



## Something Upstairs

by: Avi

Lesson Plans  
8 Days

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B&W TV, a rose is in sharp contrast to the  
littered lot, open/closed big/little

Lesson Plan  
Day 1

Background: Discuss the word “contrast.” Give examples of contrast by reading the poem in green Lit book. Write a couple of example sentences on board using the contrast words “while” and “whereas.”

Discuss possible meanings of the quote from Santayana.

Read the Author’s Explanation together and discuss.

Assign the first chapter and worksheet.

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Lesson Plan  
Day 2

Discuss PLOT (what do we know from the introduction, etc.) Display the plot diagram on the board. Discuss figurative language (Sim, Met, Pers). Write examples on the board. Discuss Symbol/Allegory using examples such as a cross and Isael’s freedom from slavery.

Background: Clues that point forward. Discuss various clues about Jesus death and resurrection before the events happened. (Micah 5:2, Isaiah 53) Disciples didn’t always get it. Some were not looking for it. Compare to looking for, and understanding clues that point forward. Point out a few clues in chapter 1.

Read chapter 2 and look for clues. Do the Literature Skills wkst.

Assign worksheets.

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Lesson Plan  
Day 3

Discuss predictions about the direction the book is going.

Background - Figures of speech. Review Similes. Find similes on the following pages. Write on board and then change to metaphors.

p. 10 Like the skins of tired bananas

p. 24 face, lined like a map of many roads

p. 29 glowing like smoldering, dark brown earth

p. 30 cringed back and, like melting ice, sank to the floor

p. 34 like a swimmer coming out of the water after a long pull

Assign chapters 3 and 4 and wkst.

Lesson Plan  
Day 4

Background: Characterization - How does the author get you to “know” a character? Discuss - 1) by what the character says and how he says it 2) by what the character does 3) by what the author says about the character. Practice skill by characterizing Kenny, based on selected passages from the book so far.

Background: Summarizing - Discuss summarizing as hitting the highlights in a concise way, like you do when someone asks you, “What did you do at school today?”

Practice summarizing by summarizing a recent day, event, movie, etc. Have the students see that their summary can be used as the main idea.

Read and summarize chapter 5 together in class.  
Assign chapter 6 and worksheet.

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Lesson Plan  
Day 6

Background: Review plot components, clues that point forward (look at earlier clues about Willinghast), similes and metaphors (find simile on page 96 and change it into a metaphor).

Assign chapters 7 and 8 and worksheet.

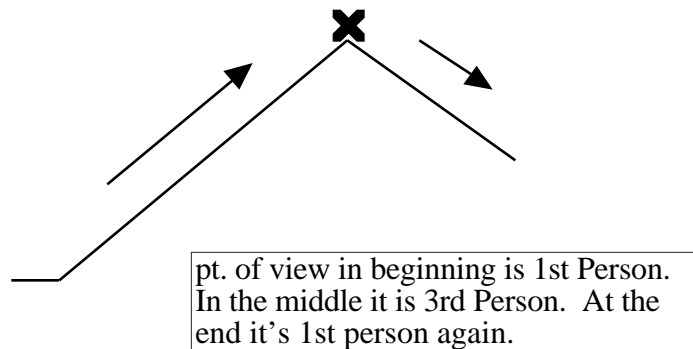
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Lesson Plan  
Day 7

No background - just correct worksheet

Discuss plot outline for the story. Discuss the following terms/parts:

introduction  
rising action/goal  
falling action  
climax  
conflict  
problems  
point of view  
setting  
author’s purpose



Assign chapter 9 and worksheet.

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Lesson Plan  
Day 8

**Correct worksheet and discuss the chapter.**

How did Kenny save Caleb? Again, what does the Santayana quote mean? (Did Kenny kill him the other times, too? - see page 10)

What is unrealistic about the book? What is realistic about the book?

Discuss opinions of book. Why a Keychain? (key - lets in; chain - makes you a slave)

Assignment: Skills Wkst on Simile and Metaphor. (Test tomorrow?)

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