

Goofy Grandma
Lesson Plan

Lesson Title: Analyzing Character Change

Objectives: The student will:

- * analyze characters' traits, feelings, relationships, and changes
- * write to record ideas and reflections
- * connect experiences and ideas with those of others through speaking and listening

Materials:

- * Book, *Goofy Grandma*
- * Book Quiz, *Goofy Grandma* (printable or online version)
- * My Real Life Character Change Chart (Printable, one per student)
- * Board and a dry erase marker (for the teacher)
- * Paper, pencils and crayons

The Lesson Plan:

1. **Engage with a Real Life Connection:** Tell the students a simple story about a time when you initially disliked something but something happened that made you change your mind and discovered you actually liked it.

A) In the beginning, I felt...

B) At the end, I felt differently...

C) Why did I change? What happened that caused me to change?

Teacher, if you can't think of a personal situation offhand to share with the students, try using one of these examples:

Example #1 -

An odd looking person moved in next door to me. At first, I wished this person had not even moved into my neighbor. I felt awkward when this person invited me over for dinner. I reluctantly accepted her dinner invitation. During the dinner, I had such a good time and I soon felt so silly that I had thought this lovely person was odd. I discovered she was a very nice and interesting person, and I was happy she moved in. The two of us became great friends, and I felt very lucky to have her as a neighbor.

Example #2 -

When I was a child, I asked for a dog but my parents gave me a cat instead. I was disappointed and did not to play with the cat because I thought I only wanted a dog. Then one day, when I was really upset about something, my cat seemed to sense my sadness and jumped into my lap, licked my nose and made purring sounds. I began to cheer up from all the comfort my cat was giving me, and I noticed I was no longer sad anymore. I also realized how lucky I was to

have such a sweet feline friend. From that day forward, my cat and I were best friends, and I was so happy my parents gave me a cat.

2. Emphasize that in the beginning you felt a certain way, but later felt completely different, and that something important happened that caused you to change.
3. Explain that many book characters often have a change of heart. This change is called a Character Change. This happens when the character feels a certain way in the beginning, but has a completely different opinion by the end of the story. The exciting part for the reader is to detect when and why the character changed.
3. The students will view the book *Goofy Grandma*. Ask students to watch for the character change in Nellie.
4. **Teach:** Draw a chart on the board with three columns with the heading below.
 - * In the beginning the character felt...
 - * In the end the character felt...
 - * What happened in the story that caused the character to change?
5. Ask the students if they observed a character change. Lead a discussion on the character change and fill in the character change chart together.
6. **Guided Practice:** Draw a new Character Change Chart on the board. Remind the students about your real life character change event that you told them during the Engage portion of this lesson. Together, analyze and discuss the three components of character change from this real life event. Call on students to explain their opinions about how you felt in the beginning, how you felt in the end, and what had caused you to change. Call on students to come up to the board to write their opinions and analysis in the chart.
7. **Independent Practice Activity:** Hand out the My Real Life Character Change Chart Printable (or students may draw the chart with three columns on a piece of paper.)

Directions: The student will think of an important time in their life when they felt a certain way about something. Sometime later they completely changed their mind about it. The student will pin point when they changed their mind and analyze why they changed their mind, what happened that caused them to change mind. The student will use their chart to fill in their self-analysis on character change.

A. At first I felt this way about ...

B. But now I feel this way about it ...

C. Why did I change, what happened that caused me to change my mind? ...

8. After the student completes the My Real Life Character Change Chart activity, they use another piece of paper to illustrate their experience.

9. **Closure:** The students will read aloud their My Real Life Character Change Chart and illustrations. The students will read, share and listen to each others self changing experiences.

10. Assessment:

- * Grade the My Real Life Character Change Chart based on thorough completion of self changing experience and analysis.
- * Grade the presentations based on participation and respectful audience behaviors during the presentations.
- * Grade the Book Quiz for *Goofy Grandma* Note: The teacher's Quiz Answer Key is located below the lesson plan.

(SCROLL DOWN FOR QUIZ KEY)

Goofy Grandma
Quiz Answer Key

1. Who was coming over to visit Nellie?

- a. Aunt Heidi
- b. Cousin Heather
- c. Grandma Hilda**
- d. Grandpa Henry

2. At first, how did Nellie feel about Grandma Hilda coming over to visit?

- a. Happy, because they plan to bake cookies together.
- b. Excited, because they had tickets to the ball game.
- c. Sad, because Nellie thinks her grandma is weird.**
- d. Glad, because they were going to plant a garden.

3. What was Grandma Hilda wearing when she arrived at Nellie's house?

- a. a polka-dot dress, a red hat and striped socks**
- b. a hula skirt, a flower necklace and bare feet
- c. blue jeans, a cowboy hat and boots
- d. Green shorts, a pink shirt and yellow shoes

4. Who was Nellie's best friend?

- a. Kathy
- b. Katie**
- c. Julie
- d. Jennifer

5. Who did Katie want Nellie to meet?

- a. Grandma Rose
- b. Grandpa Joe
- c. Grandma Elvira**
- d. Aunt Betsy

6. Which characteristics best describes Grandma Elvira?

- a. Grandma Elvira was tall and skinny and wore a black dress.**
- b. Grandma Elvira was short and chubby and wore a polka-dot dress.
- c. Grandma Elvira was small and round and wore a red robe.
- d. Grandma Elvira was big and strong and wore a blue dress.

7. What did Grandma Elvira serve Nellie and Katie?

- a. peanut butter and crackers
- b. fruit and cheese
- c. bread and jam
- d. tea and crumpets**

8. What changed Nellie's mind about not wanting to visit with her grandma?

a. Nellie realized that being different does not mean being weird.

b. Nellie thought her grandma would do her chores for her.

c. Nellie had no one else to talk to.

d. Nellie needed someone to help her with her homework.

9. What was Grandma Hilda doing when Nellie opened the basement door?

a. playing cards

b. playing the piano

c. rolling out a pie crust

d. rollerblading to rap music

10. What happened when Grandma Hilda swung Grandma Elvira's arm?

a. They became dance partners.

b. Grandma Hilda was badly injured.

c. Grandma Elvira's necklace broke.

d. They fell on the floor and laughed.

11. At the end of the story, how did Nellie feel about her grandma?

a. Nellie still wanted her grandma to leave.

b. Nellie did not want to talk to grandma.

c. Nellie was embarrassed to have a grandma.

d. Nellie loved her grandma and hoped she would stay forever.