

Parent Guide to the Standards

# Compare and contrast literature

## Today's Standard

6.W.9a - Apply grade 6 Reading standards to literature (e.g., "Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics").

#### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Discussing the themes of courage in 'Harry Potter' and 'Percy Jackson'; Comparing the structure of a poem and a short story about nature; Analyzing the portrayal of historical events in a novel and a play; Examining the treatment of similar themes in a fantasy story and a sci-fi novel

#### Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to compare and contrast different kinds of stories. We looked at how stories and poems can be similar and different.

## **Common Stumbling Blocks**

Sometimes, kids think that comparing means only finding differences, but it also means finding what's the same. Another tricky part is thinking that themes are always easy to see, but sometimes you have to look deeper.

#### Quiz Me

- What does it mean to compare two stories?
- Can you name a way that two stories can be the same?
- What is a theme in a story?
- How can you find the theme if it's not written down?
- Why is it important to compare and contrast stories?

# Help Me

When we compare and contrast stories, we learn more about them. For example, if you read a story about a brave hero and a poem about a brave animal, you can see how both talk about bravery, even if they are different. This helps us understand the big ideas in stories.