

Theme Analysis and Development

Today's Standard

8.RL.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.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing themes in novels and movies; Identifying central ideas in news articles; Understanding character motivations in plays; Connecting themes to personal experiences; Discussing themes in book clubs; Writing essays on theme development

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to find the main idea or theme in a story and see how it changes as the story goes on.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think the theme is the same as the plot, but the plot is what happens in the story, while the theme is the big idea behind it. Another tricky part is that themes are not always clearly stated and need to be figured out.

Quiz Me

- What is the main idea of the story?
- Can you tell me what happened in the story?
- Who are the main characters?
- Where does the story take place?
- What lesson did the characters learn?

Help Me

Understanding the theme of a story helps us see the big ideas and lessons that can be used in real life, like learning about friendship, bravery, or honesty.