

Cookies Bite-Size Life Lessons

by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Summary

This beautifully illustrated book teaches the reader about character words through the context of baking cookies. From "PATIENT means waiting and waiting for the cookies to be done" to "UNFAIR means, you get a bite, and I get the rest"— you will love the way the author weaves in life lessons.

Skills Addressed

Word Meaning

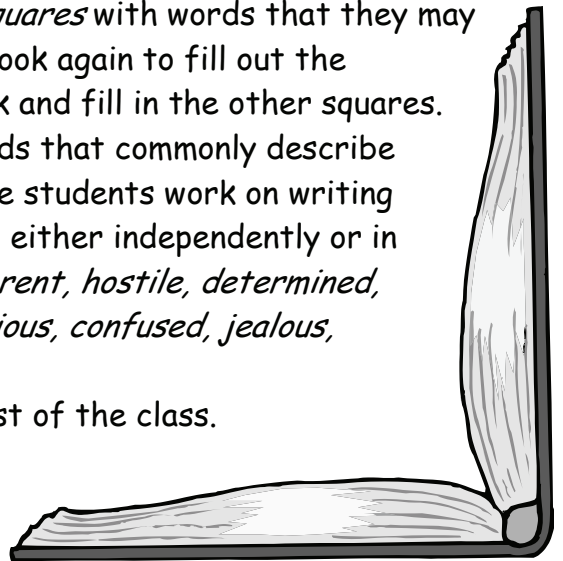
CCS: Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs) to better understand each of the words.

Strategy

Word Squares

Activity

1. Write some of the words from *Cookies Bite-Size Life Lessons* on the board or overhead transparency, chalkboard, or interactive board. Choose about 5 words that you think the students already know. (fair, unfair, polite, honest, wise)
2. Have the students fill in the *Word Squares* template with the word in the middle, a synonym for the word, an antonym for the word, a small graphic representation of the word, and leave the last one blank — a sentence example of the word.
3. Now read *Cookies Bite-Size Life Lessons* aloud to the students, and have them listen for the words, and write the sentence from the story — it doesn't have to be exact.
4. Next, have the students fill out 5 more *Word Squares* with words that they may not know, and have them listen as you read the book again to fill out the sentence examples first. Then have them go back and fill in the other squares.
5. It is now time for practice. Have a list of 10 words that commonly describe characters' feelings, actions, or emotions. Let the students work on writing their own stories using the words you have listed either independently or in small groups. Words to use: *anticipation, indifferent, hostile, determined, suspenseful, amazement, reckless, defiance, anxious, confused, jealous, bewildered, and cautious.*
6. Let the students share their stories with the rest of the class.



Making Connections

1. Think about some of the characters you have encountered in your reading and write a short paragraph explaining one of the characteristics you have learned about and how it relates to the character.
2. Do any of the words you have learned today describe you? Which ones? How?

Extensions for Relevancy

1. One's character plays a large role in life. Brainstorm some character words that the class feels every good citizen should possess.
2. Make a poster that expresses good characteristics vs. bad characteristics complete with examples of the characteristics as they apply to school.



Word Squares

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence

Synonym	Picture
Antonym	Sentence