



Lesson Plan Aid for Book Punch® - Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Grade level 5
Lexile Framework for Reading Measure 820L

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Introduction to Book Punch®

Book Punch guides students through the steps of thinking and writing about well-known core literature for grade levels 3 through 9. Students write paragraphs or essays responding to interactive writing prompts. The program tutors students to develop ideas and organize their thinking about books they read.

Each program in the Merit Book Punch collection focuses on one book title. Each contains 6-7 writing prompts, 600 supporting questions and 600 helpful tips to guide students through each step in the writing process. The program for each book title comprises 3 online interactive units as follows:

- Text-to-Self: Based on themes from the book, students write paragraphs about their own experiences.
- Evidence and Inference: Students write paragraphs or essays that connect details with ideas in the book to infer a deeper meaning from what they are reading.
- Reading Check: Students write a paragraph about facts and/or events from the book to ensure that they have read it.

Together, these units develop students' reading comprehension and writing skills in complementary ways.

Printables

Each Book Punch title includes 11 printable worksheets, a lesson plan aid, and the Book Punch® Series Manual with detailed instructions for implementation. The documents can be viewed and printed from My Learning Center. Self-learners and teachers click the course name; tutors and parents click the Programs link and then click the Book Punch title.

All printables can also be viewed and printed from the links provided on the last page of this document.

Text-to-Self

Text-to-Self writing prompts help to enrich students' reading experience. Students write paragraphs that help them relate their own experiences to events that take place in the book. See the topics listed below.

Text-to-Self Topic 1

In the story, Little Man has a "penchant for cleanliness"; that is, he has a tendency to be fussy about cleanliness. Most of us have quirks or habits. Think about something you are very particular about. Write about something you feel has to be a certain way.

Text-to-Self Topic 2

Parents and grandparents frequently wish to share their experiences, accomplishments and struggles with their children and grandchildren. In the story, Papa tells Mama that he wants his children to know that the family tried to stop the Wallaces, even if they don't succeed. Write about an experience, accomplishment or struggle of your own that you would want your descendants to know about.

Text-to-Self Topic 3

In the story, family is extremely important. The Logans support and protect each other. Think about a time you were supported by your family. Write a paragraph about a time you were helped by your family.

Evidence and Inference

See the writing prompts below and the accompanying list of questions, the answers to which should be included in a satisfactory paragraph. Help students determine whether they have recognized (inferred) the ideas in the book from the details (evidence) given.

Evidence and Inference Topic 1

Self-esteem and inner strength allow us to stand up for what we believe even when the consequences can be physical punishment. Write a paragraph describing how Little Man and Cassie demonstrate these qualities on the first day of school.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 1.)

1. Miss Crocker makes a big show of giving something to her students on the first day of school. What does she give them and what does she make the students promise?
2. Why does Little Man refuse at first to take the item Miss Crocker is distributing?
3. What causes Little Man to throw the item on the floor after he has finally accepted it?
4. How do Miss Crocker and Cassie react to Little Man's actions?

Evidence and Inference Topic 2

Emotions can sometimes get the best of us. Write a paragraph describing how Cassie plots and carries out a plan to get revenge on Lillian Jean for the incident in Strawberry.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 8.)

1. What incident causes friction between Cassie and Lillian Jean?
2. How does Cassie get Lillian Jean to befriend her?
3. What does Lillian Jean tell Cassie when she thinks that Cassie has learned her lesson?
4. What is Cassie's final act in the scheme to get revenge and how does she accomplish it?

Evidence and Inference Topic 3

There are peaceful ways to combat injustice. Write a paragraph describing how the Logans and Mr. Jamison attempt to help black people in their area through peaceful means.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read the entire book.)

1. What peaceful plan does Mrs. Logan devise to show the Wallaces and others that they can't abuse black people?
2. What does Mama want to do in order to put this peaceful plan into practice?
3. What does Mr. Jamison agree to do to help? Why does he make this offer?
4. What warning does Mr. Jamison give the Logans and how do they react?

Reading Check

The Reading Check unit evaluates students' paragraphs using a key point check to determine if the student has read the book. See the Reading Check writing prompt below and the list of questions that accompany it, the answers to which should be included in a satisfactory paragraph.

Reading Check Topic

The farmland owned by the Logan family is a very important part of the story.

Write a paragraph about the Logan land that describes its history and explain what it represents. Give examples from the story.

1. Who owned the land before the Logans and would like to get it back?
2. When did the Logans buy the original piece of land and who was the purchaser?
3. What does the land represent to the Logans?
4. What does Uncle Hammer do to save the land for the Logans?

Curriculum Integration

See the Book Punch Series Manual. The Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary section and the Beyond the Program section provide detailed instructions for implementing vocabulary, character and pre-writing lessons. The Book Punch Series Manual includes printable worksheets for these lessons.

Vocabulary

See the Vocabulary Exploration worksheet in the Book Punch Series Manual. Thematic words from Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry that can be explored include:

| VOCABULARY | DEFINITION |
|----------------|--|
| discrimination | Treating someone differently based on a group they are part of |
| Reconstruction | The period during which southern states were reorganized after the |
| maverick | Someone who is independent of others |
| Confederacy | The southern states that seceded from the Union in 1861 |
| sharecrop | To farm another's land for a share of the crop |

Vocabulary particular to the time and setting of Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry include:

| VOCABULARY | DEFINITION |
|-------------|--|
| bale | A large bundle, usually for a farm product |
| barren | Unable to produce anything |
| condescend | To make someone feel lower than oneself |
| emaciated | Very thin, usually due to lack of eating |
| emblazon | To cover with markings |
| glean | To gather grain |
| imperious | Having a strong personality |
| kerosene | A type of fuel |
| loiter | To stay in a place longer than one should |
| mercantile | Relating to trade |
| mortgage | A large loan, usually on a home |
| plantation | A large farm or estate |
| penchant | A liking for something |
| temerity | Not caring about danger |
| transfix | Amaze |
| threadbare | Poor, scrawny, or meager |
| underhanded | Something done so as to deceive |
| lynch | To put to death, especially by hanging and without legal authority |

The Word Search Puzzle and Crossword Puzzle worksheets that are included contain many of the words above. They can be used to reinforce the vocabulary in the book.

Character Exploration

See the Character Exploration worksheet and the Compare and Contrast worksheet in the Book Punch Series Manual. Here are suggested character exploration prompts for classroom discussion:

Imagine that Cassie is your friend in real life. Write words and phrases that would help you describe her to someone who doesn't know her. (What does Cassie look like? What kind of personality does she have? What does she like to do?)

Compare and contrast Cassie with Lillian Jean or another character in the book.

Group Work and Discussion - Pre-writing

See the Brainstorming worksheet in the Book Punch Series Manual. Here is a suggested topic for classroom discussion:

Conditions during the Depression Era in the southern United States were especially harsh for the black residents. In the story, the Logan children's walk to school illustrates how difficult life was. Write a paragraph describing their walk to school and what we learn about them and the difficulties they faced.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 3.)

Additional Writing Prompts

See the Independent Follow-up worksheet in the Book Punch Series Manual. Using the context of Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, and the Independent Follow-up worksheet, students may continue the writing process after publishing their paragraphs from Book Punch. Here are two additional topics students can write about:

Cassie often seems to be unaware of the differences in social standing of the races during her time. Write a paragraph describing what occurs in Mr. Barnett's store that shows Cassie's innocence in these matters.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 5.)

Two people can react to the same incidents in very different ways. Write a paragraph, using examples from the story, that shows how Cassie and Big Mama react differently and use different methods to deal with the incidents in Strawberry.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 6.)

Printable Worksheet Links

You must be connected to the Internet to access these links.

[Crossword Puzzle - starter](#)

[Crossword Puzzle - challenge](#)

[Word Search Puzzle](#)

[Evidence and Inference Worksheet](#)

[See the Book Punch® Series Manual for additional printable worksheets.](#)

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