

Parent Guide to the

# Theme and Summary Analysis

# Today's Standard

5.RL.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.

# Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing themes in popular movies or TV shows.; Discussing the moral or lesson in a book club.; Writing book reviews that include theme analysis.; Creating a storyboard to visualize a story's theme.; Comparing themes across different genres of literature.

#### Today I Learned

Today we learned how to find the theme of a story. The theme is the big message or lesson in the story.

## **Common Stumbling Blocks**

Sometimes kids think the theme is the same as the main idea, but the theme is the big message. Another mistake is thinking the theme is just one word, but it's really a full sentence.

#### Quiz Me

- What is a theme?
- How do characters help us find the theme?
- Can a theme be one word?
- What is the difference between the theme and the main idea?
- How do you summarize a story?

## Help Me

The theme is the big message or lesson in a story. For example, in many fairy tales, the theme might be 'good wins over evil.' You can find themes in movies and TV shows too!