**Lesson Plan: Text Features**

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| **CCSS Connections:****ELA 7** |

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| **3** | **4** | **5** |
| Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur). | Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears. | Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently. |

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| **Materials** | * Any *Inspire My Kids* story that includes text features. A suggested list is attached.
* “Text Features” worksheet
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| **Duration** | * Approximately 75 minutes
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| **Grade Level** | * 3rd-5th
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|  | **Activities** |
| **Objective** | **I will use text features to locate key facts or information in a text.**  |
| **Mini-lesson/ vocab****15 min.** | **Introduce text features appropriate to your grade level; specifically ones that match the article.*** Choose a familiar book that includes the targeted text features. Make a list on chart paper of a few text features on which you’d like to focus for this lesson. It is best to keep these to just a few. Consider choosing from the following: title, photo, heading, caption, chart, graph, bold print, italics, underlined text, chart, graph, diagram, timeline, interactive elements)
* As you introduce a text feature, make a chart listing the text feature, an example, and how it helps the reader. Students will use this for reference later. At this level, students should be specific about how the text features help the reader. For instance, “This graph shows the reader that gas prices have been increasing drastically since 2000, with the greatest increase happening in the year 2010.” (made-up example)
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| **Practice****40 minutes** | **Analyze the pictures and video.** * Most articles have photos and videos. These can generate interest in the subject. In addition, pictures are text features. Have students look at the pictures and tell things they can learn from the picture. This will help them start thinking about how text features help readers gain information.
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| **Read the chosen article.** * Read the article all the way through, periodically stopping to ask comprehension questions to check for understanding. This is an opportunity to discuss a particular character topic, if desired.
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| **Practice** * Review the discussion the class had about how the pictures helped the reader gain information.
* As a class, find another text feature. Use the anchor chart as reference. Have students record this text feature on their worksheet.
* Have students discuss with a partner how this text feature helps the reader locate information. Again, have students use the anchor chart as reference.
* Discuss answers as a class and have students record their answers in the graphic organizer.
* Have students write a question (using the 5W words for support, if needed) that can be answered using that particular text feature. Have students exchange papers with a partner and answer.
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| **Assess****10 min.**  | **Assess.*** Students locate another text feature and record it on their worksheet. In addition, they record how it helps the reader locate information. Students also write a question that could be answered.
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| **Wrap-up 10 min** | **Review.*** Students exchange papers and answer the questions written by their partners. Partners check for correct answers. Challenging questions should be rewarded/praised to encourage deeper thinking.
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**Using Text Features**

Use text features to understand what you read!

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| **Text Feature #1:** |
| How does this help you understand the text? | Write a question that can be answered using this text feature.  | Partner’s answer:  |
| **Text Feature #2:** |
| How does this help you understand the text? | Write a question that can be answered using this text feature.  | Partner’s answer:  |

Challenge:

Look for a place that you could **add** a text feature to this article! Draw or write about want you could add here. Tell a partner why you think it would improve the article.

**Resources**

All articles at [www.inspiremykids.com](http://www.inspiremykids.com) include a title. Almost all articles include a photo. Here are some articles that include additional text features, like graphics and graphs.

<http://inspiremykids.com/2015/lesson-learned-senior-class-donates-class-trip-money-to-help-principal-courtney-vashaw-fight-cancer/>

<http://inspiremykids.com/2014/zach-bonner-walks-the-walk-12-year-old-crosses-america-to-help-homeless/>

<http://inspiremykids.com/2015/hurricane-hazel-mccallion-91-year-old-mayor-and-hockey-player/>

<http://inspiremykids.com/2014/isaiah-austin-and-owen-gray/>