

Lesson Plan Title: Wolves and Dogs

Developed by: Heidi Sloan, 2018 Teacher on the Trail™

Discipline / Subject: reading comprehension

Topic: compare/contrast

Grade Level: 2nd – 6th grades

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

Article on dogs and wolves
Compare/contrast worksheet
Mush by Patricia Seibert

Lesson Summary: Students read an article describing the similarities and differences of sled dogs and wolves. They locate compare/contrast signal words and text that demonstrates that comprehension strategy. They then are read another text, which can be compared/contrasted with the article.

Standards Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

Common Core:

ELA-Literacy/RI/2/9, 3/9, 4/6, 5/5

Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.

Virginia SOLs:

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional text and poetry. d) Compare and contrast settings, characters, and events.

4.5, 5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction, and poetry. Discuss the similarities and differences between a text and previously read materials (e.g., compare and contrast characters).

Learning objectives:

1. The student will comprehend the meaning of the article and compare/contrast the book *Mush* in a discussion.
2. The student will be able to locate compare/contrast signal words that indicate comparisons and differences between the main subjects of the article.

Assessment:

Method of assessment for learning:
Compare/contrast worksheet from each student

Discussion of comparisons and differences between the article and *Mush*.

Procedural Activities

1. Show class a photo of sled dogs and one of wolves
2. Ask students to indicate if they believe sled dogs are part wolf
3. Discuss similarities and differences between the two
4. Review noticing comparisons and contrasts in text; review that some articles, chapters, and entire books use the text structure of compare/contrast.
5. Pass out articles and compare/contrast worksheets to students; students may work individually or with a partner
6. Following the activity, discuss their findings
7. Read aloud *Mush* or another book on sled dogs; lead students in comparing/contrasting the article and the book

Materials Students Need:

“Are Sled Dogs Part Wolf?” article
Compare/contrast worksheet

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

Online photos of sled dogs and wolves

Other Information**Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:**

For special learners, record an oral reading of the article to which they can listen; provide visual cue vocabulary help for ESOL learners

Enrichment: students can research the classification of grey wolves and domestic dogs, listing the classification from general to specific. Ask that they write a conclusion statement from their research.