Principles of Lesson Information and Activities EL Instruction Lesson Title: Reading Between the Lines (Inferring) Content Area: English Language Arts/ESL Grade Level(s): 4th grade Unit Description: The students will practice making inferences by observing teacher modeling, and then by practicing the comprehension strategy on their own. The writing integration section of this lesson will also foster an appreciation for the text that is used for the context of this lesson. Length of lesson: 1 hour Classroom setting (content, ESL, push-in/pull-out, dual language, etc.): Content-Whole group reading instruction **English learners** Number of ELs: 5 **Proficiency Levels** 1 2 3 4 N/A N/A ELs (numbers 0 2 3 0 and/or names) Other relevant student information: The class demographics are such that eighteen of the twenty-three students have never been classified as English language learners. Five of the twenty-three students are currently classified as English language learners. Their individual proficiency levels range from intermediate to advanced. All three of the English language learners with advanced proficiency levels speak Spanish as their home language. One of the English language learners with an intermediate proficiency level also speaks Spanish as his home language. The other English language learner with an intermediate proficiency level speaks German as his home language. Standards and Objectives (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) Define Standards Fourth Grade (§110.15 English Language Arts and Reading) Reading/Comprehension Skills. Students use a flexible range of metacognitive reading skills in both assigned and independent reading to understand an author's message. Students will continue to apply earlier standards with greater depth in increasingly more complex texts as they become self- directed, critical readers. The student is expected to: (C) monitor and adjust comprehension (e.g., using background knowledge, creating sensory images, rereading a portion aloud, generating questions); (D) make inferences about text and use textual evidence to support understanding. (6) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Fiction. Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of fiction and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to: (B) describe the interaction of characters including their relationships and the changes they undergo. (17) Writing. Students write about their own experiences. Students are expected to write about important personal experiences.

Principles of Lesson Information and Activities EL Instruction (2) Cross-curricular second language acquisition/listening. The ELL listens to a variety of speakers including teachers, peers, and electronic media to gain an increasing level of comprehension of newly acquired language in all content areas. ELLs may be at the beginning, intermediate, advanced, or advanced high stage of English language acquisition in listening. In order for the ELL to meet grade-level learning expectations across the foundation and enrichment curriculum, all instruction delivered in English must be linguistically accommodated (communicated, sequenced, and scaffolded) commensurate with the student's level of English language proficiency. The student is expected to: (D) monitor understanding of spoken language during classroom instruction and interactions and seek clarification as needed. (3) Cross-curricular second language acquisition/speaking. The ELL speaks in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes with an awareness of different language registers (formal/informal) using vocabulary with increasing fluency and accuracy in language arts and all content areas. ELLs may be at the beginning, intermediate, advanced, or advanced high stage of English language acquisition in speaking. In order for the ELL to meet grade-level learning expectations across the foundation and enrichment curriculum, all instruction delivered in English must be linguistically accommodated (communicated, sequenced, and scaffolded) commensurate with the student's level of English language proficiency. The student is expected to: (D) speak using grade-level content area vocabulary in context to internalize new English words and build academic language proficiency. (5) Cross-curricular second language acquisition/writing. The ELL writes in a variety of forms with increasing accuracy to effectively address a specific purpose and audience in all content areas. ELLs may be at the beginning, intermediate, advanced, or advanced high stage of English language acquisition in writing. In order for the ELL to meet grade-level learning expectations across foundation and enrichment curriculum, all instruction delivered in English must be linguistically accommodated (communicated, sequenced, and scaffolded) commensurate with the student's level of English language proficiency. For Kindergarten and Grade 1, certain of these student expectations do not apply until the student has reached the stage of generating original written text using a standard writing system. The student is expected to: (B) write using newly acquired basic vocabulary and content-based grade-level vocabulary. **Standards and Objectives** English language proficiency Language Objectives standards SWBAT verbally describe their inferences and Standards (2), (3) their metacognitive processes using key vocabulary identified for this lesson during a whole group discussion about inferences made during the read-aloud.

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	2	SWBAT write using descriptive language appropriate for the purpose of the writing by writing about events in the text as they are related to important life experiences. Standards (17), (5)		EL Instruction	
		Content Objectives	Content Standards		
	1	After receiving guided instruction on how to make inferences, SWBAT provide at least two examples of inferences that they made during the read-aloud, in addition to the evidence, recorded on a graphic organizer, which led them to make those inferences.	Standards (110.15), (6)		
	2	After making inferences about the content of a text, SWHMOI they write a four-sentence response (minimum) to the text by relating it to an important personal life experience.	Standards (1101.15), (17)		
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	Assessment Describe how each objective will be assessed.				
The graphic organizers on which the students record their evidence from the text, and their inferences will be collected and carefully read to assess their understandings about the process of inferring.					
	2. As the students are discussing their inferences, their language will be monitored for use of the key terms associated with this lesson.				
	3. The students' writings will either be shared with the class, at their discretion, or turned in to be read and assessed for evidence of the meeting of the purpose of the writing, as well as the type of descriptive language that is used.				
		ntent of the following lesson on strategies.			

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	rporating all four language domains Itify the language demands of the tasks r	elated to each language domain.				
	Written	Oral	Apply			
	Reading	Listening				
Receptive	The students will practice the reading comprehension strategy in the context of a fictional text.	During the guided practice section of this lesson, the students will receive much instructional information about the lesson strategy. In order to practice the strategy on their own, the students must identify important details from the teacher think-aloud.	Modify			
Rec		Students will also listen to the oral responses of other students in order to contribute to the discussion in an additive manner that affirms the input of other students.				
	Writing	Speaking				
Productive	The student must carefully choose descriptive words that will enhance their written responses to the lesson text.	During the class discussion, the students will verbally share their inferences and their thoughts about their own understandings and thinking processes.				
	language (words and phrases, grammati amount of speech/text, organization of i					
Ge	neral academic language	Language specific to the content area	Modify Define Modify			
Evi	,	Author's intent, textual evidence, visual evidence, fiction, comprehension, inference		_		
_	Key characteristics of teacher talk (ways to make the content comprehensible for all students, ways to model key language, etc.) Modify					

Principles of Lesson Information and Activities EL Instruction Do not dominate the conversation, provide the students with plenty of opportunities to talk and express their ideas. Explicitly state the lesson objectives before instruction so that the students are familiar with what will be expected of them. Introduce the new vocabulary explicitly at the outset of the lesson. Incorporate the key vocabulary words into the teacher-led instruction multiple times so that the students can observe and understand their uses. Be animated! Talk directly to the students and use a lot of expression and nonverbal cues to infuse more meaning into the discussion. How the lesson will use bilingualism/students' native languages as resources Cultivate The lesson text is a bilingual text that contains instances of the Spanish language. Apply The students will be encouraged to explain the Spanish words to the class in their own terms. The student who speaks German as his native language will be encouraged to participate in the class discussion by offering his translations of the Spanish vocabulary as a way to compare and contrast the two languages. **Materials and Texts** Name Genre (e.g., Level Connection to Ss (What will this mean to them? narrative) How can you make it even more meaningful?) 4th My Very Own Narrative This book can be meaningful to all of the Room (Mi propio students in the class. The text can be enjoyed by cuartito) students with a variety of home languages, although it focuses on Mexican American Cultivate culture in illustration and in writing. The language can be familiar and meaningful for the students whose native language is Spanish. Additionally, the content of the book is relevant to the students who have ever felt crowded in their house, or have ever lacked a place of retreat from siblings or other family members. To make it more meaningful, these concepts can be made glaring and obvious to the students, in order to facilitate the making of connections, by asking the students to give their own interpretations of the main events in the story, and how those events are similar to things that they have experienced in their own lives. **Supplementary Materials** Graphic organizers on which the students will record their inferences and their textual evidence. Literature response journals for the students to record their written responses to this text. Chart paper

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•	Markers	
		i
Advan	ce preparation	İ
•	Read the text to identify instances of the Spanish language to focus on during reading to allow opportunities for students to give translations and interpretations. Read the text to identify and anticipate student-generated inferences in order	Cultivate
	to contribute to them or help the students articulate them during the class discussion.	İ
•	Prepare a copy of the graphic organizer for each student.	Modify
•	Write the lesson objectives on a large piece of chart paper to be displayed to	
	and read to the class; write the definitions of the key vocabulary for the lesson so that they are displayed and read for the learners. <i>Information is explicitly</i>	Define
	stated so that English language learners are more clear about what is expected	İ
•	of them and what vocabulary they will be looking for in the lesson. Display the declarative, conditional, and procedural knowledge related to	İ
	inferring for the students to refer to throughout the lesson.	1
Warm	-u <u>p</u>	
Estima	ated Time: 5 minutes	1
Focus	s Objective (#): N/A	l
-	s Language Domains: □Reading □Writing □Listening □Speaking	1
	Independent Work □ Pair □ Small Group □ Whole class	
Reaso	on for grouping: rst □ English □ Reading □ Content □ Interest □ Other:	İ
lang	uage proficiency level understanding Whole group discussion	
Build	ing from Prior Learning	1
conte wher	etudents will have already been introduced to making inferences within the ext of a lesson about identifying theme. The students can be asked to recall a we practiced making quick inferences when we learned about how to find the se of folk-tales.	
based predi there pract	the students will be asked to make predictions about the contents of the book d on the cover. The students have already had instruction about how to make ctions. This will help because predictions are similar to inferences, and efore students can access their prior knowledge more readily, having already iced it in the context of making predictions. The students will be asked to de examples of their prior experiences that inform their predictions.	

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Activity Steps		
Direct the students to refer to the objectives and vocabulary that are displayed at the front of the class. Explain the objectives, and define the vocabulary words explicitly. Ask if there are any questions about the information before the lesson is launched.		Define
Ask the students to recall how they first made inferences during the lesson on identifying theme.		
3. Display the cover of the book to the class and ask them to make predictions, informed by past experiences, about what the book will be about. Also, ask them to analyze what visual or textual evidence they based their predictions on. Explain to the students that predictions and inferences are alike, but they are not the same. However, practicing predictions can help when it comes time to infer, because they both require the student to access their prior knowledge. Explain that one major difference between the two is that predictions may be either confirmed or denied, but an inference may never be truly confirmed nor denied.		
After the discussion about predictions and inferences, introduce the declarative, conditional, and procedural knowledge related to inferring by explicitly stating it in student-friendly terms:		Define Modify
Declarative knowledge: Inferring is what we call it when we take clues from the book, and think about our own prior knowledge about those clues in order to learn new things about what we are reading.		
Conditional knowledge: When the author did not write something down, and we want to know what he did not write, inference can be of great use to us. We can use inference as a way to read between the lines. When we want to know something that the author did not tell us with his exact words, consider using your power of inference.		
Procedural: If you would like to start inferring, follow these steps: 1. Look for clues as you read. These can be written, or in pictures. 2. Think about things that you already know and have experienced that come to mind when you consider the evidence that you have found in the text.		
3. Now you are ready to make an inference by carefully thinking about how the clues and your prior knowledge relate to one another, and what conclusions you can draw based on that connection. (Martinez, 2014)	ļ	
Note: Adapt the above language as necessary to suit the needs of the students in the classroom.		Modify

Lesson Information and Activities	Principles of EL Instruction
 Scaffolds (including L1 support), differentiation, modifications Scaffolding questions that get the students to think about how their experiences might connect to the visual and textual evidence on the cover will be asked: What can you see here that reminds you of something that has happened in your life? Where have you seen something like this before? 	Modify
3. In what ways does this picture remind you of you or your family? 4. Is there anything in this picture that is familiar to you from your home? Formative Assessment	
Listen carefully to the inputs from the students. If they are unable to make predictions, quickly readdress how to connect evidence to personal experiences to make quick predictions.	Apply
Also, ask the students to explain what an inference is, when it is useful to make them, and how they are generated. The declarative, conditional, and procedural knowledge will be addressed later in the lesson again to solidify these concepts for the students.	
Ask students to explain the similarities and differences between predictions and inferences, as they are often confused concepts.	
Presentation Estimated Time: 15 minutes	
Focus Objective (#): N/A	
Focus Language Domains: Reading Writing Listening Speaking	
Grouping: □ Independent Work □ Pair □ Small Group □ Whole class Reason for grouping:	
□ First □ English □ Reading □ Content □ Interest □ Other: language proficiency level understanding Whole group reading instruction	
Building from Prior Learning	
Students have already had some experience with making inferences in the context of a separate reading lesson. This helps to solidify the idea that reading comprehensions strategies are not to be used in isolation from one another.	

Principles of Lesson Information and Activities EL Instruction Activity Steps 1. The teacher will conduct a think aloud to demonstrate how to make an inference by following this procedure: Define On the first spread of the book, there is textual and visual evidence that suggests that the main character is upset. Conduct the following think-aloud: "Look at this! I think that I can already make an inference. Now, it is important for me to remember that an inference is good for when I want to know something that perhaps the author intended for me to know, but that is not written, word-for-word, in the text. It helps me to create new knowledge about the text so that I can understand it better. This is how I do it. First, I scan this area to see if I can find any evidence. Well, I see that she kind of looks a little grumpy in the picture. I can also see from the text that she was crowded. In my own experience, I also felt crowded when I was a child because I shared a room with my sisters and brother, and they were always right there with me. I know that feeling, I was grumpy about it. So, I infer that she is also grumpy!" 2. Re-emphasize to the students that the think-aloud demonstrates the thought processes that happen when someone is inferring something and that they can make inferences by following a similar thought pattern on their Scaffolds (including L1 support), differentiation, modifications Modify The book is being read aloud to the students so that they are not limited by their independent reading level. Instead, they are able to expend less energy on decoding, and more energy on comprehension. **Formative Assessment** Ask the students, once again, to explain how to make an inference. Direct them to Modify refer to their graphic organizer and ask them if there are any connections between the layout of the organizer and how we are mentally generating inferences. If the students do not appear to be clear yet on how to make inferences, or what an inference is, then conduct another think-aloud about another inference that is made in the next one or two spreads. Practice/Application Estimated Time: 25 minutes Focus Objective (#): 1, 3 Focus Language Domains: □Reading □Writing □Listening □Speaking Grouping: ☐ Independent Work □ Whole class □ Pair ☐ Small Group Reason for grouping:

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□ First langua	•	□ Reading level	□ Content understanding	□ Interest	□ Other: The whole class can enjoy and analyze the book, regardless of individual reading level.	
Buildin	g from Prior Learn	ing				
a separ strateg	ts have already had ate reading lesson les are not to be use ey have listened to	. This helps to sed in isolatio	solidify the idea n from one anoth	that reading coner.	omprehension	
are mo	re familiar with thi	•		_		
3.	Read the remaining Remember to focus anticipated. When the Spanish translate, if they a meanings and come what does when wo Do you the What does Remember to	us on parts of a language oc are able, to propose this word mould you use it aink that the ages the word mould ask for insightison and cont the discussion	the text where sours in the text, a covide the class when words: the words: the words without picked the ake you think of the text from all stude the text between langer.	sk for the stud ith new insight best word her nts, regardless guages, all chil	ents to ts about the e? of language. dren should	Cultivate
	evidence and mal scaffolding by par for evidence and experiences. After the book is discussion about	king inference using on each think about h concluded, er	s on their own. If spread and promow the evidence courage all stude	not, then prov pting the stud relates to their ents to particip	vide ents to look prior ate in a	
Coeffel	to inform those in		ontintion modifi	cations		
Scarrol	ds (including L1 su	pport), aimer	entiation, modifi	cations		
look fo	nts are experienci evidence and thir ilitate inferring.	-		•	-	Modify

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If students are experiencing difficulty with articulating their thoughts, provide them with verbal sentence stems that can help them better organize their thoughts to facilitate speech: • I thought that this was happening because • This reminded me of when		
Formative Assessment		
Listen to the speech of the students to listen for their use of vocabulary that is focused on during the lesson. Consider the inferences that the students have made, and the evidence that they provide to justify them. Inferences are extremely personal, so make sure to focus on whether they are supported by evidence or not during assessment. Remember not to disregard any inferences.		Cultivate
Wrap-Up/Evaluation	1	
Estimated Time: 15 minutes		
Focus Objective (#): 2, 4		
Focus Language Domains: □Reading □Writing □Listening □Speaking		
Grouping:		
□ Independent Work □ Pair □ Small Group □ Whole class		
Reason for grouping: □ First □ English □ Reading □ Content □ Interest □ Other:		
language proficiency level understanding Give students time to create individual written responses, and then discuss		
Building from Prior Learning		
Aside from students having gradually gained even more experience with inferring, this section specifically focuses on having students make connections between the content of the text and their own lives in a holistic way. Activity Steps		
 The students will be given a prompt, "How did this book remind you of your life?" 		Apply
2. The students will be asked to be as descriptive as possible when describing a		
life event that they have experienced. 3. Provide the students with a few sentence stems to get them started:		
This book reminded me of the time when		Modify

Lesson Information and Activities	Principles of EL Instruction
 When I read this book, I felt like This is how this book is similar to something that happened in my life 4. They students will receive ten minutes to compose a quick, written response to the literature, at least four complete sentences long. 5. After the students are finished composing their responses, the class will have five minutes to discuss their connections and responses to the text. 6. Collect the responses and the graphic organizers to review them. Look for evidence that the lesson objectives have been met. Plan further instruction based upon the findings. 	
Scaffolds (including L1 support), differentiation, modifications Provide sentence stems as necessary, and adapt them to the specific needs of the	
students that are in need of them. During the discussion, make sure to give adequate response time to children who	Modify
need time to carefully select the words that they are going to use. Extension Activities/Assignments	-
During independent reading time, the students will select a book that is appropriate for their reading level. This week, they will focus on making inferences using the graphic organizer. Graphic organizers for the other, previously addressed reading comprehension strategies will also be provided so that the students can practice using the strategies at the same time.	Modify
As an extension, the students may choose to write their own stories with a focus on conveying messages without writing them explicitly in their texts.	Cultivate
Bonus Points: If the extension activity is completed, the parents of the students will visit the class and an author's spotlight will be implemented in class. The students will show-case their writing, and invite parents to make inferences and guesses about the messages that the students were trying to convey in their writing. This will help illustrate to the students that writing is often open to interpretation, and that different audiences may construct different meanings from their writings.	Cultivate
Reflection:	
I have not implemented this lesson in a class. I would, however, like to implement it to see what changes would need to be made to improve it. I have written lesson plans on inference before, and I used those to inform and guide the way that this lesson was written, although this lesson focuses more heavily on language, and allowing students opportunities to develop all four domains of language. This lesson also is centered on a bilingual text, which I have never used before. I would be interested to know how students would respond to this text.	Cultivate

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Source:	
Martinez, A. (2014). Inference Minilesson. San Antonio, TX.	





Book title:	 	
Author:		

Evidence I found	My prior knowledge about the evidence	My inference

Words I would like to remember or ask about: