

Unit 6/Week 1

Title: The Story of Jumping Mouse

Suggested Time: 5 days (45 minutes per day)

Common Core ELA Standards: RL.5.1, RL.5.2, RL.5.3, RL.5.4, RL.5.6;
RF.5.4; W.5.2, W.5.4, W.5.9; SL.5.1, SL.5.4; L.5.1, L.5.2, L.5.4

Teacher Instructions

Refer to the Introduction for further details.

Before Teaching

1. Read the Big Ideas and Key Understandings and the Synopsis. Please do **not** read this to the students. This is a description for teachers, about the big ideas and key understanding that students should take away **after** completing this task.

Big Ideas and Key Understandings

By holding onto hope and facing your fears even in times of distress or hardship you can overcome your obstacles by goal setting, perseverance, and determination.

Synopsis

The Story of Jumping Mouse is a legend told by the Native Americans of the Great Plains. This is a tale of a compassionate, courageous mouse that has the dream of reaching a far-off land. During his journey he encounters several animals. These characters try to discourage Jumping Mouse from continuing on his travels. Despite their negativity, Jumping Mouse maintains hope as he continues to follow his dream. He demonstrates compassion toward the others throughout the story. In the end, he meets his goal of reaching the far-off land. He is rewarded for his determination and unselfishness and becomes a magnificent, soaring eagle.

2. Read entire main selection text, keeping in mind the Big Ideas and Key Understandings.
3. Re-read the main selection text while noting the stopping points for the Text Dependent Questions and teaching Vocabulary.

During Teaching

1. Students read the entire main selection text independently.
2. Teacher reads the main selection text aloud with students following along. (Depending on how complex the text is and the amount of support needed by students, the teacher may choose to reverse the order of steps 1 and 2.)
3. Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions and returning to the text. A variety of methods can be used to structure the reading and discussion (i.e.: whole class discussion, think-pair-share, independent written response, group work, etc.)

Text Dependent Questions

Text Dependent Questions	Evidence-Based Answers
The young mouse enjoys listening to stories the old ones tell. • Reread page 510 to find out what his favorite tale was to hear. As a result of listening to these stories, what was his aspiration?	The young mouse’s favorite story was the tale of the far-off land because it sounded so wonderful. The young mouse began to dream of one day leaving his home off land and wouldn’t be content until he did.
Reread pages 510 and 511. What are two ways that Magic Frog helped the mouse?	Magic Frog helped the mouse cross the river by transforming his legs into powerful new legs.
What did Magic Frog say Jumping Mouse would have to do in order to reach the far-off land? (Pg. 511)	On the bottom of page 511 Magic Frog says “You will encounter hardships on your way, but don’t give up. You can reach the far-off land if you keep home alive.” Magic frog lets the mouse know that he must persevere to reach his goals and dreams.
On page 512, Jumping Mouse meets a new character, the fat mouse, who discourages Jumping Mouse: “Dreams,” said the fat mouse scornfully, “I used to have such dreams, but all I ever found was desert.” Using context clues, what does the word scornfully mean?	Scornful means being disrespectful, and mocking. Jumping mouse may need to model or act out in order for students to understand).

<p>What did fat mouse say to discourage Jumping Mouse?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fat mouse stated, “I used to have such a dream. I ever found was desert. Why go jumping all the way when everything anyone needs is right here?” He was discouraged because he never met his goals. He doesn’t think that Jumping Mouse would be able to.
<p>What does fat mouse’s response help you infer about his personality? (Pg. 513)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When students infer they should be coming to a conclusion that fat mouse’s dreams didn’t come true. He is hopeless. He no longer wants adventure and is satisfied on his dream. He is satisfied staying in his home.
<p>Reread pages 513-514. Why does Jumping Mouse decide to leave fat mouse and continue on his journey?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He believes it is something he has to do. • After seeing his reflection, he realizes that he is as the fat, old mouse, which would keep him from his goal. • On page 514 the text states, “Its time for me to go. Jumping Mouse. “I didn’t come all this way to stop under a berry bush.” • He discovers that snake found fat mouse and he lost hope of finding his dream and now his life.
<p>On page 514, Jumping Mouse continues on his journey and he meets another animal on page 515. What does the bison’s response help you infer about his personality?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bison thinks he is going to die because he is in a poison stream and is now blind. He says that he can’t find tender grass to eat or sweet water to drink. • The text states on page 515, “Jumping Mouse was wondrous a beast so helpless.” This quote shows that Jumping Mouse was sad that such a strong, beautiful animal was completely given up hope.
<p>How does Jumping Mouse react to the bison’s hardships or difficulties? (Pg. 515)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jumping Mouse decides to help the bison by giving him his sight.
<p>How did the bison show his appreciation to Jumping Mouse for his generous gift of sight? (Pg. 515)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bison protected Jumping Mouse and guided him to the mountain by allowing him to walk underneath the rocks. He would not be seen by predators.
<p>As the bison and Jumping Mouse part on page 516, why does Jumping Mouse continue on his journey even though he no longer has his sight?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On page 516, the text states, “There will be a way. Jumping Mouse. “Hope is alive within me.” He believes that even without his sight he will be able to reach his goal and the far-off land.

<p>What does the wolf’s response on page 516 help you infer about his personality?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jumping Mouse asks the wolf to help him on a far-off land. The wolf explains that he would no longer have a sense of smell. • He said he was proud and lazy and misused his sense of smell. Without his sense of smell he is hopeless and has no end. (Page 517)
<p>How does Jumping Mouse react to wolf’s story? What does he decide to do? (Pg. 517)</p>	<p>Jumping Mouse feels sorry for wolf. He makes a decision to use his sense of smell.</p>
<p>How did wolf respond to Jumping Mouse’s gift on page 517?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wolf howls for joy. • He enjoys sniffing the air and taking in the many different fragrances. • He protects Jumping Mouse and guides him through the mountains to the far-off land.
<p>On pages 518 and 519 Magic Frog reappears. What does he say that indicates that Jumping Mouse should be rewarded for his determination? How does Magic Frog reward Jumping Mouse?</p>	<p>Magic Frogs tell Jumping Mouse, “Your unselfishness has brought you great hardship, but it is that selflessness and compassion that has brought you to the far-off land. This quote helps the reader understand that Magic Frog is impressed by Jumping Frog’s actions and character.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magic Frog asks Jumping Mouse to trust him and Jumping Mouse turns into a magnificent creature to explore the far-off land.

Vocabulary

	KEY WORDS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTANDING	WORDS WORTH KNOWING General teaching suggestions are provided
<p>TEACHER PROVIDES DEFINITION not enough contextual clues provided in the text</p>	<p>Page 510 - content, perilous Page 511 - despair Page 516 - cautiously Page 519 - compassion</p>	<p>Page 512 - aspiration, snorted Page 514 - boulder Page 516 - hooves</p>

<p>STUDENTS FIGURE OUT THE MEANING suffi cient context clues are provide d in the text</p>	<p>Page 510 - shivers, dismay, swayed Page 513 - scornfully Page 517 - fragrances</p>	<p>Page 511 - encounter, hardships Page 516 - courage, cooperation</p>
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Culminating Task

- Re-Read, Think, Discuss, Write
- *What goals did the main character, Jumping Mouse, set? What obstacles did he encounter? How did he overcome those challenges? Using specific examples and quotes from the story, write an essay describing Jumping Mouse and his hardships. (You may want to organize your thoughts by using a character map).*

Answer: (Responses may vary, but should include the below information.)

Jumping Mouse set a goal to reach the far-off land.

- The first hardship was crossing the river. Magic Frog helps him cross the river safely by floating on a leaf. He also magically gives him more powerful legs.
- His next obstacle is crossing the desert safely. He does this by avoiding the “shadows” by hopping quickly from bush to bush.
- Then he had to avoid the snake. He travels throughout the night and by the next morning he safely reached the grassy plain.
- He gives his sense of sight away to the bison. This is resolved when the bison offers to protect Jumping Mouse and guide him to the mountains.

- After that, his obstacle is crossing the mountains. He gave his sense of smell away to the wolf. The wolf thanks him by also providing protection and guides him through the mountains to the far-off land.
- His last obstacle is managing to survive once he reaches the far-off land. This is resolved when Magic Frog turns him into an eagle, free to live in the far-off land forever.

Additional Tasks

- *What role does cooperation play in helping Jumping Mouse and the other animals overcome difficulty? Write a paragraph describing how the animals cooperate with Jumping Mouse.*

Answer: Magic Frog taught Jumping Mouse the importance of sharing so Jumping Mouse gave his eyesight to the bison and his sense of smell to the wolf. Determination and help from others help Jumping Mouse overcome obstacles in order to reach his goal. Hope motivates during tough times.

- *What does the proverb, "It is better to give than to receive," mean and how does it apply to this story? Provide evidence from the text to support your thinking. Give another example, either from real-life or another text, where this proverb is applicable.*

Answer: (Responses to the second question may vary.) The proverb means that you can get satisfaction and good things from giving rather than getting things. Even though everyone loves to receive gifts, it feels better to give to those that are in need. Whenever Jumping Mouse gives unselfishly, he sacrifices one of his senses. He keeps giving of himself, but never loses hope of reaching the far-off land. He seems to believe that if he does what is right, he will be okay. Jumping Mouse is rewarded for his unselfishness and compassion by becoming an eagle.

- *Throughout the story, Jumping Mouse is concerned about the dangerous shadows that live in the sky. What are these shadows and why are they a danger to Jumping Mouse. Research predators to mice in this area and then relate back to the story and how the other characters helped protect the mouse from those predators.*

Answer: The shadows are the mouse's predators. Predators hunt their prey and the mouse is their prey, therefore Jumping Mouse is in danger throughout the story. (Ironically), when the mouse becomes an eagle he is now the thing he most feared.

Note to Teacher

- Legends are stories told from people around the world that often involve magic. These tales have been passed down from generation to generation in order to teach lessons based on a particular culture, wisdom, and values.

Name _____ Date _____

“The Story of Jumping Mouse”

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2. Reread pages 510 and 511. What are two ways that Magic Frog helped the mouse?
3. What did Magic Frog say Jumping Mouse would have to do in order to reach the far-off land?
(Pg. 511)
4. On page 512, Jumping Mouse meets a new character, the fat mouse, who discourages Jumping Mouse: “Dreams,” said the fat mouse scornfully, “I used to have such dreams, but all I ever found was desert.” Using context clues, what does the word scornfully mean?
5. What did fat mouse say to discourage Jumping Mouse?

