

Because: Vocabulary in Context Because of an Acorn - Grade 1 - Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

PRODUCT

10 minutes Use a repeated contextual pattern to determine the meaning and function of because. A student-friendly definition of because plus one explanation of the contextual clue. Essential question: What does the word because signal in the line about the acorn?

Materials

- The book
- Prepared cited scenes
- Student response materials Text to mark
- Opening acorn scene
- A second scene using the same repeated causal wording

Lesson sequence

1 Notice the repeated word - 2 min Reread two scenes that use because. Have students point to the repeated word and say what relationship appears on either side of it. 2 Use the pattern as the clue - 5 min Compare the two scenes. Have students explain that because introduces a reason or cause and identify what clue in the repeated pattern supports that meaning. 3 Give the definition - 3 min Students give a student-friendly definition of because and name one scene that helped them work it out.

Teacher key

Because introduces a reason or cause. The repeated wording across the book shows one part of the chain being presented as the reason for the next. Support & extension

Support:

Use the frame: "Because tells me why ____ happens." Extension: Explain how the meaning would change if the repeated word were removed from one scene.

Assessment

- Defines because as introducing a reason or cause
- Connects the meaning to the repeated causal phrasing
- Names a source scene or clue used to determine the meaning

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