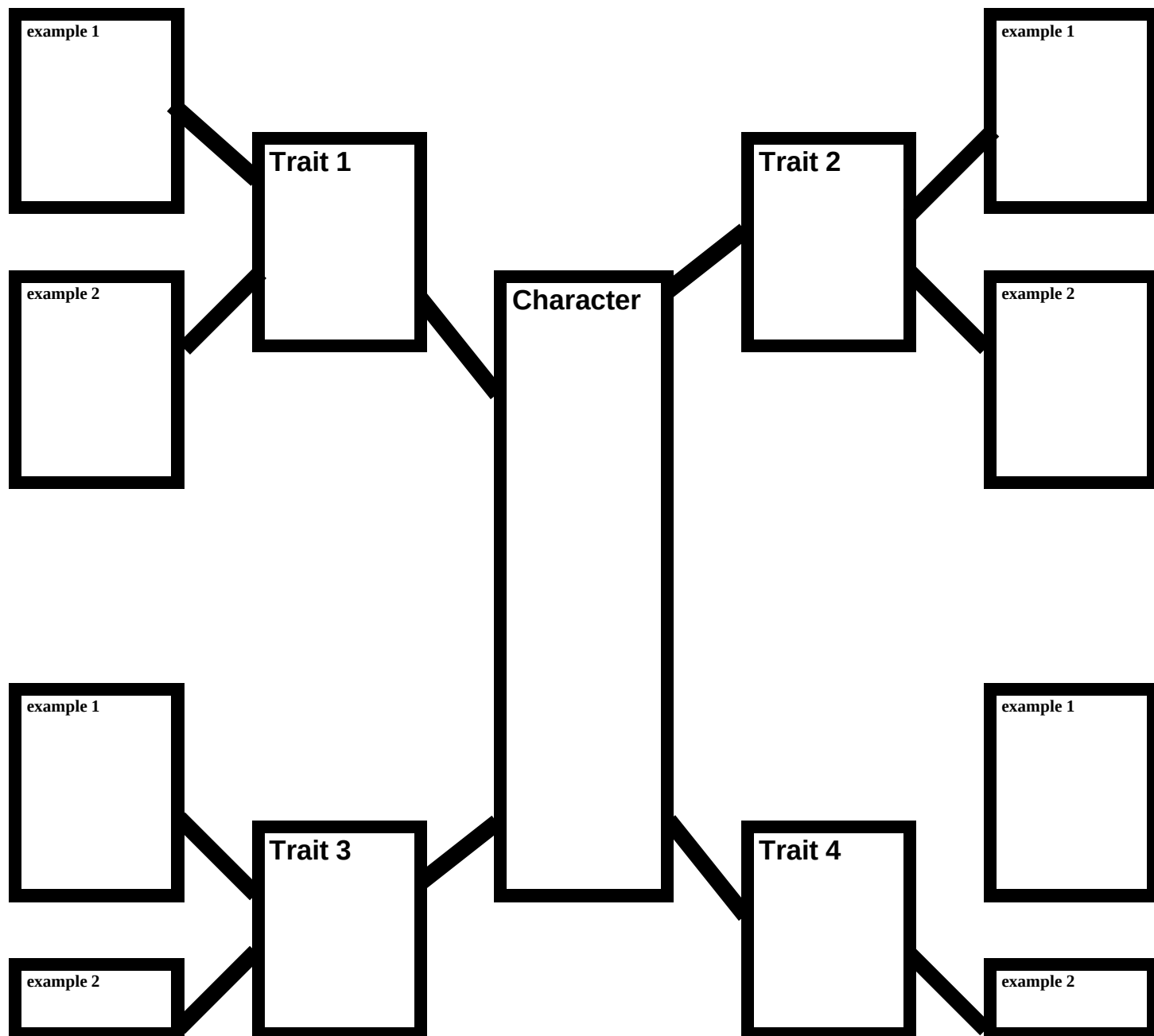
Page 179-180.

See entire Afterword.

Writing Prompt

The author of this book, Gary Paulsen, says that although this story is fiction, it is true in the sense that many of the things the characters experienced were really things that some people did experience. This story was the slaves’ story. Think of a conflict that many people face in our time.

Write a fictional narrative (1-2 pages) about a character or characters who face that conflict. Like the book *Sarny*, you will write a fictional story about a real conflict people face.



Plot Diagram for _____
BOOK TITLE

Climax:

9. _____

8. _____

7. _____

6. _____

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. _____

Rising Action

Falling Action

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

Resolution:

Exposition

Protagonist:

Antagonist:

Setting – Time:

Setting – Place:

Internal Conflict:

External Conflict:

Author's Theme:

Symbolism:

Foreshadowing:

Irony:

Name _____