

Characters and the Lesson of a Story

Grade: 3 **Subject:** Reading / Language Arts **Time:** ~45 min + ~15 min extra **Work mode:** On your own · pencil only RLA

Start Here

Today you will **read a short story**.

Then you will find the **lesson** the story teaches.

Use a **pencil**. Work by yourself. Do your best!

Every answer is **in the story**. You can look back any time.

You may read the story **softly out loud**. If a question is hard, skip it and come back.

G03_RLA_CentralMessage_01 — Characters and the Lesson of a Story Student Packet

Start Look & Think 5 min

Look at the title first. Do not read the story yet.

1The story is called "**The Lost Mitten**." What might happen in this story? Write one guess.

2A **lesson** is what a story teaches us. Write one lesson you know, like "**be kind**."

Build Read the Story 10 min

Words to know

chilly

a little cold.

notice

to see something.

grateful

happy that someone helped you.

"The Lost Mitten" — an original short story

[1] It was a *chilly* morning. Sam walked to school with his hands deep in his coat. On the sidewalk he saw a small red mitten. It did not belong to him.

[2] Sam was in a hurry. He wanted to get to class and play with his friends before the bell rang. "Someone else will find it," he thought. He kept walking. But he could not help it — he looked back at the little mitten sitting all alone in the snow.

[3] Then Sam stopped. He remembered how sad he felt last week when he lost his own hat. He turned around and picked up the mitten. It was tiny, like it came from a little kid.

[4] Sam took the mitten to the school office. A young boy named Theo was there. Theo was crying because his hands were cold. When Theo saw the red mitten, he smiled big. It was his!

[5] Theo was so *grateful*. "Thank you!" he said. Sam felt warm inside, even on the *chilly* day. Being a little late was worth it. He learned that helping someone feels better than hurrying.

3In part [1], what does Sam find on the sidewalk?

Apply Read Closely 15 min

Every answer is in the story. Look back before you write.

4**Retell the story.** Write the beginning, middle, and end. Keep each one short.

Beginning

Middle

End

5**The main character.** Sam is the main character. Pick a **feeling word** for Sam at the end. Then tell why, using a detail.

Feeling word

Why? (use a detail from the story)

6**The lesson.** What lesson does the story teach? Write it as one sentence.

7**Which sentence shows the lesson?** Fill in the circle for **ONE** choice.

- "It was a chilly morning."
- "He turned around and picked up the mitten."
- "Sam wanted to get to class and play."
- "On the sidewalk he saw a small red mitten."

Explain Write the Lesson 10 min

Question 8. Write the **lesson** in one sentence. Then write **one detail** that shows it. Last, tell **how** it shows the lesson.

You may start with: "The lesson is..." · "In the story..." · "This shows the lesson because..."

Lesson (one sentence)

Detail (from the story)

How it shows the lesson

Close ACE Wrap-Up 5 min

Answer

Say the **lesson** of the story in your **own words**. One sentence.

Cite

Name **one part** [1]–[5] where you see the lesson.

Extend

Tell about a time **you** helped someone.

Continue Early Finisher optional • ~15 min

If you finish early (no new things needed):

Draw the main character, Sam. Draw him on the back of this page. Then write **one caption** under your drawing that tells what Sam is doing.

Turn in: Hand in this whole packet with your name, class, and date. Make sure questions 1–8 and the ACE box are done. The drawing is extra — turn it in too if you made one.

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