

EXTREME SPORTS

Lesson Plan

Skateboarding Stories

Lesson Plan for *Skateboarding*

Grade 4

Objective

To help students write narratives about a skateboarding competition that use specific details to reveal the characters' actions, thoughts, and feelings.

Things Needed

- *Skateboarding* book
- Pencils and paper

Before the Activity

Read *Skateboarding* out loud to students.

Activity

Chapter I ("Catching Air") of *Skateboarding* is a narrative that describes a skateboarding competition. It uses vivid verbs and descriptive details to make readers feel as if they are part of a story. These details help readers imagine what a story's characters would see and feel. First, brainstorm answers to the following questions as a class:

- What actions does this chapter describe the skateboarder doing? (Sample Answers: standing at the top of a vert ramp, walking to the ramp's edge, rolling down the ramp's side, flying up off the edge, spinning in the air, etc.)
- How do you think the skateboarder might have felt while doing those actions? (Sample Answers: nervous, scared, excited, happy, etc.)
- What do you think the skateboarder was thinking about during his run? (Sample Answers: what tricks to do next, if the audience liked his tricks, if he flew up high enough to perform a 900, etc.)

Next, have students practice using descriptive details in their own writing. Students can use the facts described in the rest of the book to create their own skateboarding stories. In their stories, they should include details that answer the following questions:



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- Is your story about vert skateboarding or street skateboarding?
- Is your main character at a competition or just skating for fun at a skate park?
- What tricks does your main character perform? What do these tricks look like?
- What feelings does your main character experience while skateboarding?
- What thoughts does your main character have while skateboarding?

Evaluation

Collect the stories at the end of class and give each student up to 10 points:

- 1 point for each of the five questions the student used details to answer
- 2 points for accurately incorporating facts about skateboarding from the book
- 2 points for sequencing events in a way that is coherent and easy to follow
- 1 point for using good spelling and grammar

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' writing standards, grade 4 (W 4.3).



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