



Lesson Plan Aid for Book Punch® - The Trumpet of the Swan

Grade level 4
Lexile Framework for Reading Measure 750L

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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, Sam Beaver kept a diary in which he often recorded his observations of swans and other wild creatures. Pretend that you are Sam and imagine that you spot another animal in the wild. Write a diary entry such as Sam might have written and describe the animal you see.

Text-to-Self Topic 2

In the story, Louis is mute. He cannot speak or make a sound. Louis's father gives him a trumpet, believing that the only way Louis can attract Serena is by making sounds. Think about a way Louis could have attracted Serena to be his mate without making any sounds. Write about your idea.

Text-to-Self Topic 3

In the story, Louis learns to play the trumpet. This is not an easy task for him at first. He spends a long time learning just to play a single note. With some time and practice though, he learns to play the trumpet so well that he can perform entire pieces. Think about something you learned to do that was not easy at first. Remember what it was like when you first started. Write about what you learned to do.

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

Love is usually supposed to "find a way," but sometimes the path is far from smooth. In the story, Louis falls in love with Serena but his disability gets in the way of his efforts to attract her. Write a paragraph describing Louis's difficulties attracting a mate and the attempts he makes to get Serena to notice him. *(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 8.)*

1. What does Louis want to tell Serena?
2. What keeps Louis from being able to tell Serena what he wants?
3. What are the first things Louis tries in order to attract Serena?
4. What is Louis's final desperate act to get Serena's attention?

Evidence and Inference Topic 2

A little talent in one area can sometimes offset a lack in another. After many adventures, Louis has the opportunity to court Serena by playing his trumpet. Describe what happens when Louis plays his trumpet to woo Serena.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 17.)

1. Describe Louis's plan to win Serena by playing his trumpet.
2. What song does Louis choose to play and why?
3. What happens while Louis is playing his song? What happens to the music as he plays?
4. What is Serena's reaction when she awakens, sees Louis and hears his song?

Evidence and Inference Topic 3

It's not so easy to right a wrong. The old cob feels guilty about his theft of the trumpet so, with Louis's help, he returns to pay his debt, with unforeseen consequences. Write a paragraph describing the events that occur when the cob attempts to repay the shopkeeper for the trumpet. *(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 20.)*

1. Why does the old cob feel he must pay for the trumpet?
2. What items does Louis give the old cob when he is preparing to return the money? Explain the purpose for each item.
3. What happens when the storekeeper sees the old cob flying towards the store?
4. How is the situation resolved?

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

In the story, Louis often asks Sam to help him when he has a problem to solve. Write a paragraph about the ways in which Sam helps Louis.

1. How does Sam help Louis learn to read and write? Who is Louis's teacher?
2. What job does Sam get for Louis at his summer camp? What songs must Louis learn for his job?
3. When the camp job is over, Sam gives Louis advice about what to do next. Where does Louis go and what does he do when he gets there?
4. In the story, what is the last favor Louis asks of Sam? Whom does Louis want Sam to help?

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 The Trumpet of the Swan that can be explored include:

VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
defective	Containing a fault
implore	To beg
spellbound	Fascinated

Vocabulary particular to the time and setting of The Trumpet of the Swan include:

VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
buoyant	Able to float
commotion	Noisy confusion or motion
coy	Pretending to be shy or modest
doleful	Feeling sad or sorry
elegant	Luxurious, refined, fine
embrace	Hug
frolic	Play happily
graceful	Elegant and smooth
haul	To move with great effort
horseplay	Rough play
investigate	To search or to understand
plumage	The feathery covering of a bird
serene	Peaceful
timid	Afraid or fearful
troublesome	Causing trouble

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

Compare and contrast Sam with Mr. Beaver 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:

In the story, Louis falls in love with Serena but his disability gets in the way of his efforts to attract her. Write a paragraph describing Louis's difficulties and the attempts he makes to get Serena to notice him.

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

Additional Writing Prompts

See the Independent Follow-up worksheet in the Book Punch Series Manual. Using the context of The Trumpet of the Swan, 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:

In the story, Louis's father, the cob, decides to steal a trumpet from the music store for his son. Although Louis likes the trumpet, he is not happy about the fact that his father stole it. Think about another way the cob might have given Louis a musical instrument without stealing it. Write about your idea.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 9.)

Imagine that Sam Beaver is your friend in real life. Write about how you would describe him to someone who didn't know him.

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

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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