

Common Core Standards - Resource Page

The resources below have been created to assist teachers' understanding and to aid instruction of this standard.

College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standard	Standard: RL.5.2 - Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.
R.CCR.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.	<p><u>Questions to Focus Learning</u></p> <p>How can a character's response to challenges help to determine the theme of a text? How does the speaker's voice help to determine theme in poetry?</p> <p>Identifying the theme of a story, drama, or poem helps the reader understand the message the author is trying to communicate. Readers analyze character actions and how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic to help determine the theme.</p> <p><u>Student Friendly Objectives</u></p> <p><i>Knowledge Targets</i></p> <p>I know the theme is the central idea or underlying message of the text. I know the theme of a story is woven all the way through a story, drama, or poem. The characters actions, interactions, and motivations all reflect the theme. I know the theme is usually not stated directly in the text, but must be inferred from details in the text. I know that a character's response to challenges (actions/reactions) supports the overall theme of a story, drama, or poem. I know how a speaker addresses a particular subject contributes to the theme. Students must write a summary using details from the text. I know a summary contains only the most important details from the text.</p> <p><i>Reasoning Targets</i></p> <p>I can determine the theme of the text using key details to support my thinking. I can explain how a character's response to challenges in a text impact the theme of a story, drama, or poem. I can explain how the speaker's reflection on a topic impacts the theme. I can write a summary using details from the text.</p>

Vocabulary

drama
inference/infer
summarize/summary
theme

Teacher Tips

[Video](#) - **Title:** Help Teachers Grades 3-12 Rise to the CCSS's Challenge of Teaching Higher Level Comprehension Skills and Literary Traditions **Synopsis:** In this workshop, Mary Ehrenworth celebrates the fact that the Common Core Standards will help teachers to nudge students to develop the interpretation skills that are so important. Increasingly, readers in reading workshops are becoming avid readers, and this is a wonderful thing. But sometimes, these readers are mostly plot junkies, reading to learn what happens next. In this session, Mary suggests five or six kinds of work that teachers will want to do to support students becoming readers who read also to make meaning. That is, a student who is reading *Wringer* in just the same way in which he read *Nate the Great* is probably missing out on a lot of opportunities!

[Video](#) - **Title:** Common Core Aligned Read Aloud to Support High-Level Comprehension and Interpretation **Synopsis:** A video of Kathleen Tolan reading aloud *The Giving Tree* to support interpretation. You'll notice Kathleen demonstrating applying skills learned previously—envisionment, inferring character emotions, and prediction—and moving the students to synthesize and interpret the text. Through moves such as asking students how particular parts fit with the title and to reflect on the symbolism of the tree itself Kathleen guides students to question the deeper meaning of the story. By the end of the read aloud, you'll see students speaking in metaphors, discussing symbolism, and seeing social issues within the text.

[Lesson](#) - Explain the main idea of a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Describe the emotion or tone of a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Identify a theme in a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Identify the author's purpose in a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Classify various types of figurative language found in a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Identify the realistic elements of realistic fiction by making personal connections.

[Lesson](#) - Use recurring events in order to identify and examine a theme in a work of realistic fiction.

[Lesson](#) - Identify the fantastical elements in a work of fantasy fiction.

[Lesson](#) - Explain the theme of a story by analyzing the effects of a character's decision.

[Lesson](#) - Examine how a character's past impacts their present actions, thoughts, and feelings.

[Lesson](#) - Explain how historical events and details affect characters.

[Lesson](#) - Identify the fantastical elements in a work of fantasy fiction.

[Lesson](#) - Explain the effects of a character's decision on the plot.

[Lesson](#) - Explain the theme of a story by analyzing the effects of a character's decision.

[Lesson](#) - Identify a theme in a poem.

[Lesson](#) - Describe the emotion or tone of a poem.

Vertical Progression

RL.K.2 - With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.

RL.1.2 - Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.

RL.2.2 - Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.

RL.3.2 - Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

RL.4.2 - Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

RL.6.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

RL.7.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.8.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.9-10.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.11-12.2 - Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.

The above information and more can be accessed for free on the [Wiki-Teacher](#) website.

Direct link for this standard: [RL.5.2](#)