

Why Pnina Keeps Believing A Snowman in Jerusalem - Grade 1 - One-sitting lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

PRODUCT

30 minutes Explain Pnina's sustained belief using an early statement and the later outcome as evidence. A short evidence-based explanation tracing what Pnina believes, why she keeps believing it, and what the ending confirms or complicates. Essential question: Why does Pnina keep believing she will see snow in Jerusalem?

Materials

- The book
- Two-column evidence organizer
- Pencil Text to mark
- Early rule - "my Abba never lies" / if he says it snows, it must snow
- Repeated requests - Abba answers Bezrat Hashem rather than a direct yes
- Ending - snow finally comes, but not enough for a snowman

Lesson sequence

1 Name the belief - 5 min Reread Pnina's early statement about Abba never lying. Have students state exactly what she believes about snow in Jerusalem. 2 Trace what keeps it alive - 7 min Review two later requests and Abba's repeated Bezrat Hashem. Ask what Pnina hears in those responses and what the words do not literally promise. 3 Test against another voice - 6 min Reread Hanaleah's disbelief and Bubby's very different attitude toward snow. Have students explain why neither one changes Pnina's rule. 4 Read the outcome - 7 min Reread the night snowfall and final two lines. Have students decide what the ending proves and what it does not prove about Abba's earlier answers. 5 Explain the belief - 5 min Students give or write a short explanation using one early detail and one ending detail.

Teacher key

Pnina keeps believing because she trusts her father's truthfulness and treats his statements that snow exists in Jerusalem, plus his repeated Bezrat Hashem, as enough reason to keep hoping. The ending confirms that snow does come; it does not show that Abba ever literally promised a snowman or a specific night. Support & extension

Support:

Use two preselected details: “my Abba never lies” and the final snowfall. Frame: “Pnina keeps believing because _____. At the end, _____.” Extension: Explain the difference between believing that snow can come and believing that Abba promised it would come for Pnina.

Assessment

- States Pnina's belief accurately
- Uses the early trust statement as evidence
- Uses the final snowfall as later evidence
- Distinguishes Abba's statements from a literal promise

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