

My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar

Plot Connections – Grade Five

Ohio Standards Connection

Reading Applications: Literary Text

Benchmark C

Identify the elements of plot and establish a connection between an element and a future event.

Indicator 3

Identify the main incidents of a plot sequence and explain how they influence future action.

Lesson Summary:

Students identify main incidents of the plot sequence in My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar and explain how the specific events in the story influenced future actions of the characters. Using shared reading, students will refer to the attached plot outline to identify various elements. Each student selects a specific event in the plot and matches it to another related event. This matching activity allows students to pair themselves with other students who have selected a similar specific event from the book. The matches form pairs or groups of students who share their “connections” with the class. Students complete a graphic organizer and write a paragraph explaining a specific connection as post-assessment.

Pre-Assessment:

- Conduct a brief review of the elements of the plot outline: Introduction, Rising Action, Climax, etc.
- Divide students into small groups of three to four students and distribute the simple plot outline to each student. (**See *Plot Outline***)
- Ask each group to take turns reading from *My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar* or read the book together as a class. This may take more than one class period.
- Instruct students to select at least one event in the introduction or rising action that influences a future action and to write a sentence or two explaining their choice.
- Allow approximately five minutes for students (with their group members) to select a connection and compose an explanation for their choice.
- Have one student from each group share a connection identified by the group and explain how the connection works.
- Collect plot graphs to assess individual understanding.

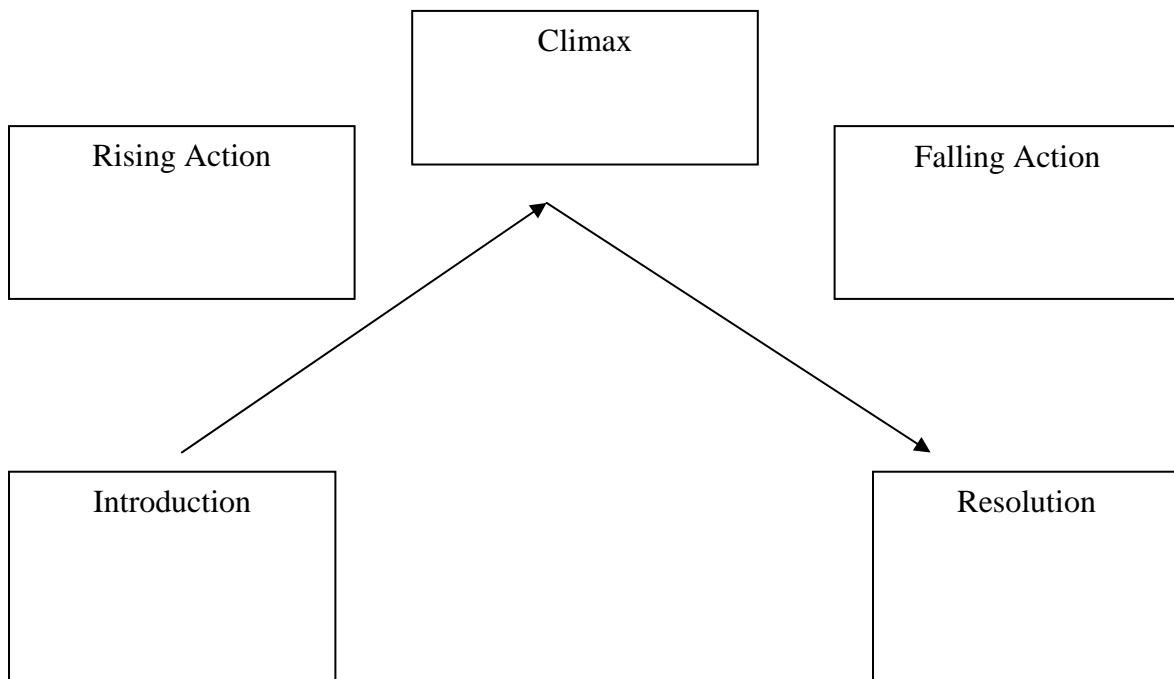
My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar Plot Connections – Grade Five

My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar Plot Outline

Name _____ Date _____

Directions:

- ◆ In your group, read *My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar*.
- ◆ Place the events of the story on the plot graph.
- ◆ Select at least one event in the introduction or rising action that influences a future action.
- ◆ Write a sentence or two explaining your choice.
- ◆ Discuss your findings with the group and agree on one example to share with the class.



Events you selected:

Explain how they connect:

My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar
Plot Connections – Grade Five

My Neighbor Is A Caterpillar
“Before” and “After” Story Organizer

Name _____

Date _____

Directions:

- ◆ List the main events in the “Before” column, including the actions and feelings of characters that happen before the climax.
- ◆ List the main events in the “After” column, including the actions and feelings of characters that happen after the climax.
- ◆ Think about how an action may affect a future action, a set of events may have a particular outcome or feelings may change. How were Michael’s feelings changed by his interaction with Mr. Jackson? Was Mr. Jackson changed by the interaction between the two? How?
- ◆ Draw connecting lines from events in the “Before” column to events in the “After” column.

Before (the climax)	After (the climax)

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Scoring Rubric

	Great Success 4	Success 3	Some Success 2	Needs Improvement 1
Graphic Organizer	Identifies all main events of the plot	Identifies most of the main events of the plot	Identifies a mixture of main and minor events of the plot	Identifies only one or more minor events of the plot
Paragraph Content	Identifies main “before” and “after” events, provides an exceptionally clear explanation of one of these connections and of how one affects the other.	Identifies some main “before” and “after” events, provides a clear explanation of one of these connections and of how one affects the other	Identifies at least one main “before” and “after” event, provides an unclear connection of how one event affects the other	Identifies no main “before” and “after” event, possibly provides a connection but without explanation
Paragraph Conventions	Contains no errors in grammar, usage or mechanics	Contains one error in grammar, usage or mechanics	Contains two errors in grammar, usage or mechanics	Contains three or more errors in grammar, usage or mechanics