

Department of Education
English Department
Designed Content Lessons



*“The moment you doubt whether you can fly,
you cease forever to be able to do it.”*

Curricular Alignment

Unit: 5.3 My Neighborhood

Theme: Reading Comprehension, Main Idea and Details

I- Objectives:

While the students engage in this weekly lesson, they will be able to:

1. Read both guided and individually to gain new vocabulary and apply it correctly in a new context.
2. Identify, state, and paraphrase the main idea or topic and important details from read alouds of a variety of simple literary texts.
3. Recognize and analyze non-fiction text features to build and enhance comprehension.
4. Identify and employ a variety of sentence types and verbs and to communicate effectively in writing.

II- Standards and Expectations

Reading

5.R.1 Use in-depth critical reading to describe, explain, and evaluate cultural identity, and relationships, referring to details in a text. Recognize supporting details from the texts.

5.R.3L Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story.

5.R.9L Compare and contrast the treatment of similar themes and topics (e.g., opposition of good and evil) and patterns of events (e.g., the quest) in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures.

5.R.FS.12 Know and apply phonics and word analysis skills to decode words.

Writing

5.W.4 Develop and strengthen writing by applying appropriate sentence structure and word order.

Language

5.LA.4a Use context clues and other strategies to help determine word meaning.

5.LA.5c Use the relationship between particular words to better understand the words.

Reading Comprehension Lesson

The Mermaids' Lagoon: Excerpt from Peter Pan by J.M. Barrie

Introduction:

In the book Peter Pan, Peter appears to Wendy one night and tries to convince her to leave London and go to Neverland with him. Neverland is an **imaginary** country filled with **mythical creatures** and “Lost Boys” who refuse to grow up. One of the ways in which Peter Pan tempts her to join him is by telling her that there are **mermaids** in Neverland. Wendy is very excited by the idea of getting to see mermaids.

After Wendy and her brothers join Peter and the Lost Boys in Neverland, Peter often disappears and returns “with mermaid **scales** still sticking to him, and yet he’s not able to say for certain what had been happening. Later, when Wendy is badly shot with an arrow, Peter begs her to get better, so he can show her the mermaids.

What can be inferred by reading the introduction?

- Wendy and her brothers want to see mermaids.
- Peter does not like the mermaids.
- Wendy doesn't want to see mermaids.



Vocabulary in Context:

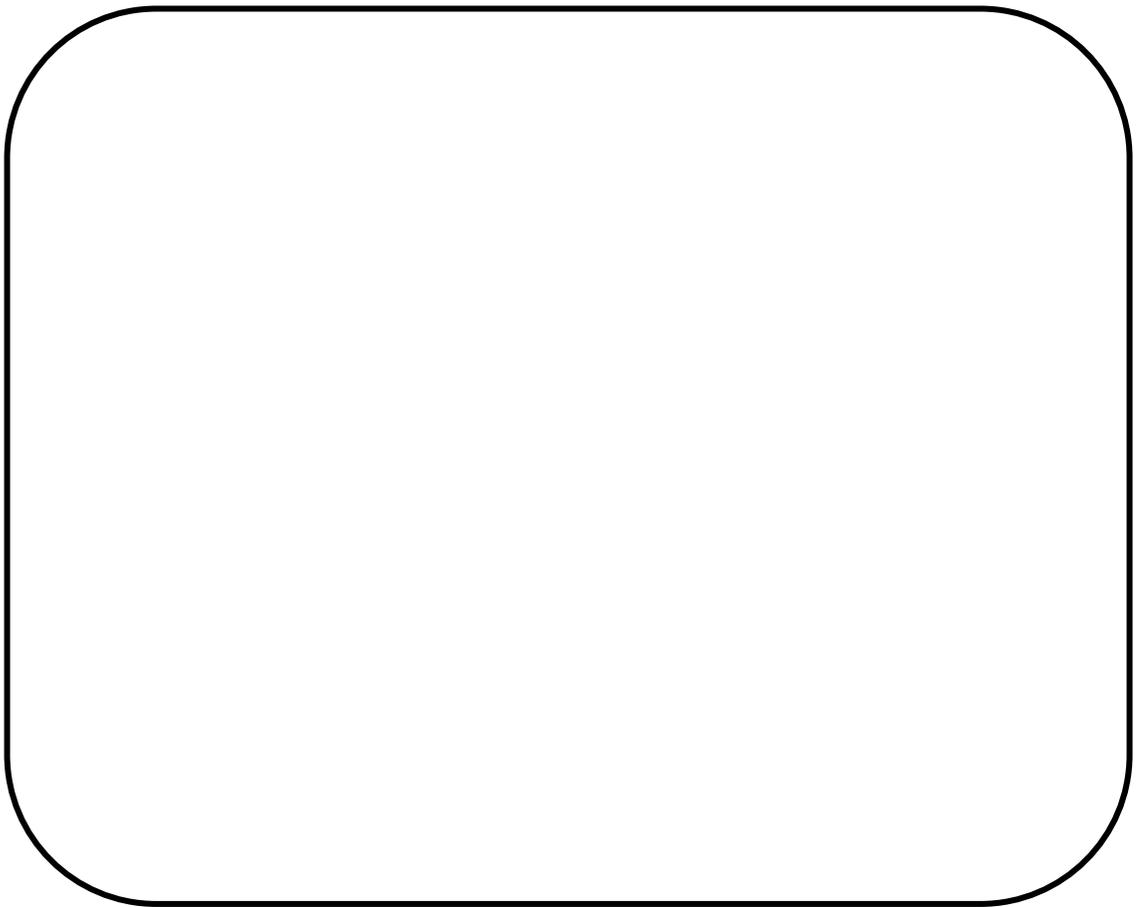
- **Mermaids** are **mythical creatures** with the upper body of a woman and the tail of a fish, covered in **scales**. Mermaids or sirens are usually described as beautiful and musical beings. They are said to have such lovely voices that sailors are drawn to them by their songs. Some stories also claim that mermaids can predict the future.
- **Mythical creatures**, like dragons and fairies, are **imaginary**, that means are not real, and form part of folktales and fantasy stories

I- Activity:

Think of other mythical creatures like the mentioned above

1. Which is your favorite and why? _____

2. Illustrate it with a drawing and describe the creature by writing two sentences.



1. _____

2. _____



The Mermaid Lagoon

(1) If you shut your eyes and are a **lucky** one, you may see at times a **shapeless** pool of lovely **pale** colors suspended in the **darkness**; then if you squeeze your eyes tighter, the pool begins to take shape, and the colors become so **vivid** that with another squeeze they must go on fire. But just before they go on fire you see the **lagoon**. This is the nearest you ever get to it on the

According to paragraph one, "Neverland is **an imaginary place**." Which detail from this paragraph indicates that Neverland is an imaginary place?

- a) "see the surf and hear the mermaids singing"
- b) "pool of lovely pale colors"
- c) "the nearest you ever get to it on mainland"

mainland, just one heavenly moment; if there could be two moments you might see the **surf** and hear the mermaids singing.

(2) The children often spent long summer days on this lagoon, swimming or **floating** most of the time, playing the mermaid games in the water, and so forth. You must not think from this that the mermaids were on friendly terms with them: on the contrary, it was among Wendy's lasting **regrets** that all the time she was on the island she never had a **civil** word from one of them. When she stole softly to the edge of the lagoon she might see them by the score, especially on Marooners' Rock, where they loved to **bask, combing** out their hair in a lazy way that quite irritated her; or she might even swim, on **tiptoe** as it were, to within a yard of them, but then they saw her and **dived**, probably splashing her with their tails, not by accident, but intentionally.

(3) They treated all the boys in the same way, except of course Peter, who **chatted** with them on Marooners' Rock by the hour and sat on their tails when they got **cheeky**. He gave Wendy one of their combs.

(4) The most **haunting** time at which to see them is at the turn of the moon, when they **utter** strange **wailing** cries; but the lagoon is dangerous for mortals then, and until the evening of which we have now to tell, Wendy had never seen the lagoon by moonlight, less from fear, for of course Peter would have accompanied her, than because she had strict rules about everyone being in bed by seven. She was often at the lagoon, however, on sunny days after rain, when the mermaids come up in extraordinary numbers to play with their bubbles. The bubbles of many colors made in rainbow water they treat as balls, hitting them **gaily** from one to another with their tails, and trying to keep them in the rainbow till they burst. The goals are at each end of the rainbow, and the keepers only are allowed to use their hands. Sometimes a dozen of these games will be going on in the lagoon at a time, and it is quite a pretty **sight**.

Activity II: After Reading the story, answer the following exercises on details carefully.

1. Read paragraph 2 and tell which are the activities the boys did in the lagoon:

- a) combing their hair
- b) swimming, floating, and playing mermaid games
- c) splashing their tails

2. According to paragraph 4, why do you think Wendy was not seen the lagoon by moonlight before?

- a) She was very strict about bedtime.
- b) Peter would not accompany her.
- c) She was afraid.



3. List three or more things that the mermaids often do in the lagoon.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____



4. Write three words would you use to describe the mermaid's behavior.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

5. If you were Wendy, how would you describe the mermaids to someone outside of Neverland? You can use details from the text to support your answer.

Activity III

A. Vocabulary: Match each word with its meaning.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ____ 1. Vivid | a. lively, intense |
| ____ 2. bask | b. opposite |
| ____ 3. contrary | c. not quickly forgotten |
| ____ 4. utter | d. without defined form |
| ____ 5. haunting | d. make a sound with the voice |
| ____ 6. wailing | e. insolent |
| ____ 7. cheeky | f. lie exposed to warmth or light |
| ____ 8. shapeless | g. howling |

B. Choose the best antonym for each word.

1. regrets

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| a) remorse | b) comforts | c) concerns |
|------------|-------------|-------------|

2. civil

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| a) unkind | b) refined | c) humane |
|-----------|------------|-----------|

3. sight

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| a) visibility | b) seeing | c) blindness |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|

4. darkness

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| a) dimness | b) brightness | c) blackness |
|------------|---------------|--------------|

5. gaily

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------|
| a) cheerfully | b) merrily | c) sadly |
|---------------|------------|----------|

C. Write a sentence with each on of the following words:

1. pale - _____

2. lucky - _____

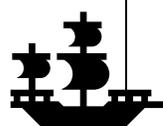
3. tiptoe- _____

4. imaginary - _____

5. combing - _____

D. Draw to illustrate the following terms:

<p>1. lagoon</p>	<p>2. dive</p>	<p>3. mermaid</p>
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E. Adjectives are words used to describe. Go back to the story and choose five characters from the words in bold. Write the word that they are describing.

Example: **vivid** colors

1. _____

4. _____

2. _____

5. _____

3. _____

Activity IV- Story Mapping and Sequence of Events:

Title: _____

Author: _____



Characters:	Characteristics:
1. Main Character: a. _____	_____
2. Secondary Characters: a. _____ b. _____	_____

Where does the story take place?

What is the problem in the story?



Organize events in order.

____ Peter Pan gave Wendy a mermaid's comb.

____ The children played mermaid games in the lagoon.

____ Mermaids hit the rainbow water bubbles like balls.

____ Wendy went to the lagoon mostly in sunny days after the rain.

How does the story end?



Activity V- Reflection:

Read Carefully the following quotes from the Story Peter pan and briefly explain what they might mean. Write in complete sentences.

1. *“All the world is made of faith, and trust, and pixie dust.”*

2. *“The moment you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever to be able to do it.”*
