

Key Details

Mighty Muskrats: The Case of the Windy Lake - Grade 5 - Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

10 minutes Identify and explain the three physical causes that resolve the abandoned-boat clue.

PRODUCT

A three-detail cause-and-effect explanation supported by evidence.

Essential question: Which details explain how the boat reached the delta and why its rope was stretched across the mud?

Materials	Text to mark
• The book	• Passage 6 - Write the three-part explanation.

- Prepared passages: Passage 6, Passage 8, Passage 11, Passage 12
- Student response materials

Lesson sequence

1 Set the focus - 2 min Identify the three causes.

Prepared text:	Passages 8, 11, 12
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- Passage 8 - Write the three-part explanation.
- Passage 11 - Write the three-part explanation.
- Passage 12 - Write the three-part explanation.

2 Work the evidence - 5 min Match each cause to its effect on the boat or rope.

Prepared text:	Passages 6, 8, 11, 12 3 Make the student product - 3 min Write the three-part explanation.
Prepared text:	Passages 6, 8, 11, 12

Teacher key

Raised water freed the boat, the storm carried it to the delta, and a hawk stretched the rope while trying to lift it.

Support & extension

Above: Explain which clue most strongly changes the direction of the investigation and why.

Assessment

- Names all three causes.
- Explains the effect of each cause.
- Uses only information supported by the prepared passages.