

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Child of the Owl, 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.

Where is the Bay Area?

What is the University of California, Berkley?

What is the history of San Francisco's Chinatown?

Why do people study Chinese?

What is gambling?

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

ward-1	muffled-2	bookie-3	pawn-4	conned-5
fraternities-15	ought-18	impressionable-19	sorority-19	wholesome-20
eccentric-31	sentimental-39	ingratitude-39	dignity-41	solemnly-41
truce-48	anxiously-48	routine-53	indignantly-55	tirade-55
fuschia-60	blossoms-60	eucalyptus-62	vermillion-66	lavender-66

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 p. 1-73

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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 theme chart on the “Discovery of Cultural Heritage.” Throughout the novel, Casey becomes more aware of her Chinese cultural heritage. In the beginning of the book she identifies herself solely as American but when she moves to Chinatown she becomes interested in learning about her Chinese heritage. After each chapter, bullet point examples of Casey discovering her Chinese heritage.

EXPLORE

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

One possible activity:

Take close look at the owl charm on the front cover of the book. Choose an animal to represent the person you would like to grow up to be. Then choose a second and a third animal to represent the forces inside you that both help you and hinder you in becoming that animal. Make your own animal charm to serve as your bookmark. Be sure to use all three animals. Try to make your design ornate like the owl on the cover.

Map of San Francisco

On a large piece of paper, create an outline map of San Francisco. Include the major parks and lakes as landmarks. Locate and Label Phil’s house in St. Francis Wood as well as the down town financial district and the embarcadero. You will add important landmarks to the map as the story goes on.

Postcard

Create a postcard visual of Paw-Paw’s apartment, either from the inside or from the outside. Include as many details as possible. It may help to review today’s reading before beginning. On the other side, write a brief note to Barney, telling him how things had gone at Phil’s and where you are living now.

Portrait: Create an Open Mind Portrait of a Casey

Create an open mind portrait of Casey as she is sitting on Paw-Paw’s bed, thinking about getting out of China town. Use thought bubbles to show all the things that might be making her feel this way. You will add thought bubbles to his OMP every

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couple days. You could use different colors for the beginning, middle and end of the story. Remember in the beginning you are introduced to the setting, the characters and the problems they have. In the middle you learn about the roadblocks to the characters solving their problems, and conflicts occur. In the end of the story those conflicts reach a peak and then resolve with a resolution of the character's problems.

6g6 Venn Diagram Chart

Create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast Phil and Paw-Paw's homes.

Open Mind Portrait

Add to your OMP for Casey as she is crying on Paw-Paw's shoulder. Use thought bubbles to show the things she is thinking about that are making her so sad.

Fill out the Setting Chart

1g6 setting chart

1. Describe the place where the story takes place in the where box on the chart. This includes the location, geography, scenery and other details about the place.
2. Describe the time period in which the story is taking place in the when box on the chart. Is this a contemporary story, or does it take place in the past or the future? Give details about this past or future time if this is the case.
3. Describe the time of day or day of the week the story begins in the time box on the chart. This box is important if the story of the part you are analyzing takes place in a short period of time.
4. Describe the weather in the weather box of the chart. Is it sunny, stormy, snowing, all of the above, none of the above? Sometimes the weather matters, sometimes not. Sometimes it is critical.

Discussion

Key Questions p. 1-14

1. Where and when does this story take place?
2. Who is the narrator? What do you know about her and her situation so far?
3. Barney's dream is to become rich through gambling. Do you believe this is a dream of integrity? Why or why not?
4. Explain why is Barney in the hospital?
5. Compare and contrast work and hobbies.
6. How can Barney be a more responsible father?
7. Describe what happened to Casey's mother.
8. Do you think Casey trusts Barney? Explain.
9. Predict what you think will happen when Barney leaves the hospital?
10. Predict how you think Casey's life will change when she goes to live with her aunt and uncle in the Bay Area in San Francisco, California?

Key Questions p. 14-30

1. Casey has moved all over California. Remember, *"Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things."* How does Casey demonstrate integrity when she moves in with Phil.
2. Explain why Phil and Casey do not seem to like each other?
3. What does Phil think about Barney? Do you think he is right? Explain.
4. Compare and contrast the differences in parenting styles between Phil and Barney.
5. Why did Casey sleep in Annette's room?
6. Describe Casey's shopping outing with her aunt and cousin.
7. Describe Casey's transition to her new living situation. What emotions do you think she is experiencing?
8. Describe Casey's aunt and cousins. How are they different from Casey?
9. How would you describe Casey's personality?
10. Why doesn't Casey like Pam-Pam or Annette?
11. Do you think Casey will like her grandmother? Why or why not?

Key Questions p. 30-45

1. Why is Casey going to live with her Grandmother?
2. What do you think Casey realizes when she sees all the Chinese people in Chinatown?
3. Why do you think it took Casey so long to realize she was Chinese?
4. Describe the apartments in Chinatown?
5. Describe the relationship between Paw-Paw and Phil.
6. Why do you think the SOS joke Paw-Paw plays on Phil is so funny to the two women?
7. Describe Paw-Paw's character. Do you think Paw-Paw lives with integrity? Why or why not?
8. Describe the deal made between Paw-Paw and Casey.
9. In what way is Casey independent?
10. Do you think Casey will be more comfortable in Paw-Paw's apartment? Why or why not?

Key Questions p. 45-58

1. How does Paw-Paw welcome Casey?
2. What is Chinese hour?
3. Why do you think Paw-Paw resists explaining the Chinese statues to Casey?
4. Why does Paw-Paw enroll Casey in a Catholic school?
5. Describe Casey's transition to a new school.
6. Do you think Casey is a good student? Why or why not?
7. How does Casey demonstrate integrity in her school work?
8. What do the other girls call Casey? Why?
9. How does Casey show courage in today's reading?
10. Why do you think Barney is in San Francisco?
11. What do you think Barney is going to say to Casey when they meet in the park?

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Key Questions p. 58-73

1. What was Barney doing when he got off the bus?
2. Describe Barney's gambling addiction. How can Barney act with more integrity?
3. How does his addiction affect Casey?
4. Compare and contrast a gambling addiction with a drug addiction.
5. How do you think Barney can change?
6. Why is Barney into debt?
7. How does he plan to get out of debt?
8. Why does Casey have to stay in Chinatown?
9. How do you think this makes Casey feel?
10. How would you handle this situation if you were Casey?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph – 3

"I can't remember when Barney's story began, but all my life I'd heard this story about how this little girl and her father were going to hit it big one of these days, either in his gambling or in one of his real-estate deals that one of his drinking buddies was going to get up—Barney was always their bosom buddy till the deal fell through."

Writing Prompt

Casey and her father moved all over California but now Casey will move to the Bay Area to live with her aunt and uncle. **In two explanatory paragraphs re-tell Casey's story. Explain the setting and the plot. Include a description of her mother and father. Describe the events from today's reading. Include three reasons why Casey is going to live with her aunt and uncle in the Bay Area.**

Key Paragraph – 17

"It wasn't much better when I hit *Chez Phil the Pill*. There wasn't one cheap piece of furniture or painting in the place but it was all kind of, I don't know, kind of impersonal. Like it had all been ordered out of a Sears's catalogue because that was what every other lawyer of fifty thousand a year ordered from San Francisco to Bangor. But the only difference between Phil's stuff and the stuff in the cheap furnished rooms where Barney and me lived was the price tag, not the taste. Instead of ordering the twenty-dollar dresser like you'd find in one of our rooms, Phil ordered the two-hundred-dollar dresser. Not because he liked it, but because it had the right price tag."

Writing Prompt

Phil is very different from Barney and doesn't seem to be fond of Casey. Create a biographical about "Phil the Pill." **Write two informative paragraphs that explain Phil's behavior and career choices. Describe his lifestyle and his personality. Use three examples from the text to support your description.**

Key Paragraph – 37

“I walked into an old, dim hallway and climbed up the wooden steps. As I turned an angle on the stairs, I saw light burning fierce and bright from a window. When I came to it, I looked out at the roof of the Chinese school next door. Someone had thrown some old 45’s and a pair of sneakers down there. If I were some kind of kid that felt sorry for herself, I would almost have said that was the way I felt: like some piece of old, ugly junk that was being kicked around on the discard pile while Barney was getting better.”

Writing Prompt

Casey moves into Paw-Paw’s apartment in a new neighborhood. **In two explanatory paragraphs describe the inside of Paw-Paw’s apartment and the neighborhood in which she lived. Use sensory details -such as sights, sounds, and smells- to help the scene come alive. Provide three detailed descriptions. Speculate how Casey might have felt moving into this new and strange environment.**

Key Paragraph – 56

The simplest thing would have been to go to Paw-Paw and ask her to help me, but for one thing I never said I wanted to learn Chinese. I was an American and I couldn’t see any good reason to learn a foreign language. And then too, it hurts your pride when you think you are smart and you have to do things that make you feel dumb.”

Writing Prompt

Casey struggles in her Chinese class and feels even more frustrated when her teacher accuses her of cheating. **In an explanatory paragraph, write about a time when you struggled to learn something new. Explain the situation and how you felt when you were learning? What did you tell yourself to keep you going? What was the result? How did you feel after you learned it? What advice would you give Casey?**

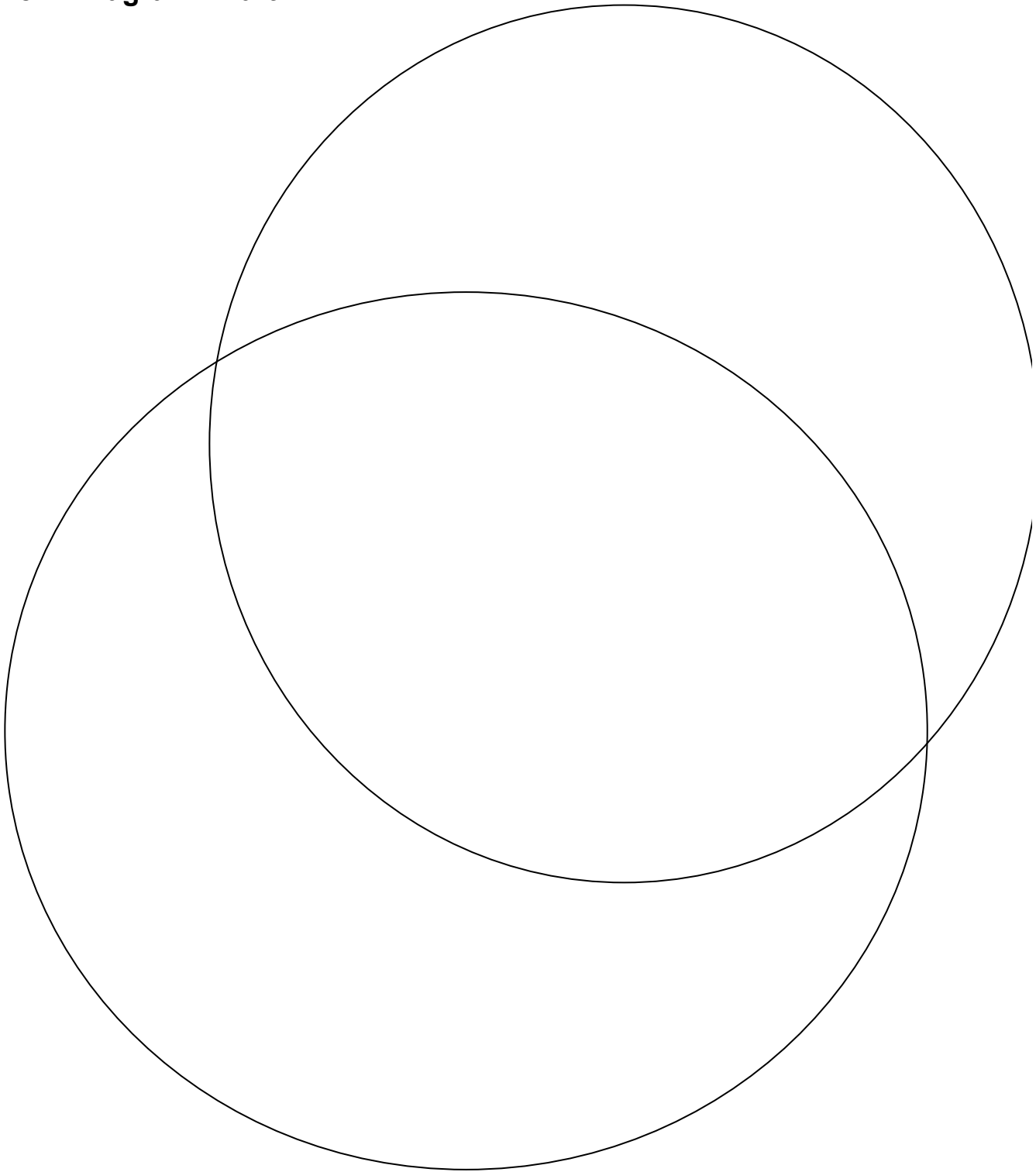
Key Paragraph – 72

“I don’t know why, but I began to cry, softly at first, the tears just slipping out of my eyes no matter how hard I tried to close them, and then because it got harder to breathe, I began to sob. I tried to hide my face in my pillow to stop the sounds, but I couldn’t. Paw-Paw had the sense to leave me alone for a moment and not touch me, ‘What’s wrong, girl?’”

Writing Prompt

Casey meets with Barney and discovers that she will not be traveling back with him. **In an explanatory paragraph, explain why Casey is crying. What are the circumstances of her life that are making her so unhappy at this moment? Include three reasons to support your answer. Evaluate your paragraph using the checklist you created in the WriteAhead lesson today.**

6g6 Venn Diagram Chart



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Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Child of the Owl, 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.

What is the average lifespan of an owl?

Who is the author, Laurence Yep?

What were U.S.-China relations like in the 1960s?

What is tai chi and where does it come from?

What are the Eight Immortals?

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

ancestors-76	talons-77	indignantly-78	contemptuously-79	sentimental-79
mockingly-88	scornful-89	famine-90	gourd-92	humiliated-96
bureau-104	chiffon-106	souvenir-106	familiarity-108	synchronized-109
leisurely-117	elderly-120	dignity-121	ramshackle-121	chided-124
sullen-132	superstitious-143	insulted-143	stiffened-143	scurried-144

READ

Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

Start at the beginning and review the story so far

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- point to each timeline item as you quickly review it

Read Read the selection.

Read p. 74-144

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RESPOND

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

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- 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 theme chart on the “Discovery of Cultural Heritage.” Throughout the novel, Casey becomes more aware of her Chinese cultural heritage. In the beginning of the book she identifies herself solely as American but when she moves to Chinatown she becomes interested in learning about her Chinese heritage. After each chapter, bullet point examples of Casey discovering her Chinese heritage.

EXPLORE

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

Comic Strip

Create a five-frame comic strip that illustrates the story of the owls thus far. Include detailed visuals for each frame, but limit text to one sentence per frame.

Newspaper

Create a Newspaper Front page for a China Town newspaper. Give your Paper a Title. Then create a Cover story title having to do with the story of the owl spirit. Provide a visual and write the caption to go along with it.

Newspaper Headline

Create the front page for a newspaper. Create a headline for the story about one of the Chinese movies that Casey saw today. Create a visual and the caption to go along with it.

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Postcard

Create a postcard picture of the scene at the park. Include as many details as possible. Pretend you are Casey and write a note to Barney on the other side.

1g6Portrait: Create an Open Mind Portrait of Barney

Create an OMP of Barney as a young man. Use thought bubbles to show the things that Barney might have been thinking to make him feel like he ought to be done working “straight” jobs.

Discussion

Key Questions p. 74-88

1. Why do you think Casey was crying?
2. How does Paw-Paw comfort Casey?
3. What does it mean to feel “all alone inside”?
4. Have you ever felt all alone? What advice do you have for Casey?
5. Describe the story Paw-Paw tells Casey. What is the setting of the story?
6. What details can you provide about the characters in Paw-Paw’s story?
7. Name a character that demonstrates integrity. Include an example of how this character demonstrates integrity.
8. Why did walkers clear parts of the jungle, in Southern China?
9. Why were Jasmine and Peony different from other owls?
10. Describe what happened to Jasmine and Peony’s mother.
11. Based on what Jasmine said to the hunter, what do you think will happen in the rest of the owl tale?

Key Questions p. 88-102

1. How did Jasmine the owl exact her revenge on the hunter and his family?
2. What happened to his family as a result?
3. Describe what the brothers did to save their family? Do you think this was an act of integrity? Why or why not?
4. How does the feud between Jasmine and the hunter end?
5. Why did Jasmine wish to be an owl again?
6. Why do you think the hunter give Jasmine her back her owl life?
7. Describe the significance of Paw-Paw’s owl charm.
8. How is Jasmine different from the other owls?
9. How is Casey different from others?
10. How do you think this story of the owl applies to the lives of the people in the book?

Key Questions p. 103-116

1. Who is Jeannie? Describe her personality and character. Do you think she is a good example of a person with integrity? Why or why not?
2. Describe the relationship between Jeannie and Barney.

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3. Why do you think Barney doesn't like to talk about her?
4. What inspired Paw-Paw and Casey to go to the Chinese movie?
5. Compare and contrast the Chinese movies with the Hollywood films.
6. Why do you think Chinese characters are not usually the main character in a Hollywood film?
7. Explain why Casey enjoyed the Chinese movies so much.
8. What statues and legends did Casey learn about today?
9. Describe the relationship between the U.S. and China. (Revisit background information)
10. Why did the Chinese shops in Chinatown sell American goods?

Key Questions p. 116-131

1. According to Paw-Paw, when did Jeanie become lonely?
2. Who does Paw-Paw suggest Casey talk to in order to find out more about her mother and father?
3. What is the relationship between Mr. Jeh and Casey's parents?
4. Describe the setting at the social club.
5. What was Mr. Jeh doing when Paw-Paw and Casey arrive at the social club?
6. Describe Mr. Jeh's warning to Casey. What do you think his warning means?
7. Who is Gilbert? What role do you think he will play in the rest of the book?
8. Do you think Gilbert is a man of integrity? Why or why not?
9. Why do you think Gilbert gives Mr. Jeh money?
10. What does Mr. Jeh do with this money? Why?
11. Predict what you think will happen next.

Key Questions p. 131-144

1. Why did Casey go to the Orange Julius? How does this demonstrate Casey's initiative?
2. Who is Sheridan? How would you describe his character? Do you think he is a good example of integrity? Why or why not?
3. Describe Casey's relationship with Booger.
4. What role do you think Booger will play in the rest of the book?
5. Explain what Sheridan shares about Barney.
6. Why did Barney drop out of school?
7. Sheridan explains that Barney felt as if the world owed him. Why do you think Barney felt that way? What do you think the world owed him? Do you think that is a realistic expectation? Why or why not?
8. Describe the statues of the eight immortals Casey finds in a store window.
9. Why do you think Casey is interested in learning more about these statues?
10. How do you think the statues of the eight immortals relates to Casey's culture?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph – 75

“ ‘Some things you can’t count in coins. The Owl, Spirit gave it to our family.’ She paused and I had the feeling that she was lost somewhere inside herself groping for the right words. ‘American owls are supposed to be good and wise but Chinese owls are supposed to be evil—though most Chinese don’t know that anymore. Even many of the old ones have forgotten, as they have forgotten many things. Those Chinese owls, many have no sense of family. Many make fun of their parents and when the parents grow too old, the young owls push them out of the nest. Some even eat their poor old parents. And they steal people’s souls.’ ”

Writing Prompt

In an attempt to comfort Casey, Paw-paw tells her a story about three owls. **In one explanatory paragraph, re-tell the story of the owls and the walkers. Describe three of the most important events in detail. In a second explanatory paragraph, describe how this story might relate to the lives of the people in the book.**

Key Paragraph – 101

“Stories don’t exactly replace a gas heater; yet some stories can lift you up out of where you are so the cold doesn’t seem important anymore. And the story of the owls wasn’t even very pleasant—I mean, who wants to go around eating up other people and catching souls? But it was like there had always been this person inside of me that I had never been able to name or describe—a small, feathery me lost inside this body—and now I not only knew her name but I could tell part of her story.”

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are a news reporter, writing stories about the events in San Francisco’s Chinatown. **Write an informative news article about an ancient owl charm made of jade. In your news story, write an explanatory paragraph that describes the charm looks and the owner of the charm. Provide the details of the story behind the charm. In a second paragraph suggest how the story might be applicable to the lives of people living in 1960’s Chinatown.**

Key Paragraph – 108

“When I finally got to see the movies, they were completely different than I thought. I could see why Jeanie had like them. For one thing, the Chinese were actually people who could be brave or sad. They had subtitles in English too, which was good. It was something to see Chinese do more than be the sidekick to some white guy in a fight, or see the Chinese actually win. I mean, I almost felt like crying when I saw it: a kind of bubbling feeling deep down inside that had me almost cheering and crying while this Chinese mother led her three sons in beating up the bad guys. And it was even better when I saw the Chinese girls fighting.”

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Writing Prompt

Pretend you are a reporter; write an informative article for the local news story about one of the Chinese movies playing at the Chinese Globe Theater. **In an informative paragraph describe the characters from today's reading. Provide three reasons why this film speaks to young Chinese people. From today's reading, include a quote from Casey as a film critic.**

Key Paragraph – 118

“Even in Paw-Paw’s club, the women and men sat more or less separately. The women sat gossiping loudly about their friends still living or dead while the men sat on benches, a piece of paper spread out before them with grids on it and a blue line through the middle. Paw-Paw told me they were playing Chinese Chess. Instead of chessmen, they moved little disks, each of which had a character on it—like a chariot or general and so on. Men stood around the players kibitzing or grunting ‘*Hou*’ when someone made a good move.”

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are a reporter. Write a human-interest story on Chinese social clubs, focusing on Paw-Paw’s social club. **In an informative paragraph, explain where the club is located, what people do at the club, describe the type of people at that socialize there, and when people meet. In a second informative paragraph explain the purpose of the social club and why it is important for members to have this community.**

Key Paragraph – 135

“Sheridan went back to his aimless wiping of the counter. ‘You know it. But I think it was always harder on him. Me, I wasn’t smart like him so I never expected nothing but shit jobs. But him, he and Jeanie always aced everything and then they got married right away. Real cute. Went around to all the same offices and it was always the same story. The boss’d offer her a job but not him.’”

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are a human-interest reporter and write a story about Casey. In an explanatory article, explain why is Casey in Chinatown? **In one informative paragraph, describe what has happened to her father and her mother? In a second informative paragraph, explain what information she is looking for? End the article by summarizing what information she found out so far?**

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Child of the Owl, Week 3



PREPARE

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



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What is a pilot light? How can pilot lights be dangerous?

What is the population of China?

What are bean cakes?

How can you prevent a burglar from breaking into your home?

When did the Manchu Dynasty fall?

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

pathetic-147	cautiously-149	reluctant-149	peddle-149	defensively-153
exasperated-163	scolded-163	ladled-168	languid-168	principle-168
glared-174	appreciatively-178	shabbier-178	apologetically-181	awkward-181
laboring-189	silhouetted-190	meticulous-192	nuisance-193	fence-194
hymns-201	faint-202	contemptuously-204	hastily-204	brusque-205

READ

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Read p. 145-216

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EXPLORE

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

5g6 character interaction chart

Fill out the Character Interaction Chart for Casey, Barney, and Paw-Paw.

1. Fill the name of each character in one of the 3 boxes.
2. Each character box has another character box on each side. On the side of the first character box near the second character box, write down what the first character thinks about the second character, and how the first character interacts or gets along with, the second character.
3. Then do the same thing for how the second character thinks about and interacts with the first, in the second characters box.
4. Continue doing this until you have filled out each box: the second for the third, the third for the second, the third for the first and the first for the third.

4g6 character profile chart

Fill out the Character Profile Chart on Casey

1. Write Casey’s name in the box in the middle of the chart.
2. Think of 4 characteristics, or traits, that the character has. Describe each with a key word or phrase and write it down one of the 4 boxes that surround the name.
3. For each trait, find 2 concrete examples of it in the story. Write each in one of the 2 boxes attached to each trait box. Continue this until you have 2 examples for each of the 4 traits.

Open Mind Portrait

Create an Open Mind Portrait of the man in the take-out restaurant and of Casey. Use speech bubbles and thought bubbles to show what each is thinking about the other.

Advertisement

Create an advertisement for the take-out restaurant. Include important details such as opening and closing times. Provide a list of the stores products that are sold.

Wanted Poster

Create a wanted poster to hang up in Chinatown, asking for any information leading to the return of the owl charm. Include contact information, a visual of the charm and any important clues that might help identify the thief.

Open Mind Portrait

Create an open mind portrait of Mr. Jeh and one of the men he talked to. Use speech bubbles to record the things he said to the man. Use thought bubbles to record what he really meant.

Discussion

Key Questions p. 145-159

1. Why doesn't Paw-Paw want to turn on the oven? What is asphyxiation?
2. How does Paw-Paw keep warm without turning on a heater? What does this say about him?
3. Why does Casey decide to visit Booger? Provide two reasons.
4. How do Casey and Booger spend their time together.
5. Compare and contrast Casey and Boogers friendship with one of your friendships.
6. Describe what Casey thinks of Booger.
7. What advice would you give Casey about growing up?
8. Describe how Paw-Paw reacted when she discovered the oven was turned on and Casey was asleep.
9. Casey turns on the oven despite Paw-Paws warning. How could Casey show more integrity?
10. How might you have reacted if you were Paw-Paw, coming home to find the oven on and Casey asleep at the table?
11. Describe how Paw-Paw and Casey come to a compromise about the oven.

Key Questions p. 159-173

1. Why do you think Barney becomes agitated when Casey asks him about his past?
2. Why does Casey believe that she is not like Jeanie?
3. Why does Casey think Barney might be disappointed that she is not like Jeanie?
4. Where do you think the five dollars came from?

5. How does Casey decide to spend this money? What does this say about her character? How is this an example of integrity?
6. Describe Casey's experience at the grocery store.
7. How does Casey stand up for herself?
8. Explain what Casey learned from the clerk in today's reading?
9. What would you have done if you were in Casey's shoes?
10. Have you ever experienced culture clash- had a misunderstanding of some sort due to differing cultural perspectives or interpretations?

Key Questions p. 173-186

1. Why does Casey believe that the take-out restaurant would not sell her four bean cakes?
2. How did this make Casey feel? What was her reaction?
3. Do you think she responded with integrity? Why or why not?
4. What did Paw-Paw think of Casey's spread of food?
5. Describe how Casey has changed/grown in today's reading. How has Paw-Paw contributed to Casey's growth.
6. Compare and contrast eating with chopsticks and eating with a fork. Are there certain foods that cannot be eaten with chopsticks or a fork?
7. How does Casey know that Barney has been moving frequently?
8. Predict what Barney is doing while he is away from Casey.
9. What do you think Casey means when she says that it was as if "one day an owl landed in the grove [of people] and everyone got a chance to get even...?"
10. If someone were to ask you what Casey has learned so far in Chinatown, what would you say?

Key Questions p. 186-201

1. Why do you think Casey paying for their movie tickets upset Paw-Paw?
2. Describe what happened when Casey and Paw-Paw returned from the movie theatre.
3. Compare and contrast how Casey and Paw-Paw interacted with the burglar.
4. What would you do if a burglar confronted you?
5. What did the burglar take? Why was this significant?
6. Do you think there were any clues in today's reading as to who the thief might have been?
7. How did Phil help Paw-Paw and Casey? Explain how Phil demonstrated integrity?
8. Do you think Casey should have moved back with Phil? Why or why not?
9. What do you think Casey and Mr. Jeh will find out when they start questioning people?
10. What would you do if your house were broken into? How would you feel about sleeping in your home?
11. Predict what will happen next.

Key Questions p. 201-216

1. What does Mr. Jeh say Chinatown was like when he was a boy?
2. Why does Mr. Jeh take Casey to see the owner of the Laundromat?
3. Explain the Manchu Dynasty. (Hint: Review today's background information.)
4. What does Mr. Jeh remember about the fall of the Manchu Dynasty?
5. How did people celebrate the fall of the Manchu dynasty? Why did they celebrate?
6. Describe Mr. Fong and Sherman. Why do they try to help Casey? Explain how Mr. Fong and Sherman demonstrated integrity.
7. What clues do Casey and Mr. Jeh find out from visiting Mr. Fong and Sherman?
8. Do you think the people Mr. Jeh talked to today will help them find the charm and the thief?
9. Describe the listener's statue. What connection does Casey make with this statue?
10. Predict what you think will happen next.

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph – 158

"Paw-Paw glanced at me. Then she turned her eyes back to the pot and went on scrubbing. I went back into the other room and sat down on the bed and tried to read my arithmetic book, only the numbers kept on blurring. Paw-Paw came out a moment later, wiping her hands on a dishtowel. She sat down on the bed beside me. 'When I came in and I saw you with your head lying on the table and the stove door open, I thought you were dead. I thought I'd lost you.'"

Writing Prompt

In today's reading Casey turns on the oven despite Paw-Paws warning that the pilot light might go out and they would both be at risk of dying of asphyxiation. Imagine the pilot light *had* gone out. **Write explanatory paragraph describing how Casey almost died. Introduce the setting, include two characters, and describe the conflict clearly.**

Key Paragraph – 167

"A lady waddled up next to me—a fat, round lady, her hair cut short and curled tightly around her head. Her pasty jowls sagged and her buckteeth, one of which was gold, showed all the time. With her bulging shopping bags in either hand, she took up enough space for three people. The clerk ladled some sliced abalone and asparagus into a cardboard container. He dipped the ladle with a languid air—like you'd expect from some rich lady reaching into her box of chocolates. And when the clerk finished with the first customer, she started rattling off an order in Chinese.

'I think I was next,' I said."

Writing Prompt

In Chinatown, Casey feels like a tourist or the odd one out. **In an explanatory paragraph describe why Casey feels like the outsider. Provide three examples that demonstrate Casey is the foreigner. Include one lesson Casey has learned through this experience.**

Key Paragraph – 176

“From the way his face flushed, I was sure I was right. He looked embarrassed and angry at the same time. ‘All we got is two I tell you and you’re lucky to get these.’”

Writing Prompt

The take-out restaurant refused to sell Casey two more bean cakes. Pretend Casey reported this discrimination to a police officer. **As a police report, write an informative paragraph that describes this situation. Include the time, date, and location. Provide a detailed description to explain the story. Finish the police report by noting Casey acted with integrity by opting not to make a scene in the take-out restaurant.**

Key Paragraph – 200

“ ‘I think she know thief. She not like to hurt her friends. She maybe hope to take care of it on her own when she get out.’ Mr. Jeh set his cup down firmly. ‘Gilbert not really bad boy.’ He gruffed. ‘Just wild. No discipline at home. Too much eat, plenty of clothes, plenty warm home. Take everything for granted and always want more. I feel great shame.’ Having come to a decision, Mr. Jeh slowly pushed himself up from the chair. His shoulders and arms were still strong and limber even if his legs had turned thin and brittle despite all the exercise he gave them. ‘Many thanks for tea. I go now. I got some visits to make.’”

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are Casey. Write a second police report to explain the burglary. **In an informative paragraph describe what happened in a sequential order. Provide a detailed explanation of what happened first, second, and third. In a second paragraph, describe what the burglar stole and explain why this was a significant loss to the family.**

Key Paragraph – 215-216

“I turned back to look at the store for a moment, feeling some satisfaction that I could at least recognize some of the things in the window there. And that was when I saw the Listener—the one who refused to enter heaven until everyone else was saved—over in one corner on the lowest shelf. The statue was a small one and since it was surrounded by bright green-and-blue ceramic parakeets, it was easy to miss. The Listener was fine, white porcelain and made as if she were sitting with a lotus in her hand, but it was her smile that got me. It was a smile of longing, a smile of sadness, a knowing smile, a patient smile. It must have been the way the Owl Spirit smiled. I leaned closer to look at her better and saw my reflection on the window, floating ghost-like around the solid

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statue with the reflection of the neon signs—as if my face were turning into a mist of lights surrounding the statue. And the smile of the statue—the smile of the Owl Spirit—was the smile on my own face.”

Writing Prompt

Pretend you are Casey and that you have just returned home from your quest with Mr. Jeh for the missing charm. While you didn’t find the charm or the thief, you certainly learned a lot about Chinatown, it’s history, Chinese culture, and yourself. **In an explanatory paragraph reflect on what you learned today. Explain how you found yourself relating to the listener in the window. Describe how your smile is similar to the smile of the Owl Spirit and the smile of the Listener all at the same time.**

Character Based Literacy Program

Independent Study Lesson Plan

Child of the Owl, Week 4



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 a pool hall?

What is a penthouse?

What is the history of the phone booth?

What is Gamblers Anonymous?

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

obligated-218	inquisitiveness-219	forlornly-223	exotic-226	reluctantly-230
earnestly-233	hefted-235	drastic-245	triumphantly-247	tactfully-247
disembodied-248	resigned-248	humiliating-252	humbly-257	sullenly-258
inquiringly-266	regrets-267	exhibits-267	centuries-267	dynasties-268

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 p. 217-278

RESPOND

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

Think about what you read today and begin your timeline

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- 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 theme chart on the “Discovery of Cultural Heritage.” Throughout the novel, Casey becomes more aware of her Chinese cultural heritage. In the beginning of the book she identifies herself solely as American but when she moves to Chinatown she becomes interested in learning about her Chinese heritage. After each chapter, bullet point examples of Casey discovering her Chinese heritage.

EXPLORE

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

Who, What, When, Where, Why Cube

Create a cube to answer the questions for today’s reading.

Fill out the Beginning-Middle-End Chart

1. Decide what the most important events in the story are. You may want to jot down a list.
2. Decide whether each event is part of the beginning, middle or end of the story. Then write a phrase describing each event in the correct column. Remember in the beginning you are introduced to the setting, the characters and the problems they have. In the middle you learn about the roadblocks to the characters solving their problems, and conflicts occur. In the end of the story those conflicts reach a peak and then resolve with a resolution of the character’s problems.
3. If the events in a column are not in the order they took place, number the items in the column.
4. If you analyzing a chapter or segment of a larger story, all of the events might be in 1 or 2 columns, understood as part of the larger story. Or it might work to analyze the beginning, middle and end of just this part.

Acrostic Poem

Create an acrostic poem with the words “Child of the Owl.” In an acrostic poem each line’s first letter vertically forms the concept being described or explained. Hence each of the lines of your poem should help describe or explain what it is to be a Child of the Owl.

Movie Poster

Create a movie poster for **Child of the Owl**. Give it a title. Provide a visual. Choose actors and actresses for the main characters. In one-to-three sentences bill the film as a quest, a discovery, a rite of passage, a choice, or a union story.

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Fill out the Plot Profile Chart

1. Decide on the 10 most important events in the story, chapter or segment you are analyzing. List them in order in the rows at the bottom of the chart. If you go back the Beginning-Middle-End Chart, this will be easier to do.
2. Decide on a scale of 1 [low] to 10 [high] how intense you think this event is, and mark your score in the appropriate box.
3. Connect the marks in the boxes to form a graph.
4. This graph will help you to profile the plot. How it looks will depend on the story you are reading and whether you are plotting an entire story, or a chapter or segment.

Discussion

Key Questions p. 217-232

1. Why did Casey have breakfast with the Chew's? Where was Paw-Paw?
2. Explain Casey's reasoning for going to the library.
3. Why did Booger pick out the book on Florida birds? Do you think she will need it?
4. Why does Casey call Booger Tilia?
5. Explain why Casey, Booger, and Mr. Jeh were spying on Gilbert.
6. Describe Gilbert's profession.
7. How would you explain why Casey gets so frustrated at people for being themselves?
8. Do you think Gilbert will lead them to the charm? How do you think this quest will end?
9. How does Mr. Jeh show courage while following Gilbert? Do you think this is an example of integrity? Why or why not?
10. Predict what will happen next.

Key Questions p. 232-247

1. Describe where Gilbert led Casey, Booger, and Mr. Jed.
2. Describe what happened when Gilbert began to argue with the fat man. How did Mr. Jeh save Gilbert?
3. Who else was in the house? Why?
4. Explain Barney's reasoning for taking the charm?
5. Explain the faults in Barney's reasoning?
6. What does Casey mean when she says, "Barney why couldn't it have been your friend? That would have left me something."
7. Where did Casey go to reflect? How do you think Casey felt in today's reading?
8. How did Booger and Gilbert comfort Casey? What does this show about their character?
9. How would you react if you were Casey? How can Casey act with integrity?
10. Predict what will happen next.

Key Questions p. 247-262

1. Would you ever be able to forgive Barney if you were Casey? How can Casey act with integrity?

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2. Do you think it is a good idea for Casey to continue living with Paw-Paw? Why or why not?
3. Describe Paw-Paw's advice to Casey.
4. In what way does Paw-Paw live a life of integrity?
5. How will Paw-Paw afford her very expensive hospital bill?
6. What do you think happens when someone cannot pay their hospital bills?
7. Describe Barney's visit with Casey.
8. Compare and contrast Casey and Barney's views of being children of the owl.
9. How is Barney running away from his identity?
10. How is Casey embracing her identity?

Key Questions p. 263-278

1. Do you think it was a good idea to give the charm to the museum? What are the pros and cons of this decision.
2. Why does Casey apologize to Gilbert?
3. Describe the conversation between Casey and Gilbert.
4. How does this conversation display Casey's maturity?
5. Why do you think Gilbert sent Casey money each week?
6. Why do you think Gilbert wanted to spend time with Casey and Paw-Paw.
7. How does Barney try to cure his addiction? How is this an example of integrity?
8. What did you learn from this story?
9. How does this story relate to you?
10. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?

EXTEND

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

Key Paragraph – 230

"We set off after the Pachinko, hurrying to get closer to him before he got to Grant, where we might lose him in the swirling mobs. As it was, we almost lost him at the light. He ran across the crosswalk on a yellow light and by the time we got to the corner, the cars were already starting across the intersection."

Writing Prompt

In today's reading, Casey Booger, and Mr. Jeh were spying and following Gilbert through the city. Pretend you are a bystander witnessing this event without any context to the situation. **Write an explanatory paragraph to describe your observation on the series of events. Explain how you noticed the group spying. What caught your attention? Provide detailed descriptions on each character. In a second explanatory paragraph use your imagination to provide a reason why you think the group was following this man.**

Key Paragraph – 241

"I felt real funny when he said that. The closest thing to it was when Barney and me had once stayed in this old boarding house with floorboards so rotten that with each step I

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thought the floor would fall apart in dust and splinters. But this was a lot worse because everything, just everything, had crumbled. ‘Oh, Barney.’ I found my hands balling into fists. ‘Barney, why couldn’t it have been your friend? That would have left me something.’ I caught Talia looking at me. I turned away quickly. The tears were starting to slip over the corners of my eyes and I didn’t want any of them to see.”

Writing Prompt

Casey has to choose how to deal with Barney’s betrayal. Pretend you are Casey, sitting on the bench alone in the square trying to figure out how you are going to deal with this situation. **In an explanatory paragraph, describe how you will deal with Barney? Will you forgive him? Will you involve the police or teach him a lesson another way? Will you ever speak to him again? Provide three reasons to support your answer. (Remember: Casey has reacted with integrity in many difficult situations. How would she handle this situation with integrity?)**

Key Paragraph – 260-261

“‘Sure I know that. But some Chinese still know how to look deep inside themselves and I’m gonna be one of them.’ I put my hands on Paw-Paw’s shoulders. ‘I’m a child of the owl.’”

Writing Prompt

Prologue part one: In today’s reading, Casey took a big step in growing up. She told Barney that rather than run away like he had, she intended to stay and look deep within herself in order to be true to who she really is. Pretend you are Casey. **Write the prologue to this story some ten years later. In an explanatory paragraph describe how surviving Barney’s betrayal changed you for the better. Provide three reasons to support your testimony.**

Key Paragraph – 275

“And I thought to myself, I didn’t have to be just like a Chinese owl. I could be like an American one too—I mean, I could be as wise as an American owl—I already felt a lot older and wiser than anyone else my age. I put my elbows on the table, nursing the teacup between the fingertips of both my hands. At first I only let myself sniff at the jasmine tea, knowing that the tea is never sweeter than just before the first taste. And finally, I sipped it, knowing that spring was here.”

Writing Prompt

Prologue part two: Casey continues to live with Paw-Paw. Add to your prologue. **In an informative paragraph, explain how the two of you managed to look out for each other over the years. What happened to the charm? Explain how you managed to financially get by? Were you able to find a way to live successfully in both the American and Chinese worlds? What did you do after high school? Are you two still together? Are you both happy? Include an update about Barney.**

				Name					
				Who					
What		When		Where					
				Why					