

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Goodbye Vietnam, Week 1



PREPARE

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



Integrity Requires Wholeness. Integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things.

What is tyranny?

How can people protect themselves against tyranny?

When is it right to escape a bad situation?

What is freedom?

Should a person ever be punished for what they believe?

Research traditional versus “new” medicine in Asian culture. Why is it valuable to learn about old ways?

Research the risks of boat travel. Why would people travel by boat?

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

superstition (3)	scoffed (5)	scorching (7)	commemorated (12)	infirmities (14)
ancestors (16)	ceased (17)	barbarian (21)	lurking (22)	wailing (22)
muck (27)	captured (28)	listless (29)	suspiciously (30)	smugly (32)
pudgy (33)	mourning (35)	sorcerer (36)	commission (37)	greedily (39)
gravely (41)	gangplank (42)	businesslike (43)	herded (45)	ballast (46)

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.

Read pp. 3-48

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?

- Create a poster of Vietnam and Hong Kong track the family's progress as they leave their country.
 - Create a poster symbolic of the Vietnamese Calendar.
-
- Continue to add to the map of Vietnam
 - Start an OMP on grandmother or Mai
 - Study monsoons and their effect on the rice paddies.
-
- Continue to add to the map of Vietnam

Continue to add to the map of Vietnam

Create a K-W-L Chart of the for either Vietnam or for Hong Kong

Continue to add to the Vietnam/Hong Kong map.

Make Sampans for the display board.

EXPLORE

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

Create an Open Mind Portrait of Mai

Create a cube on Vietnam. You can make up your own questions or use the ones listed below.

- What is the national religion of Vietnam?
- What are the seasons like?
- What is the capital?
- What are the major resources?

- What languages are spoken?
- What type of government does it have?

Create an advertisement convincing people to buy a duck.

Advertisement for a Duck

Materials:

- stiff paper 9x12 to 11x17
- pencils, pens, crayons, markers
- construction paper, scissors, glue sticks if desired

Step One: Make a list of the details of the Duck

1. Where can you get a duck?
2. How can the duck help you?
3. What purposes do people have for them?
4. Can the duck help you if needed?
5. What is the cost?
6. What are their needs?

Use a thesaurus to use good descriptive words

Step Two: Write an ad with a clear illustration

1. Write an appealing ad in 1 or 2 paragraphs detailing all of the information and making it sound interesting.
2. Illustrate the ad with a picture that would sell the dictionary.

Pretend you are Mai write a postcard about your journey.

Add to your OMP

Make a suitcase for your journey. What items would you take with you?

Add to OMP

Create cartoon summarizing the story so far.

Discussion

Key Questions (pgs 3-14)

1. Why is Anh's birthday significant to her personality?
2. How can being a healer be a threat to a government?
3. Is it appropriate to have Thant be the family favorite? Explain.
4. Why doesn't grandmother call any of the kids "number one child"?
5. If you had to work in the fields instead of going to school would you do it?

Key Questions (pgs 15-25)

1. Why did the family take their belongings to Chan's store? What risk was there for them by doing that?
2. Why did the Buddhist Temple get closed?

3. Why is the Tet dinner so important to Grandmother that she would risk her safety by taking the ducks?
4. Is it significant that she keep some normalcy for the family on their journey? Explain.

Key Questions (pgs 27-32)

1. Why does the family need traveling papers to get from their village to the town?
2. What would you feel like if you had to have papers to go anywhere in your own country or county?
3. What risks does the family risk by having to travel to the boat?
4. Why would a family risk their lives to leave their country?
5. Do you think the kids know why they have to leave?
6. Would you risk yourself and others for freedom?

Key Questions (pgs 33-39)

1. Why is Mai fascinated with Kim and her clothes?
2. How can the Bac Si's medicines help the people on the boat?
3. Do you think they will be more useful then the medicines that grandmother brought?
4. Both of the men keep trying to take more from the family and the Bac Si why do you think they keep trying?

Key Questions (pgs 40-48)

1. Why would Mai take a risk to make sure Kim and her mom get on the boat?
2. Is it appropriate for woman to give orders like Kim's mom did, why or why not?
3. If you didn't know the Bac Si would you follow her directions like Mai did? Why or why not?
4. Do you think the Bac Si's wisdom will help save the family? How?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph page 9

"It was my job to start the fire for the morning tea. I hurried into my trousers and shirt and went outside to bring in rice stalks and coconut shells to fuel the fire. The pale sunlight was tangled in the branches of the great mango tree in the village and the object of much veneration. My grandmother said its great pools of shade attracted spirits that lounged about under the green canopy. We were forbidden to get too close to the tree lest we interfere with the spirits, but when my grandmother wasn't looking Thant would scramble up the trunk like a monkey and steal the fruit."

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Having integrity means following moral standards of behavior. Many of these moral standards are the same among all cultures and peoples, such as honesty. Other standards are unique or special to specific cultures.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you work for a publishing company that produces travel books. You are assigned to write the culture section of a travel book on Vietnam. Describe in detail the culture of Vietnam based on today's reading. You may want to keep in mind:

Old ways vs. new ways in Vietnamese culture and religion
Cultural differences between males and females
Government influences on the lives of its citizens
Holidays
Any other things you learned about the culture in Vietnam

Key Paragraph page 17

"The whole village had been called together and told that the government had closed the temple. My grandmother had muttered under her breath that temple was the property of the village and that the gods would destroy the government for closing it. My father and mother had tried to hush her, but not before the officers had heard her. Since that time they had never ceased to watch her."

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Having integrity means following moral standards of behavior. Many of these moral standards are the same among all cultures and peoples, such as honesty. Other standards are unique or special to specific cultures.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you work for a publishing company that produces travel books. You are chosen to write the culture section of a travel book on Vietnam. Describe in detail the culture of Vietnam based on today's reading. You may want to keep in mind:

Religious beliefs and practices
What they eat and what things they use everyday
Any other things you learned about the culture in Vietnam

Key Paragraph page 27

"Our journey to Go Cong will take us two nights of walking," our father said. "We have no papers from the government giving us permission to leave our village, so we must travel when it is dark."

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Having integrity includes always being honest and upright. Sometimes, however, specific situations require discretion. For example, Mai and her family are escaping Vietnam illegally. They are hiding and willing to lie to the police. Does that mean they

are acting without integrity? Consider the reasons they are escaping to contemplate this question.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Mai's family is leaving Vietnam because they fear their government. Choose a character from the book so far. Pretend to be that character and write a letter to a relative in another country. Describe the problems in Vietnam and why you want to leave. Explain the injustices that the Vietnamese government put on its people.

Key Paragraph page 39

The man dropped his hand and stood staring at Kim while she played. The music sounded to me as if it ought to be played in pleasant gardens where there were fountains. When Kim finished, she put the flute back into its case and handed to the man. He shook his head indicating that she should keep it. But, he was embarrassed by being caught in a kind act, and when he turned away, his voice was very rough. "Come with me he ordered."

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Having integrity means caring about others. It means doing good things for people. Remember that: "Who you are when you think no one else is looking is who you really are." The man in the key paragraph showed some integrity by letting Kim keep her flute. Think about others ways people can show integrity by thinking about and helping others.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you are Mai. You are thinking about the friends you left behind in your village. You want to give them advice if they decide to escape Vietnam as well. Write a paragraph telling them what to expect along the way to Ho Chi Minh City. Also tell them what kinds of things they should bring with them and what they need to leave behind.

Key Paragraph p.42-43

"... For the first time Kim's mother spoke. "They are no better than murderers to send us off in such a boat. The first wave will crush it." She looked in the direction of the wharf as though she were considering making her way back with Kim. A moment later the anger disappeared and the look of despair that had been on her face since we had first seen her returned."

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Often, the true test of a person's integrity is seeing what they do in desperate or stressful circumstances. Sometimes people who you thought had integrity do selfish things. On the other hand you may be surprised when someone you did not expect does heroic things in such situations. The integrity of Mai and her family, along with the other passengers on the boat is tested to the extreme.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you are a news reporter. You are assigned to write about the conditions on the boats of refugees from Vietnam.

1c12 Cubing 5 Questions About Vietnam

Name				
		1		
	2	3	4	
		5		

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Goodbye, Vietnam, Week 2



PREPARE

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



Integrity Requires Wholeness. Integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things.

Does everyone have a breaking point? Consider how many challenges Mai and her family are going through. They have not given up yet. Another challenge they will face is seasickness.

Should you always share with others? What is dysentery? How can you prevent sharing diseases with others?

Statistics vs. Superstitions – There are many beliefs about luck in the old Vietnamese culture. As Dao is about to have her baby, all are hoping it is born on a lucky day. Consider the following news article:

Defying warnings about the negative health impacts on both mothers and children following C-section surgeries, many families in Vietnam still opt for the method because they want their babies to arrive at a lucky time of day.

Doctors at a three-day maternity healthcare conference ending Saturday in Hanoi said that besides a number of prescribed cesareans, a much larger number of others were decided upon fortunetellers' advice, according to a Tuoi Tre report Friday. The conference focused on preventing stillbirths and infant deaths. Wame Baravilala, a consultant on reproduction health for the UN Population Program in Vietnam, told the conference that several countries have control policies for C-sections and the method is only used in 3 percent of deliveries on average.

But the rate can jump to 45-50 percent in countries that don't apply such policies. Vietnam falls in the latter case, and although there are yet full statistics on the national C-section rate, doctors said the 40-50 percent rate is true to the country's leading ob-gyn hospitals like Hanoi Ob-Gyn Hospital and the Central Ob-Gyn Hospital, also in the capital city.

This interesting phenomenon happens in Vietnam and other countries because some people believe in superstitions more than statistics and empirical data. How does a

person choose what is true? Who should make decisions about health, individuals or their doctors?

Research the “Boat People of Vietnam”

Research the Tet Festival in Vietnam.

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

clammy (51)	waterlogged (52)	precious (54)	obedient (54)	retching (57)
complained (61)	horizon (62)	dysentery (62)	fortunate (63)	drifted (63)
auspicious (66)	venerate (68)	reassure (69)	porpoises (70)	listing (72)
miracle (76)	dreadful (77)	suspicious (78)	pirates (79)	lured (80)
muttered (81)	wring (82)	hungrily (82)	scandalized (84)	morsel (85)

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.

Read pgs 51-86

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?

Create a poster of Vietnam and Hong Kong track the family’s progress as they leave their country.

Create a poster symbolic of the Vietnamese Calendar.

Continue to add to the map of Vietnam
Add to the map tracking their travels.

Continue to add to the map of Vietnam

Continue to add to the Vietnam poster
Create a K-W-L Chart of the for either Vietnam or for Hong Kong
Add to the K-W-L chart

Continue to add to the Vietnam/Hong Kong map.
Make Sampans for the display board.

EXPLORE

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

Add to your Open Mind Portrait of Mai
Create a tri-fold brochure selling the trip to others.

Add to OMP
Retell the story from the Captain's perspective.

Pretend you have an engine to sell to Capt. Moui. Create and advertisement selling your engine.

Advertisement for a New Engine

Materials:

- stiff paper 9x12 to 11x17
- pencils, pens, crayons, markers
- construction paper, scissors, glue sticks if desired

Step One: Make a list of the details of the qualities of a good engine

1. Where can you get an engine?
2. Why is it needed?
3. What qualities should it have?
4. How much does it cost?
5. Describe it in good details.

Use a thesaurus to use good descriptive words

Step Two: Write an ad with a clear illustration

1. Write an appealing ad in 1 or 2 paragraphs detailing all of the information and making it sound interesting.
2. Illustrate the ad with a picture that would sell the dictionary.

Add to your OMP
Make a life ring, like what you would throw to someone drowning.

The ring would have to be a sign of encouragement.
Write things that encourage you on the ring.

Add to OMP

Create a cartoon summarizing the story so far.

Write a postcard describing the mood on the boat—draw a picture of the Tet festival

Discussion

Key Questions (pgs 51-60)

1. How does being on the boat make all of the people related to one another, even if they are from different places?
2. Does the boat become a community?
3. What are the elements of a community?
4. Why is grandmother so intent on celebrating Tet?
5. Why would speaking of home bring it closer for Mai?

Key Questions (pgs 61-65)

1. Why is everyone on the boat sick?
2. Bac Si seems like she is an expert in treating people. Why do you think they don't listen to her about the water?
3. Do you think it would be worth the hardships to travel like they are to another land?
4. How does Kim playing the flute settle people and make them forget their hardships?

Key Questions (pgs 66-75)

1. Why are grandmother's predictions about Dao's birth so important?
2. Why does it make grandmother feel important to help "deliver" the baby?
3. How does having a boy for their first child make people on the boat feel "Hopeful"?
4. Does the viewing of the porpoises help them feel hope for land?
5. Why do you think father was chosen to go rescue the boy?
6. Can the boy help them on their journey?

Key Questions (pgs 76-80)

1. Why do you think the boy woke and was frightful?
2. How do you think his nightmares were helping or hurting him?
3. Have there been pirates throughout history?
4. Why did they break up the boat when they realized the family had no gold?
5. Do you think telling his story helped him?

Key Questions (pgs 81-86)

1. Is it important the Loi does not blame the sea for the deaths of his family?
2. Why does the Tet bring people on the ship closer together?
3. Why do you think old Quang was chosen to be the first guest of New Year?
4. What are you supposed to do at the end and beginning of the New Year?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph page 55

"Bac Si Hong saw that our mother was shy in the presence of so many strangers and tried to make her more comfortable by asking about our village. At first our mother was embarrassed to be speaking with a *Bac Si*, who was educated, but after a while she forgot her embarrassment in the pleasure of speaking about our village. Speaking about it brought it closer.

Writing Prompt

Review the theme: Integrity

Often, the true test of a person's integrity is seeing what they do in desperate or stressful circumstances. Sometimes people who you thought had integrity do selfish things. On the other hand you may be surprised when someone you did not expect does heroic things in such situations. The integrity of Mai and her family, along with the other passengers on the boat is tested to the extreme.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you are a news reporter. You are assigned to write about the conditions on the boats of refugees from Vietnam, as **well as how the refugees are handling the situation**.

Key Paragraph page 62

"The next day there were many sick passengers. An old couple from the city, unused to the heat, developed bad cases of sunstroke. There was dysentery, and the tiny space at the back of the boat, curtained off for a toilet, was always in use. Kim's mother had ordered the drinking water boiled, but no one paid attention to her order. It was too much trouble, Le Hung said, and there was not enough fuel for the stove. *Bac Si Hong* told us to drink nothing but tea."

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

Integrity is valuing the mind, body and spirit in oneself and others. It means thinking things through and considering consequences to self and others. In making their decision to leave Vietnam, Mai's family had to consider all the pros and cons of each option.

Informational Writing Assignment:

In two paragraphs discuss the pros and cons of escaping from Vietnam. Organize it so that one paragraph outlines the pros of escaping and the second paragraph outlines the cons.

Key Paragraph page 75

"Captain Muoi wanted to question the boy, but Kim's mother said "No!" in so strong a voice that the captain retreated without another word. At last the boy fell asleep, but it was a restless sleep. Several times during the night he woke the whole boat with screams that sounded as if ten thousand devils were after him. We didn't dare think about what nightmares he was having--or worse, that they might not be nightmares at all but memories."

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

People who have integrity are people of good character. Character is shaped as people make choices throughout their lives. How they respond to the experiences in their lives and the courses they take determine who they are. The characters in the novel Goodbye, Vietnam are gaining many experiences in a short amount of time.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Pretend you are a news reporter. If you were to board the boat that Mai and her family and the other passengers are and interview them, write a news story based on what they would say has happened and what their experience has been like aboard the boat recently.

Key Paragraph page 80

"My grandmother rocked back and forth moaning softly to herself. "They will come and find us," she cried. "They are waiting out there for us. We are lost."

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

Having integrity means having respect for yourself and others. When you have integrity, you consider the effects of your actions on other people. People who have integrity are able to sympathize with others.

Can you sympathize with Mai's grandmother and the other passengers? Can you feel their fears and frustrations, along with their hopes and joys? Goodbye, Vietnam is a fictional story based on real historical circumstances. The author, Gloria Whelan is not Vietnamese. Neither was she a refugee of any kind. She had to do research to learn about the real circumstances of the people her characters represent.

Informational Writing Assignment

Using the article about "Vietnamese Boat People" included (you may find it useful to do your own research as well), compare and contrast Gloria Whelan's portrayal in Goodbye, Vietnam of these historical circumstances with the information about real Vietnamese refugees in the article.

Key Paragraph p. 86

"It is my duck and I chose to give it to all of the others. It will be added to the rice and everyone will have a taste. . . .everyone was impressed."

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

The Festival of Tet brought out the best in the people on the boat. They were happier and kinder than they were before. Sharing traditions and special occasions with each other can make people more united and selfless. Grandmother was very generous to give her duck to all the passengers. It was a sacrifice she didn't have to make, but she wanted to. Having integrity means being consistently good and always trying to do the right thing.

Informational Writing Assignment

Read the article on the "Tet Festival in Vietnam" included. Explain what information you already knew about the Tet Festival from reading the novel thus far. Then describe some of the traditions involved in the Tet Festival that the people on Mai's boat were not able to do because of the circumstances of their escape.

The 'Boat People of Vietnam' seemed to encapsulate all the suffering Vietnam had suffered from [1965](#) to [1975](#). Despite the end of the [Vietnam War](#), tragedy for the people of Vietnam continued into 1978-79. The term 'Boat People' not only applies to the refugees who fled Vietnam but also to the people of Cambodia and Laos who did the same but tend to come under the same umbrella term. The term 'Vietnamese Boat People' tends to be associated with only those in the former South who fled the new Communist government. However, people in what was North Vietnam who had an ethnic Chinese background fled to Hong Kong at the same time fearing some form of retribution from the government in Hanoi.

In late 1978, Indo-China degenerated into wholesale confrontation and war between Vietnam and Kampuchea (Cambodia) and [China](#). In December 1978, Vietnam attacked Kampuchea while in February 1979, Vietnam attacked Chinese forces in the north. These two conflicts produced a huge number of refugees

Many in what was South Vietnam feared the rule of their communist masters from what had been North Vietnam. Despite the creation of a united Republic of Vietnam in 1975, many in the South feared retribution once it was found out that they had fought against the North during the actual war. The rule exerted in [Ho Chi Minh City](#) (formally Saigon) was repressive as this was seen as a bastion of 'Americanisation'. Traditional freedoms were few. It has been estimated that 65,000 Vietnamese were executed after the end of the war with 1 million being sent to prison/re-education camps where an estimated 165,000 died.

Many took the drastic decision to leave the country – an illegal act under the communist government. As an air flight out of Vietnam was out of the question, many took to makeshift boats in an effort to flee to start a new life elsewhere. Alternately, fishing boats were utilized. While perfectly safe for near-shore fishing, they were not built for the open waters. This was coupled with the fact that they were usually chronically overcrowded, thus making any journey into the open seas potentially highly dangerous.

No one can be sure how many people took the decision to flee, nor are there any definitive casualty figures. However, the number who attempted to flee has been put as high as 1.5 million. Estimates for deaths vary from 50,000 to 200,000 (Australian Immigration Ministry). The primary cause of death was drowning though many refugees were attacked by pirates and murdered or sold into slavery and prostitution. Some countries in the region, such as Malaya, turned the boat people away even if they did manage to land. Boats carrying the refugees were deliberately sunk offshore by those in them to stop the authorities towing them back out to sea. Many of these refugees ended up settling in the United States and Europe. The United States accepted 823,000 refugees; Britain accepted 19,000; France accepted 96,000; Australia and Canada accepted 137,000 each.

From: History Learning Site:

http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/vietnam_boat_people.htm

Tet Festival in Vietnam

Tet is the most important festival of the Vietnamese calendar. It marks the beginning of the lunar New Year, which is celebrated in China as well. Festivities occur throughout the country, but this is a family holiday and many of the traditions of observance occur in the home. The official holiday lasts three days, but celebrations continue for at least the first week of the New Year.

Before The New Year

Preparations begin about a week before the New Year. Homes are cleaned out in the hopes of getting rid of the past year's bad luck, and some families go so far as to repaint their house's exterior. It also is believed to be lucky to buy new clothes and get a fresh haircut. At midnight on New Year's Eve, Vietnamese families conduct the ritual Le Tru Tich, which involves gongs, firecrackers and other noisy items to chase out the old year and ring in the new.

New Year's Day Traditions

On New Year's Day, most families meet to exchange gifts and have a traditional meal, and also perform a ceremony to appease the kitchen god. Homes are decorated with the hoa mai flower and all thoughts of sadness are supposed to be avoided. Children are encouraged not to fight or cry and anyone in mourning is shunned because it is bad luck to be associated with death on New Year's Day. Many families plant a new year's tree in front of the house and wrap it with lucky red paper. The tree is removed at the end of the first week of the New Year. After the family meal, many Vietnamese attend the local pagoda to worship ancestors.

In The Cities

In major cities, such as Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi, Tet celebrations are more similar to New Year celebrations in western countries. People attend events in dance clubs and bars. This is a time of enjoyment and there is a lot of eating and drinking involved in the

celebrations. Fireworks are set off to scare away the evil spirit Na A. Stores and neighborhoods decorate with colored lights and red banners.

Food

Food is an important part of the Tet celebrations. The Vietnamese believe that what a person does on New Year's Day dictates the course of the rest of the year, and eating a lot represents the hope that no one will go hungry in the coming year. In the days leading up to the holiday, the Vietnamese traditionally give gifts of food to family members and friends. The traditional meal includes foods such as bang, a bamboo and pork soup; bang chung, a sticky rice cake filled with pork and beans; and orange sticky rice. Even the ancestors are given food gifts. Families leave a five fruit tray at the altar.

Information found: <http://traveltips.usatoday.com/tet-festival-vietnam-23114.html>

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Goodbye, Vietnam, Week 3



PREPARE

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



Integrity Requires Wholeness. Integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things.

Who needs a compass?

In this section of the novel, Loi, thanks to his experience on his father's boat, is able to tell that they are off course without using a compass. How is this possible? Read the following excerpt about navigation:

Astronomy is the oldest of the sciences, and quite possibly the oldest use of astronomy is navigating by the stars. This craft dates from prehistoric times among humans, and is even practiced by certain animals.

For example, during the 1960s, a study undertaken by New York's Cornell Lab of Ornithology demonstrated through use of planetarium simulations that the indigo bunting, a brilliantly blue bird of old fields and roadsides, migrates at night using the stars for guidance. It learns its orientation to the night sky from its experience as a young bird observing the stars.

Some primitive tribes accomplished amazing feats of pathfinding using only the sky as their guide. The Māori came to New Zealand from eastern Polynesia, probably in several waves between the years 1280 to 1300. With no instruments or tables to consult, they very carefully observed the night sky as well local weather patterns and ocean currents.

Like the Indigo Bunting, a bird with a built-in compass, we are all born with a built-in "moral compass," which guides us to know what is right and wrong. Just like how people will get lost if they do not pay attention to a compass or stars to guide them, they will also be "lost" morally, if they ignore their "moral compass."

What is humane treatment? Consider the following news article from 1988 describing the conditions of some of the refugee camps in Hong Kong:

Refugees sail north to Hong Kong from the northern Vietnamese port of Haiphong, a 500-mile journey through the South China Sea that takes about 15 days with good luck

and fair weather. Refugees from the north, Mr. French said, are poor people with few skills, no foreign languages and no ties to countries outside Vietnam.

"More and more we have the men, women and children nobody else wants," Mr. French said. Barracks-Like Buildings

A teacher at a closed camp on Hei Ling Chau, a tiny rocky island that was once the site of a leper colony, said there are children there who had never seen a dog or walked on grass.

Hei Ling Chau is about an hour's boat ride from central Hong Kong, and a recent visitor was asked to send picture postcards of the city because most of the refugees had only caught a glimpse of it as they landed.

The camp's barracks-like cinder-block buildings house 2,900 people in spaces meant for 2,400. Two meals a day and a snack are served and there is one toilet for every 90 people.

"We try to take the children on field trips, to see what real life looks like," said Nilda Bernardo, a teacher with World Relief, which runs programs in Hei Ling Chau.

"Sometimes we take them into a flat there so they can see what a kitchen and a living room and a bedroom look like," she said.

Christopher Bale, the director of the Oxfam relief agency in Hong Kong, said the three closed camps, surrounded by high steel fences and supervised by prison guards, are "just barely adequate for short-term stays, but there are almost 5,000 people who have been living in these places for three years, and 3,000 who have been in them for more than five years." 'No One Has Asked to See Us'

Bao Ntuyen, a 12-year-old from Haiphong, said he had been living in Hei Ling Chau for four years and no resettlement official had ever interviewed him or his uncle, a farmer who has no ties to anyone outside Vietnam.

"No one has asked to see us," the boy said, "so we are learning English. We want to go to a free country, somewhere where they play football."

Do you think it would have been better for some of these people to stay in Vietnam?
What should be done about these people?

Information found:

<http://www.nytimes.com/1988/05/01/world/new-refugees-crowd-camps-in-hong-kong.html>

What is scabies?

Kim's mother went to great lengths and personal risk to help people by treating illnesses including an epidemic of scabies. One of the risks she took was being taken from her daughter and arrested. Do you think she did the right thing?

What is hope?

The following is a true account of a woman named Linda Thong, who was in her twenties when she and her family escaped Vietnam on a boat. She had similar experiences to Mai's family. This excerpt is about her new life in the United States:

...When first I arrived in California, I worried too much because I didn't speak English, just said hello and good morning. One month later I gave birth to my third children. We had no money and clothes for my baby. I remembered three months we slept on the floor because we didn't have a bed, and the Government gave us money but not enough. I came here with my husband, two daughters and three brothers. One is my brother and two brothers in-law. We lived together in the apartment with two bedrooms, one bath. It was very hard for us. My husband and three brothers found jobs at the swap-meet on the weekends. Weekday we went to school and studied English. My husband found another job and the owner paid for him five hundred dollars a month. After two years we saved 5,000 dollars to open a small business. We sold toys step by step, we made good money. Now I am 39 year old and I have five children; two girls and three boys. Two are in University at UCI. One is second year, one is first year. They are both taking Biology. One boy is in high school, and another one is in the six grade. My last boy is in Kindergarten. My children very nice study hard and listen to parents. We bought a house, cars and good business. My husband and I work very hard for my children. We want our children have education in the future and to be good people. I always thank God very very much for my family have freedom.

Although it was difficult to adjust to their new environment at first, Linda Thong and her family did their best and worked hard to provide the life they hoped for in their new country. Her story is like many others who escaped the horrors of the post-war Vietnam.

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

ration (88)	sling (89)	delicious (89)	perspire (90)	incantations (92)
ached (99)	horizon (99)	commotion (100)	wharf (102)	nudge (108)
modesty (113)	impatiently (115)	generous (115)	cruel (118)	scabies (118)
epidemics (123)	convince (124)	bulged (125)	scarcely (127)	sponsor (129)

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.

Pgs 87-135

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?

Create a poster of Vietnam and Hong Kong track the families progress as they leave their country.

Continue to add to the map of Vietnam/Hong Kong. Place Ho Chi Mihn City.
Add to the map tracking their travels.

Continue to add to the map of Vietnam/Hong Kong

Continue to add to the Vietnam poster
Create a K-W-L Chart of the for either Vietnam or for Hong Kong
Add/complete the K-W-L chart

EXPLORE

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

Add to your Open Mind Portrait of Mai

Do a study of the sea turtle.

Make a tri-fold brochure giving information on the turtle, places they live, why they are protected, and reasons to save them.

Add to OMP

Draw a sketch of what Hong Kong is like.

Pretend you are father. Create a resume describing your talents and why you should be sent to a new country.

Add to your OMP

Make a postcard; send it to your family telling them of your plight in the camp and asking for help. Draw a scene on the front depicting the camp.

Add to your OMP

Make a thought chart.

Think of all of the positive things in your life. Including hardships. . .for without hardships and struggle we will not grow. Make a positive chart poster and collage. Represent those things that are good to you and that will stay with you on the chart.

Discussion

Key Questions (pgs 87-96)

1. Are the people on the boat starting to get desperate?
2. Why does Loi know more about navigation than the captain?
3. As old man Quang died why do you think people started to reflect on those who have been lost?
4. Would you have thought to make a fishing net if you were in this situation?
5. Do you think catching the turtle gave them some hope?
6. Why would Loi jump in to save the turtle and not himself?

Key Questions (pgs 99-111)

1. If you were on the ship what would you be thinking if you realized you were finally safe?
2. Do you think the family is happy or still scared?
3. Why do you think they won't allow Bac Si to practice medicine?
4. Father warns Loi, "A friend is someone you can trust." Why do you think father did not like the boys?
5. Is the family better off in the camp or in the village? Why?

Key Questions (pgs 112-122)

1. Why does Bac Si want Kim to stay with the family?
2. Is it improper for father to ask the help of a woman?
3. Is it significant that Hung the cook offers grandmother shrimp? Why?
4. If you were Loi would you return to Vietnam?
5. Is there hope for the family? Where are they getting their strength?

Key Questions (pgs 123-135)

1. Why didn't the officials respond sooner to the epidemic?
2. Was Kim's mom right to help?
3. Do you think that Kim's mom was retaliated against?
4. What could she have done differently?
5. How would you have reacted to the news that your family was to go to a new country and be sponsored?
6. Even though the family struggled do you think they were right to follow the rules of passage to a new country? Why or why not?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph page 87

"Loi swung the net the bamboo pole that held the net toward the boat, but just as the turtle was within reach, the tip of the pole, bent by the weight of the turtle, cracked, and the net fell in the water. In a second Loi was over the side of the boat and holding on the turtle. I screamed for help. Someone threw a rope, but instead of tying it around himself, Loi wrestled it around the struggling turtle. "Pull", he shouted.

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity:

Loi showed integrity by risking his own safety so that the others on the boat could eat. He used his skill of fishing to catch the sea turtle so everyone could have food. In Vietnam, the government was afraid of people who had special skills like Mai's father. They want people to depend on the government and not to be self-reliant. However, people who have skills can help others like Loi and Mai's father did.

Informational Writing Assignment:

- a. Pretend you are Loi. You want to teach others your skill of fishing. Following the description of how Loi caught the sea turtle on pages 87-89, write a step-by-step how-to guide on how to make a fishing net and how to use it to catch food. Include a drawing of the net.
- b. Think of a skill you have that you could teach others. Write another step-by-step how-to guide on how to do that skill.

Tips:

Look up or find an instruction manual for examples of how to format your guide.

Key Paragraph page 105

"Kim was not looking at the shore but at a barge that was approaching us. On it were men in uniform. "Policemen," Kim said in a frightened voice. I tried to convince her not to worry. "Policemen here," I said, "will not be like the policemen in Vietnam."

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme:

Why would Mai say that policemen in Hong Kong will not be the same as policemen in Vietnam? Perhaps she believes that because Hong Kong is a country with more regard for human rights than Vietnam is, its people, especially policemen, are people of integrity?

Informational Writing Assignment:

Write a description of Hong Kong from the perspective of the refugees on Mai's boat. Compare and contrast Hong Kong from Vietnam as described in this novel.

Key Paragraph page 112

"It took us a while to find Kim and her mother. *Bac Si* was happy to see us. "I've been looking everywhere for you. There are so many sick people here. They tell me I cannot help, but I will not see people sick and do nothing. I will do what I must, but I must do it secretly. I am afraid to leave Kim alone. Not everyone in the camp can be trusted. Could Kim stay with you for a little while?"

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

Integrity is valuing the mind, body and spirit in others and ourselves. Integrity means being honest to yourself and others and doing what is right. It means thinking things through and considering consequences to self and others. Core values guide and are evident in thought, speech and action.

Informational Writing Assignment:

Consider the characters in Goodbye, Vietnam. Choose two or three characters from the book and explain ways in which they acted with or without integrity. Would you have done the same as them? Explain.

Key Paragraph page 134

"... One of the doctors was a volunteer from the hospital in America. He wrote to his hospital and asked them to help sponsor me so that I could come to America. I could not go back to your camp because of the official, who would have reported me, but through the doctors I learned that you were going to America and when you would leave, and here I am!"

Writing Prompt

Review the Theme: Integrity

Integrity is valuing the mind, body and spirit in oneself and others. It means thinking things through and considering consequences to self and others. Core values guide and are evident in thought, speech and action.

In the novel Goodbye, Vietnam, many of the characters show love and integrity toward each other despite their harsh circumstances. In contrast to their integrity is the terrible treatment they suffered at the hands of their government. Think about what the characters suffered throughout the book and how they handled these situations.

Informational Writing Assignment

Pretend you are a newspaper reporter. Write a newspaper article about the struggles of the Vietnamese refugees from Mai's boat. End the article by explaining how the refugees overcame their struggles by helping each other. Be sure to include:

- a headline
- many facts and details about the boat trip and the camp in Hong Kong
- a quote from at least one of the characters
- transition words (i.e.
- use formal newspaper language

Tips:

Remember this is an informational article, not an opinion piece. Look up real news articles to help you get an idea of the style of writing and type of language used.