

# **Analyzing Themes and Central Ideas**

# Today's Standard

11-12.RL.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.

#### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing themes in classic literature such as 'To Kill a Mockingbird'; Examining thematic development in modern novels like 'The Road'; Comparing themes in different works by the same author; Creating thematic maps for literature analysis; Discussing themes in book club or literature circles; Writing essays on thematic development in literature

#### Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to find and understand the main ideas in a story. We also talked about how these ideas change and work together as the story goes on.

# **Common Stumbling Blocks**

Sometimes, kids think that the main ideas in a story are always clearly stated, but often they are hidden. Another tricky part is that a story can have more than one main idea.

# Quiz Me

- What is a theme?
- Can a story have more than one theme?
- How do themes change in a story?
- What is a summary?
- Why is it important to find themes?

# Help Me

A theme is like the big idea in a story. For example, if you read a story about friendship, the theme could be 'the importance of friends.' Knowing the themes helps us understand the story better and see how it relates to real life.