



Lesson Plan Aid for Book Punch™ - Frindle

Grade level 4
Lexile Framework for Reading Measure 830L

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Introduction to Book Punch™

Book Punch guides students through the steps of thinking and writing about well-known upper-elementary core literature. Students write paragraphs responding to interactive writing prompts. The program tutors students to develop ideas and organize their thinking about what they have read.

Each program in the Merit Book Punch collection focuses on one book title. Each contains 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 three online interactive units as follows:

- Unit 1- Reading Check: Students write about important facts and/or events from the book to ensure that they have read it.
- Unit 2- Text-to-Self: Based on themes from the book, students write about their own experiences.
- Unit 3- Evidence and Inference: Students connect details with ideas in the book to infer a deeper meaning from what they have read.

Together, these units develop students' reading comprehension 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. To view and print included documents, self-learners and teachers click the course name in My Learning Center; tutors and parents click the Programs link in My Learning Center and then click the Book Punch title.

Reading Check – unit 1

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, Nick is known in school for having great ideas and putting them into action. Write a paragraph that tells about Nick's ideas and their outcomes. Remember to be specific and to include examples from the text.

1. Nick decides to turn Miss Deaver's classroom into a tropical island. Tell how he does this.
2. Nick decides to give a very long report in Mrs. Granger's class. What impact does he want this to have? What does he want to avoid?
3. Nick has a plan for having fun when the photographer takes the class picture. What do the students say instead of "cheese"? What do they hold up to the camera?
4. Nick decides to improve the quality of food served in the school cafeteria. What does he do to persuade the school to serve delicious food?

Text-to-Self – unit 2

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

Text-to-Self Topic 1

In the story, Nick Allen likes to stir things up. He is full of creative ideas that he carries out in school to the delight of his classmates. Think about a creative activity you would like to put into action in your school. Write about a creative activity you would like to carry out in your school.

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

Text-to-Self Topic 2

In the story, Nick's attempt to sidetrack Mrs. Granger long enough to keep her from giving a homework assignment backfires and Nick is given an extra report to do. However, it turns out that Nick enjoys researching and writing the extra assignment report. Think about a topic you would like to research for a report. Write about a research report you would like a teacher to assign you.

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

Text-to-Self Topic 3

In the story, Mrs. Granger describes the things that have changed over the course of her life. She tells Nick in her letter that the way the world keeps changing is the reason her goal is to teach her students "... something that would be useful no matter what." Think about something that you have learned that will always be useful to you no matter how the world around you changes. Write about something you have learned that will always be useful to you no matter what.

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

Evidence and Inference – unit 3

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

In the story, the author gives an excellent description of Nick's fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Granger. Write a paragraph describing Mrs. Granger's physical characteristics and her personality.

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

1. The author makes a point of describing Mrs. Granger's eyes and the way they can look. How can her eyes look?
2. Describe some other things about Mrs. Granger's physical appearance.
3. What does Mrs. Granger love?
4. What are some of the things the author tells the reader about Mrs. Granger's lifestyle?

Evidence and Inference Topic 2

A living language has new words added to it all the time. Some are made up just for fun. In the story, Nick invents the word "frindle" and begins a word war. Write a paragraph describing how the word "frindle" comes into existence.

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

1. What are Nick and Janet doing on the afternoon Nick invents the word "frindle"? Explain why they are together.
2. Janet does something that becomes the first event in the creation of the word "frindle." What is the thing Janet does?
3. What is Nick thinking about just before he bumps into Janet?
4. Think of what happens as Nick bumps into Janet. Describe the final, third event in the invention of the word "frindle."

Evidence and Inference Topic 3

Sometimes a period of time must pass before we can understand an event that took place years ago. In the story, ten years after the word wars and the coining of the word "frindle," Mrs. Granger sends Nick the letter she wrote when Nick was in her fifth grade class. Write a paragraph describing the contents of Mrs. Granger's letter to Nick and his response.

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

1. How does the letter from Mrs. Granger arrive?
2. How does Nick realize the letter he receives is the letter Mrs. Granger had written ten years before?
3. What does Mrs. Granger's letter tell Nick?
4. What does Nick realize about Mrs. Granger and the word war after reading her letter?

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 Frindle that can be explored include:

VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
dictionary	Book of words and definitions
etymology	The history of words
mentor	Experienced teacher
vocabulary	A list of words

Vocabulary particular to the time and setting of Frindle include:

VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
acquaint	To make familiar with
definition	The meaning of a word
delay	To prevent for some time
encyclopedia	A book containing articles of information
jolt	Surprising event or shock
media	Places for the communication of information
origin	Where something comes from
prim	Fussy about appearance
procedure	List of steps
research	Study of knowledge
sidetrack	To get distracted
troublemaker	One who causes mischief

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 Nick 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 Nick look like? What kind of personality does he have? What does he like to do?) Why did you choose this character?

Compare and contrast Nick with Mrs. Granger 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, Nick is required to write a report on the dictionary for Mrs. Granger. While he is preparing the report he comes up with a plan. Write a paragraph about Nick's plan and how it works out in class.

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

Additional Writing Prompts

See the Independent Follow-up worksheet in the Book Punch™ Series Manual. Using the context of Frindle, 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, Mrs. Granger lists all the things that did not exist, or had not taken place, when she started to teach. There were no cassette recorders, no computers; no one had landed on the moon. Think about a way the world may be changed when you grow up. Write about a way in which the world may be changed.

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

In the story, Mrs. Granger sends Nick her favorite pen as a gift. Nick in return sends Mrs. Granger a beautiful gold fountain pen. These gifts are significant because it was the renaming of the pen that created the special relationship between Nick and Mrs. Granger. In addition, the exchange of the pens expresses the mutual respect and admiration Nick and Mrs. Granger have developed towards each other. Think about a gift you would like to give to someone. Write about a special gift you would give.

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

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See the Book Punch™ Series Manual for printable worksheets.