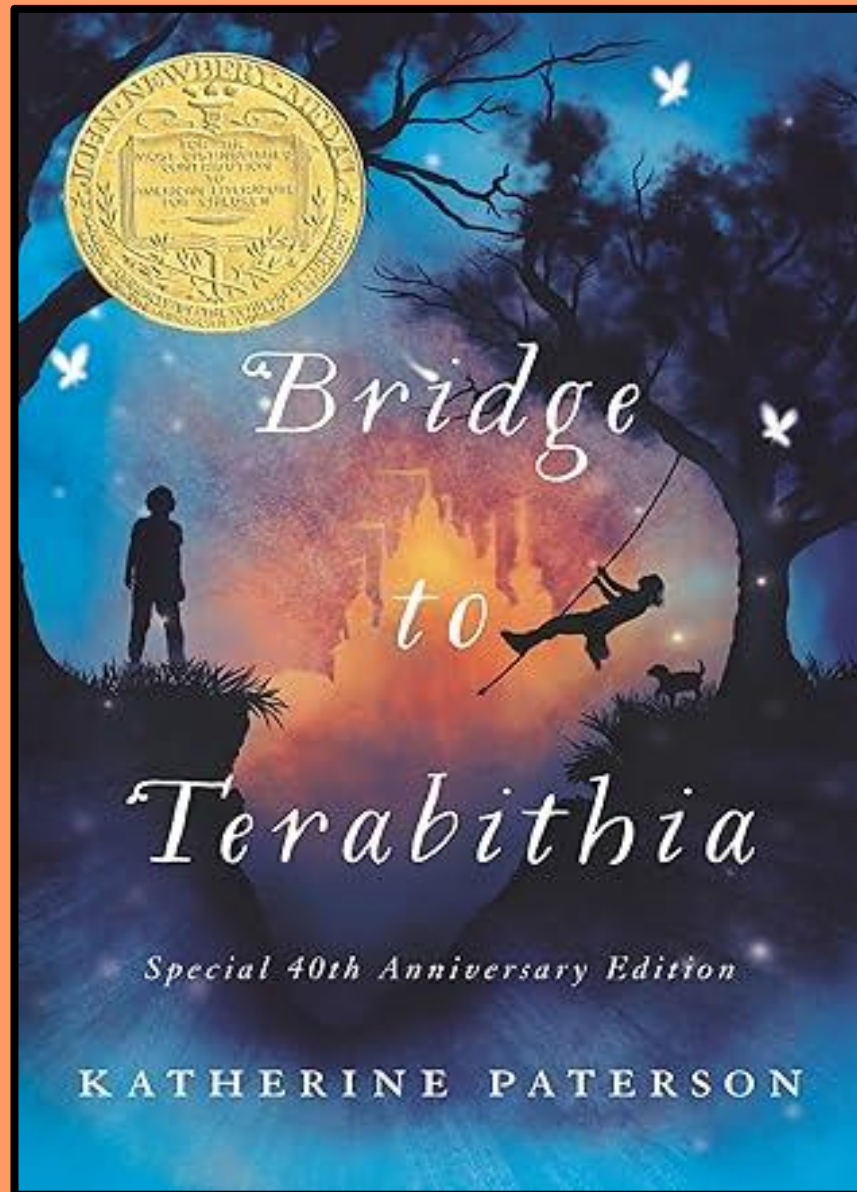


Grades 4-8  
Lesson Plan  
Love for One Another  
Bridge to Terabithia



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

<p><b>OBJECTIVES: CCSS-RL 4.3</b> Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character’s thoughts, words, or actions). <b>CCSS-RL 5.3</b> Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact). <b>CCSS-RL 6.3</b> Describe how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution. <b>CCSS-RL 7.3</b> Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text. <b>CCSS-RL 8.2</b> Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. <b>CCSS-ELA Literacy L: 4.5, 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5</b> Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p>		<p><b>STRATEGIES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Writing</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Write/Pair/Share</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Questions</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Large Group</li></ul>
<p><b>MATERIALS:</b></p>	<p>Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the Write/Pair/Share Activity; copies of the Vocabulary <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>; copies of Chapters 1-13 Check for Understanding Questions; copies of the Figurative Language Worksheet; copies of the Compare &amp; Contrast Character Traits Worksheet; copies of the You Are the Illustrator Activity; copies of the Grade 7 Theme-Bridge to Terabithia Writing Exercise; copies of the Grade 8 Theme-Bridge to Terabithia Writing Exercise; copies of Free to Be You and Me Lyrics</p>	
<p><b>Engage:</b> Hook the students</p>	<p>Hand out the Write/Pair/Share Activity. Explain the W/P/S directions. You will have <b>5 minutes</b> to answer the following questions in the space provided below. Have you ever become friends with someone you did not think you would like when you first met them? What changed your mind about that person? What criteria do you use when you choose your friends? At the end of 5 minutes, you will be paired with a partner, you will read your answer to your partner and they will read their response to you. A class discussion could follow by asking students to share their responses with the class. Lead the whole class discussion by answering the W/P/S yourself.</p>	
<p><b>Explore:</b> Students make sense of a concept through observations.</p>	<p>Play the YouTube video, <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>, Author-Katherine Paterson, Chapters 1-2 <a href="https://youtu.be/dwl7svyp29s?si=XKflf189L6EZkeVQ">https://youtu.be/dwl7svyp29s?si=XKflf189L6EZkeVQ</a> (26:25) Chapter 3 <a href="https://youtu.be/yRtYWtcz8Lw?si=mMcmZXpoSXAPOz77">https://youtu.be/yRtYWtcz8Lw?si=mMcmZXpoSXAPOz77</a> (15:55) Chapter 4 <a href="https://youtu.be/7iUy8uYQLYq?si=pNxEQ40ul1WGeVnb">https://youtu.be/7iUy8uYQLYq?si=pNxEQ40ul1WGeVnb</a> (27:58) Chapter 5-6 <a href="https://youtu.be/9GPBcf-saqA?si=4zLz7fhJ5IFSkqRW">https://youtu.be/9GPBcf-saqA?si=4zLz7fhJ5IFSkqRW</a> (23:48) Chapter 7 <a href="https://youtu.be/cwslSHJzU28?si=xOj3o6gxn3QK5CKh">https://youtu.be/cwslSHJzU28?si=xOj3o6gxn3QK5CKh</a> (19:16) Chapter 8-9 <a href="https://youtu.be/qU7mTmzvlyQ?si=Zf-ZF63s0IU9Av7j">https://youtu.be/qU7mTmzvlyQ?si=Zf-ZF63s0IU9Av7j</a> (22:17) Chapter 10 <a href="https://youtu.be/rJbQwW5P0_8?si=F5V8GKkuJJdra6xJ">https://youtu.be/rJbQwW5P0_8?si=F5V8GKkuJJdra6xJ</a> (12:27)</p>	

Remember-Honor-Teach

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

	<p>Chapter 11-12 <a href="https://youtu.be/DV0MMaXsV_Y?si=d7DUel-JUGaVuz62">https://youtu.be/DV0MMaXsV_Y?si=d7DUel-JUGaVuz62</a> (20:50)</p> <p>Chapter 13 <a href="https://youtu.be/Kh1lhYu57wc?si=NniBmNia8PXabJdV">https://youtu.be/Kh1lhYu57wc?si=NniBmNia8PXabJdV</a> (16:13)</p> <p>Hand out copies of the Chapters 1-13 Check for Understanding Questions as you play each corresponding chapter of the book. Allow students time to complete the activity.</p> <p>Hand out copies Figurative Language <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> Worksheet. Allow students time to complete the activity.</p> <p>Hand out Compare and Contrast Character Traits Worksheet. Allow the students time to complete the activity.</p> <p>Hand out the You are the Illustrator Drawing Activity. Allow the students time to complete the Activity.</p> <p>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Theme Analysis Writing Activity <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>. Allow the students time to complete the Activity.</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Theme Analysis Writing Activity <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>. Allow the students time to complete the Activity.</p> <p>Just for Fun- Have a sing-a-long! Hand out the copies of the Free to Be You and Me Lyrics. <a href="https://youtu.be/nCUGMMEF2Zk?si=678wtJ6GdQtERLp">https://youtu.be/nCUGMMEF2Zk?si=678wtJ6GdQtERLp</a></p>
<b>Explain:</b> Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.	See list of vocabulary on page 5 of this lesson plan.
<b>Elaborate:</b> Students apply what they have learned.	<p>4th-Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).</p> <p>5th Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).</p> <p>6th Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.</p> <p>7th Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.</p> <p>8th Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.</p> <p>4-8th The students will demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</p>
<b>Evaluate:</b> assessment.	Teachers will select which activities to use as formal/informal assessments.
<b>Enrichment/Service-Learning Project</b>	<p>Explain In the book <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>, we have learned about the love of two friends for one another. Although this was a work of fiction, it could easily have been a true story. People who serve in our military together become very close, like family. They develop love and respect for one another. They are there for each other when they face life's challenges. Today, we will participate in a project to show our Veterans who are facing challenging life events, that we appreciate their service to our country. Hand out the Veterans Last Patrol Somebody Loves You card project. Allow students time to complete the activity. Mail cards to Veterans Last Patrol, 140 B Venture Blvd., Spartanburg, SC 29306. Print project completion certificates <a href="#">here</a>. See the last pages of this lesson plan for information on Veterans Last Patrol.</p>

Remember-Honor-Teach

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Write-Pair-Share

You will have **5 minutes** to answer the following questions in the space provided below. Have you ever become friends with someone you did not think you would like when you first met them? What changed your mind about that person? How do you determine if someone will be a good friend? What must you do to be a good friend in return? At the end of 5 minutes, you will be paired with a partner, you will read your answer to your partner and they will read their response to you. Write on the back if necessary.

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---cut here-----cut here-----cut here---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Write-Pair-Share

You will have **5 minutes** to answer the following questions in the space provided below. Have you ever become friends with someone you did not think you would like when you first met them? What changed your mind about that person? How do you determine if someone will be a good friend? What must you do to be a good friend in return? At the end of 5 minutes, you will be paired with a partner, you will read your answer to your partner and they will read their response to you. Write on the back if necessary.

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# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Vocabulary *Bridge to Terabithia*

allotted-set aside for a particular purpose  
beseech-to ask someone in a very serious way; to beg  
britches-pants  
brood sow-an adult female pig that's kept for breeding  
clabber-sour curdled milk  
commend-to put in the care of someone  
complacent-overly satisfied with one's situation in life  
conspicuous-stands out; obvious contempt total lack of respect  
discern-to detect; to see with the eyes  
dredge-to come up with; unearth falter to act or move in an unsteady way  
flank-the side of an animal, between its ribs and its hips  
flounce-to move in a lively or bouncy way  
garish-too brightly colored or over  
grit-the ability to keep on doing something even though it is very difficult  
gunnysack-a large sack made of a loosely woven coarse material  
hernia-a rupture or abnormal body opening  
hypocritical-pretending to have feelings, beliefs, or qualities that one does not have  
intoxicated-excited or made enthusiastic  
laid off-dismissed from work  
liable-likely  
moony-dreamy or absentminded  
mother lode-the main source or supply  
parapet-a low wall or railing along the edge of a roof or balcony  
peacenick-nickname for people that opposed the war in Vietnam  
prospectors-people who explore for valuable minerals or oil  
realm-a kingdom  
reassess-to rethink the importance of something  
rooting-digging around  
shinny-to climb by pulling with the hands and legs  
siege-the surrounding of a place, such as a castle or city, to cut off supplies, and then waiting for those inside to surrender  
sire-a form of address for a king  
snare-a trap for catching birds or animals  
snuffled-breathed noisily and with difficulty  
sporadically-happening at irregular intervals  
stronghold-a fortress or a place that is well protected against attack or danger  
tidings-news or information  
tyrants-people who rule other people in a cruel or unjust way  
utterly-completely or totally  
vain-unsuccessful or futile

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

Name\_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 1 Bridge to Terabithia

Character Name	What are 2 things you learned about each character in Chapter 1.	List two words to describe each character.
Jess Aarons	1.	2.
May Belle	3.	4.
Momma (Mrs. Aarons)	5.	6.
Brenda	7.	8.
Ellie	9.	10.

11. Based on the author's description, what is the setting of the book?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

Name\_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 1 Bridge to Terabithia

#### Answer Key

Character Name	What are 2 things you learned about each character in Chapter 1.	List two words to describe each character.
Jess Aarons	1. <b>Answers will vary.</b>	2. <b>Answers will vary.</b>
May Belle	3. <b>Answers will vary.</b>	4. <b>Answers will vary.</b>
Momma (Mrs. Aarons)	5. <b>Answers will vary.</b>	6. <b>Answers will vary.</b>
Brenda	7. <b>Answers will vary.</b>	8. <b>Answers will vary.</b>
Ellie	9. <b>Answers will vary.</b>	10. <b>Answers will vary.</b>

11. Based on the author's description, what is the setting of the book? **The setting of the book is in a rural, country setting.**

# Wreaths Across America

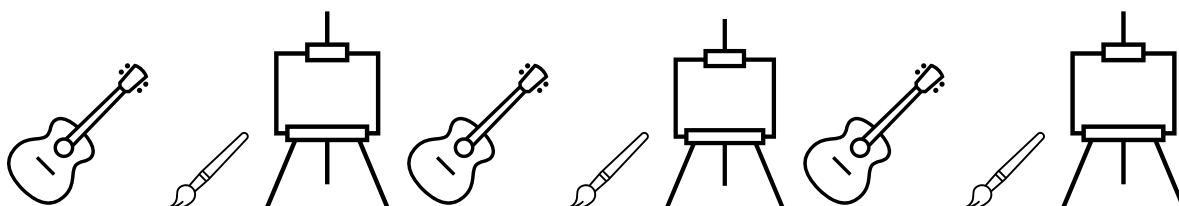
## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 2 *Bridge to Terabithia*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why did Jess keep his passion for drawing a secret from his parents?
2. Who did he show his drawings to in his family?
3. What was the reaction to his drawing by most of the teachers at the school?
4. Who did Jess share his drawings with at school?
5. Why did Jess feel comfortable showing his work to the person in number 4?
6. Describe the way Jess felt about Miss Edmunds.
7. How does Jess feel about someone moving into the old Perkins place?
8. Describe how Jess feels about the way his father responds to the younger children.
9. Who was Wayne Pettis?
10. What were Jess's initial thoughts about Leslie when he met her?



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

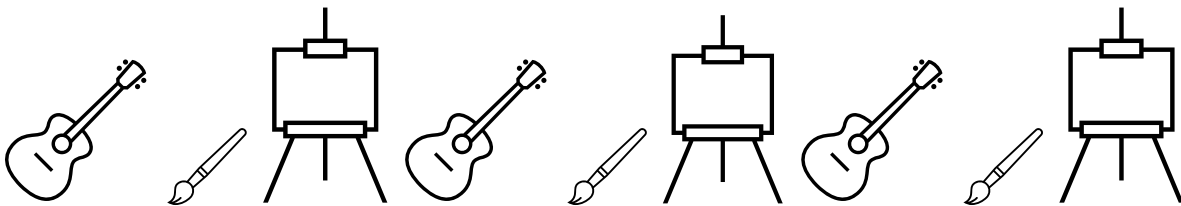
Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 2 *Bridge to Terabithia*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Why did Jess keep his passion for drawing a secret from his parents? **When Jess was in first grade, he had told his dad that he wanted to be an artist when he grew up. Jess had thought his dad would be pleased. But his father was very unhappy, and wanted to know what they were teaching him in the school.**
2. Who did he show his drawings to in his family? **Jess would show his drawings to May Belle.**
3. What was the reaction to his drawing by most of the teachers at the school?  
**When they'd catch him scribbling, they'd screech about wasted time, wasted paper, wasted ability.**
4. Who did Jess share his drawings with at school? **Jess would show his drawings to Miss Edmunds.**
5. Why did Jess feel comfortable showing his work to the person in number 4? **Jess had shared one of his drawings with her, and she said he was "unusually talented," and she hoped he wouldn't let anything discourage him but would "keep it up." That meant, Jess believed, that she thought he was the best.**
6. Describe the way Jess felt about Miss Edmunds. **Jess thought she was the best teacher he had at the school. He loved her and thought she was beautiful.**
7. How does Jess feel about someone moving into the old Perkins place? **Jess thinks they must be dirt poor because the only people who move in there move out quickly.**
8. Describe how Jess feels about the way his father responds to the younger children. **It made Jess sad to see the way his father would grab the little ones to his shoulder, or lean down and hug them. It seemed to him that he had been thought too big for that since the day he was born.**
9. Who was Wayne Pettis? **Wayne Pettis was the fastest boy in the fifth grade, he beat Jesse in every race except one, when Jesse was in the fourth grade.**
10. What were Jess's initial thoughts about Leslie when he met her? **Jess was not sure whether she was a boy or a girl.**



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 3 *Bridge to Terabithia*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Point of View

First, second, and third person are the three main types of point of view.

- **First person** is the **I / we** perspective
- **Second person** is the **you** perspective
- **Third person** is the **she / he / they / it** perspective

The author chooses a point of view to relate the story as if you were experiencing it, to force you into the story, or to allow the author to show different points of view.

1. What point of view is *Bridge to Terabithia* written in?

2. What point of view are the following excerpts of larger text?

\_\_\_\_\_ Harry moved in front of the tank and looked intently at the snake. He wouldn't have been surprised if it had died of boredom itself...

\_\_\_\_\_ We the People of the United States in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,...

\_\_\_\_\_ As soon as your grandpa says, "I give up," jump out and shout, "Here I am!"

\_\_\_\_\_ Before you juice the lemons, you can make your work easier by rolling the lemons on the counter, hard.

\_\_\_\_\_ I was born on the east coast of Virginia.

\_\_\_\_\_ When Jonathan placed his finger on the wooden panel, he was surprised to see the secret door open.

\_\_\_\_\_ I'm formally inviting you to visit me, planet marvelous.

\_\_\_\_\_ A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood. A fox saw the mouse, and the mouse looked good.

\_\_\_\_\_ As you walk down the dusty path, you will want to take a right at the Y in the road.

Why do you think Katherine Paterson chose to write *Bridge to Terabithia* using the POV she did?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 3 *Bridge to Terabithia*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Point of View **Answer Key**

First, second, and third person are the three main types of point of view.

- **First person** is the **I / we** perspective
- **Second person** is the **you** perspective
- **Third person** is the **she / he / they / it** perspective

The author chooses a point of view to relate the story as if you were experiencing it, to force you into the story, or to allow the author to show different points of view.

1. What point of view is *Bridge to Terabithia* written in?

**The Bridge to Terabithia is written in the third person point of view.**

2. What point of view are the following excerpts of larger text?

THIRD Harry moved in front of the tank and looked intently at the snake. He wouldn't have been surprised if it had died of boredom itself...

SECOND We the People of the United States in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,...

FIRST As soon as your grandpa says, "I give up," jump out and shout, "Here I am!"

SECOND Before you juice the lemons, you can make your work easier by rolling the lemons on the counter, hard.

FIRST I was born on the east coast of Virginia.

THIRD When Jonathan placed his finger on the wooden panel, he was surprised to see the secret door open.

FIRST I'm formally inviting you to visit me, planet marvelous.

THIRD A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood. A fox saw the mouse, and the mouse looked good.

SECOND As you walk down the dusty path, you will want to take a right at the Y in the road.

Why do you think Katherine Paterson chose to write *Bridge to Terabithia* using the POV she did?

**By writing *Bridge to Terabithia* in the third person, it allowed the author, Katherine Paterson to show the different POV of the characters in the book.**

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 4 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Compare and contrast Leslie's life growing up in the suburbs with Jesse's life growing up in the country.

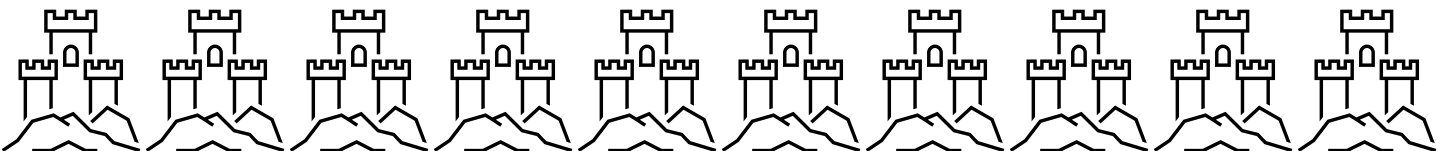
Jess	Leslie

2. What was Jess' hobby? Why was he afraid to write about his hobby in the assignment for Mrs. Myers?

3. What did Jess write about instead?

4. How did Leslie get May Belle to go away?

5. How does the following statement compare to Jess's thoughts about Leslie when he met her at the beginning of the book? "For the first time in his life he got up every morning with something to look forward to. Leslie was more than his friend. She was his other, more exciting self - his way to Terabithia and all the worlds beyond."



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 4 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Compare and contrast Leslie's life growing up in the suburbs with Jesse's life growing up in the country.

Jess	Leslie
Answers will vary.	Answers will vary.

2. What was Jess' hobby? Why was he afraid to write about his hobby in the assignment for Mrs. Myers? **Jess' hobby was drawing. All of Jess' teachers, except for Miss Edmonds, told him his drawings were a complete waste of time and resources. The students in his class also made fun of his drawings.**

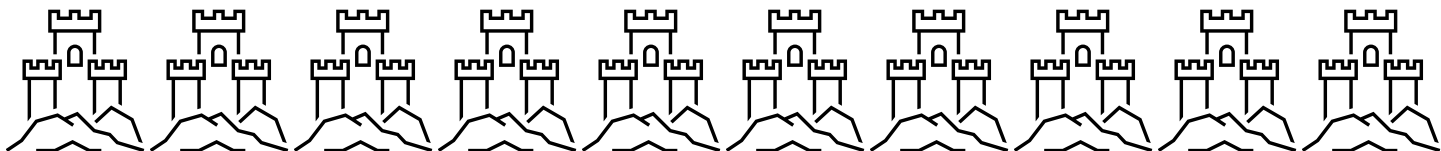
3. What did Jess write about instead? **Jesse wrote about football instead of writing about drawing.**

4. How did Leslie get May Belle to go away? **Leslie gave May Belle paper dolls that had been a gift from her grandmother.**

5. How does the following statement compare to Jess's thoughts about Leslie when he met her at the beginning of the book? "For the first time in his life he got up every morning with something to look forward to. Leslie was more than his friend. She was his other, more exciting self - his way to Terabithia and all the worlds beyond."

**Answers will vary slightly but should include at the beginning of the book, Jess did not really like Leslie. He could not tell whether she was a boy or a girl. When she beat him in the foot race, Jess would not even speak to her. But Jess was the only one in the school that ended up being her true friend-he liked the fact that she was different, she was funny, and she was smart.**

**At this point in the book Jess has a hard time thinking about what his life would be like without her in it.**



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 5 Bridge to Terabithia

Name\_\_\_\_\_

1. Compare and Contrast the Aarons' family and the Burke's family.

	<b>Work</b>	<b>Education/How do you know?</b>	<b>Family Life</b>
Aarons Family			
Burke Family			

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 5 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Compare and Contrast the Aarons' family and the Burke's family.

	Work	Education/How do you know?	Family Life
Aarons Family	Mr. Aarons drives to work in Washington, DC every day. He works doing manual labor. Mrs. Aarons works at home taking care of the household chores and the 5 Aarons children.	Mr. Aarons may not have graduated from high school. Mr. Aarons works hard, but his family is poor. He is not well-spoken. Mrs. Aarons may not have graduated from high school. She worries about having money to take care of her family. She is not well spoken	Mr. Aarons' family is poor. It is hard for him to work in Washington, DC and provide for his family and have many extras. He loves his children, but he is tired most of the time from working. Mrs. Aarons tries to take care of her family with the money they have, but it is difficult to do with 5 children. She depends on Jesse to do a lot of work around the house.
Burke Family	Mr. Burke works in Washington DC writing political articles. Mrs. Burke works at home and writes books for a living.	Mr. Burke is most likely a college graduate. The jobs that he has writing political news is an indicator he is well educated. Mrs. Burke is the author of many books. She is most likely a college graduate.	Mr. & Mrs. Burke make enough money for his family to live a pretty comfortable life. The family does not have a television set, but they have many other things they use to occupy their time.

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 6 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. At the beginning of Chapter 6, all of the girls at the Aarons' house are preoccupied. What were the girls so obsessed about?
2. Why was Jess so upset about the upcoming holiday?
3. What was his original plan for a gift for Leslie?
4. Do you think Leslie would have liked a book of pictures Jess drew?
5. Why did Jess get off the bus before his normal stop?
6. Why does Jess make sure that he and the puppy enter Terabithia only by the prescribed entrance?
7. What does Leslie give Jesse for Christmas?
8. He wanted to tell her how proud and good she made him feel, that the rest of Christmas didn't matter because today had been so good, but the words he needed weren't there." Why do you think Jess could not come up with the words to tell Leslie how he felt?
9. Even though the author does not describe Christmas Day at the Burke's house, how do you think it differed from Christmas Day at the Aarons' house?
10. Have you ever wanted to buy someone a gift but you did not have enough money to buy them what you wanted to give them? What did you do? What gifts can you give a friend that are free?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 6 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. At the beginning of Chapter 6, all of the girls at the Aarons' house are preoccupied. What were the girls so obsessed about? **The Aarons girls were consumed with Christmas and what gifts they would receive.**
2. Why was Jess so upset about the upcoming holiday? **Jess knew he did not have enough money to buy Leslie a gift and he knew she would give him one.**
3. What was his original plan for a gift for Leslie? **At first Jess thought he would draw Leslie a book of pictures, but he decided they would not be a worthy gift for a queen.**
4. Do you think Leslie would have liked a book of pictures Jess drew? **Answers will vary.**
5. Why did Jess get off the bus before his normal stop? **Jess saw a sign that said, "Free Puppies" and he knew at once what he could give Leslie for Christmas.**
6. Why does Jess make sure that he and the puppy enter Terabithia only by the prescribed entrance? **Jess couldn't escape the feeling that one must enter Terabithia only by the prescribed entrance. He couldn't let the puppy break the rules. It might mean bad luck for both of them.**
7. What does Leslie give Jesse for Christmas? **Leslie gave Jesse a box of watercolors with twenty-four tubes of color and three brushes and a pad of heavy art paper.**
8. He wanted to tell her how proud and good she made him feel, that the rest of Christmas didn't matter because today had been so good, but the words he needed weren't there." Why do you think Jess could not come up with the words to tell Leslie how he felt? **Answers will vary.**
9. Even though the author does not describe Christmas Day at the Burke's house, how do you think it differed from Christmas Day at the Aarons' house?  
**Answers will vary.**
10. Have you ever wanted to buy someone a gift but you did not have enough money to buy them what you wanted to give them? What did you do? What gifts can you give a friend that are free?  
**Answers will vary.**

# Wreaths Across America

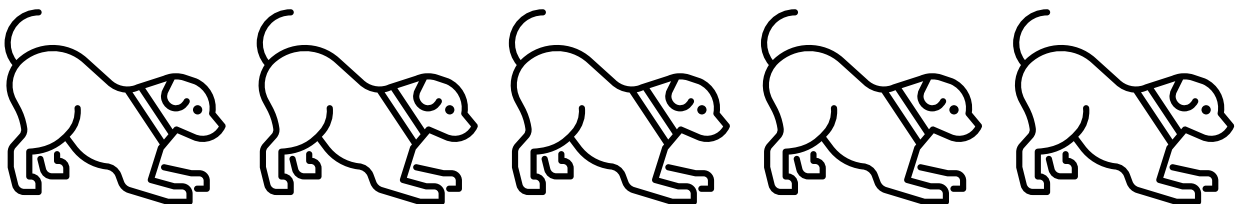
## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 7 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What happened when Jess tried to go to Terabithia alone?
2. What was Leslie doing when she could not go to Terabithia?
3. Why had Mr. Burke exiled Prince Terrien to the porch?
4. Compare the relationship between Leslie and her father and Jess and his father.
5. Why did Jess feel differently when he was at Leslie's house?
6. Who does Leslie discover crying in the bathroom stall?
7. Why is she crying?
8. How did Leslie calm Janice down?
9. What advice did Leslie give Janice?



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

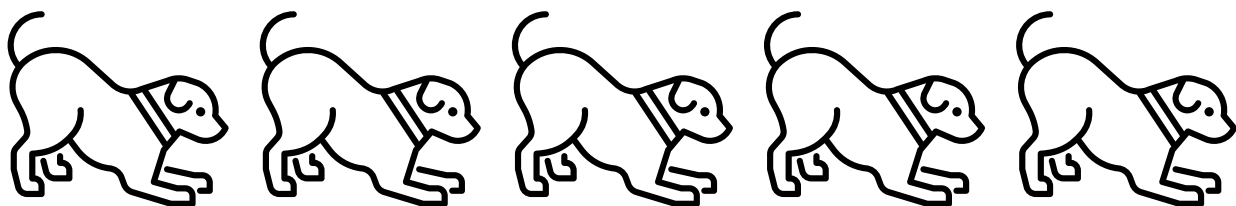
Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 7 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. What happened when Jess tried to go to Terabithia alone? **Jess could not go to Terabithia alone because without Leslie, he could not feel the magic she brought to Terabithia.**
2. What was Leslie doing when she could not go to Terabithia? **Leslie was helping her father renovate the living room in their house.**
3. Why had Mr. Burke exiled Prince Terrien to the porch? **Prince Terrien was running all over the house. No one could get anything done with that animal grabbing his hand or jumping up to lick his face.**
4. Compare the relationship between Leslie and her father and Jess and his father.  
**Answers will vary but should include that Leslie and her father have a good relationship, they talk and sing songs, and enjoy each other's company. Jess would like to have that kind of relationship with his dad, but his father is tired all of the time.**
5. Why did Jess feel differently when he was at Leslie's house? **At first Jess was nervous at the Burke house. He did not know what to call her dad, Mr. Burke or Bill. But he loved being in the house because for once he felt like he was surrounded by brilliance.**
6. Who does Leslie discover crying in the bathroom stall? **Leslie finds Janice Avery crying in the bathroom stall at school.**
7. Why is she crying? **Janice Avery was so mad at her father for beating her that she told Wilma and Bobby Sue about it. Wilma and Bobby Sue blabbed it all through the seventh grade.**
8. How did Leslie calm Janice down? **Leslie told her about not having a television, and how everyone laughed and made fun of her because she did not have a television.**
9. What advice did Leslie give Janice? **Leslie told Janice to pretend she didn't know what on earth Wilma and Bobby Sue had said or where they had gotten such a crazy story and everybody would forget about it in a week.**



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 8 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What was unusual about the weather?
2. What was happening to the creek Leslie and Jess had to cross to go to Terabithia?
3. Why did the Aarons family only go to church at Easter?
4. Why would the girls not be wearing new clothes to church on Easter?
5. How did Jess' sisters react to the news about their father?
6. Why does Leslie say she would like to go to church with Jess' family?
7. Why was Mrs. Aarons unsure about Leslie coming to church with them?
8. What did Leslie think about church and the story of Jesus?
9. Jess was surprised by Leslie's response about church. Were you surprised? Why or why not?
10. According to Jess, what is one of the few books you can find in his house?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 8 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. What was unusual about the weather? **It rained the entire month of March.**
2. What was happening to the creek Leslie and Jess had to cross to go to Terabithia? **The normally dry creek was getting full and water was running fast.**
3. Why did the Aarons family only go to church at Easter? **The Aarons family only went to church on Easter because Mrs. Aarons got mad at the preacher.**
4. Why would the girls not be wearing new clothes to church on Easter? **Mr. Aarons was laid off from his job and there would not be a lot of extra money to buy Easter clothes.**
5. How did Jess' sisters react to the news about their father? **The older girls were mad that they would not be getting new clothes to wear to church on Easter Sunday.**
6. Why does Leslie say she would like to go to church with Jess' family? **Leslie had never been to church before and she wanted to go for the experience.**
7. Why was Mrs. Aarons unsure about Leslie coming to church with them? **She did not think Leslie dressed appropriately to go to church. Mrs. Aarons did not want anyone poking their nose up at her family in church.**
8. What did Leslie think about church and the story of Jesus? **Leslie told Jesse she was glad she had gone to church with him, she said it was better than a movie. She said, "All those people wanting to kill him when he hadn't done anything to hurt them." She hesitated. "It's really kind of a beautiful story-like Abraham Lincoln or Socrates -- or Aslan."**
9. Jess was surprised by Leslie's response about church. Were you surprised? Why or why not?  
**Answers will vary.**
10. According to Jess, what is one of the few books you can find in his house?  
**Jess told Leslie the Bible might be the only book found in the Aaron house.**

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 9 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What does Judy mean when she tells Jess and Leslie that she is stuck?
2. What biblical scene was Jess reminded of when he first caught a glimpse of the flooded creek?
3. Explain why this chapter is called The Evil Spell?
4. What does Jess wake up to in the middle of the night?
5. What is the "flaw" that Jess recognizes in his own character and doesn't like.
6. According to Jess, what will Leslie still want to do despite the heavy rains?
7. If you were Jess, what would you have done? Why?



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 9 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. What does Judy mean when she tells Jess and Leslie that she is stuck?

Mrs. Burke was writing a novel and she was stuck in writing. She did not know what she was going to write about next.

2. What biblical scene was Jess reminded of when he first caught a glimpse of the flooded creek?

The Ten Commandments on TV when the water came rushing into the dry path Moses made and swept all the Egyptians away.

3. Explain why this chapter is called The Evil Spell?

Answers may vary but should include that Jess and Leslie believe an evil spell has been cast on Terabithia causing the constant rain.

4. What does Jess wake up to in the middle of the night?

Jess woke in the middle of the night with the horrible realization that it was still raining.

5. What is the "flaw" that Jess recognizes in his own character and doesn't like.

Jess is afraid to go to Terabithia because the creek is so swollen. Jess does not like to admit that he is afraid, because he cannot imagine going through life "having no guts."

6. According to Jess, what will Leslie still want to do despite the heavy rains?

Leslie will still want to go to Terabithia despite the heavy rains.

7. If you were Jess, what would you have done? Why?

Answers will vary.



# Wreaths Across America

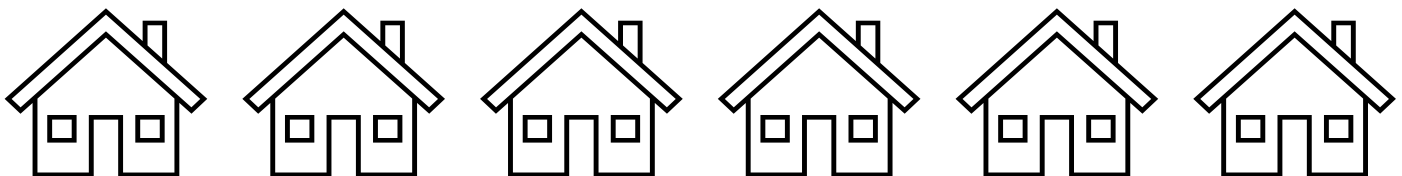
## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 10 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Every morning, Mr. Aarons leaves the house. Where does he go, and what is he looking for?
2. Jess wonders if Miss Bessie is afraid of anything, who is Miss Bessie?
3. Why do you think Jess is so afraid to cross the creek into Terabithia?
4. What does Jess want Leslie to teach him how to do in the summer?
5. Why do you think Jess doesn't just tell Leslie he is afraid to cross the swollen creek into Terabithia?
6. Who telephoned Jess and what did the caller want?
7. Why didn't Jess fully wake up his mother to tell her where he was going?
8. What didn't occur to Jess until the car passed Millsburg?
9. When does Jess first realize that something is wrong?
10. Describe the scene in the kitchen upon Jess' return.



Remember-Honor-Teach

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

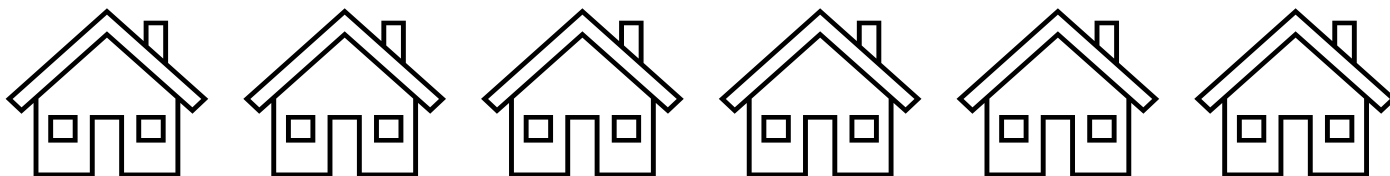
Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 10 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Every morning, Mr. Aarons leaves the house. Where does he go, and what is he looking for?  
Every morning, Mr. Aarons leaves the house to go to the Unemployment Office. He is looking for a job.
2. Jess wonders if Miss Bessie is afraid of anything, who is Miss Bessie?  
Miss Bessie is the Aarons' milk cow.
3. Why do you think Jess is so afraid to cross the creek into Terabithia?  
Answers may vary but should include Jess is afraid to cross the swollen creek into Terabithia because he cannot swim.
4. What does Jess want Leslie to teach him how to do in the summer?  
Jess wants Leslie to teach him how to swim during the summer.
5. Why do you think Jess doesn't just tell Leslie he is afraid to cross the swollen creek into Terabithia? Answers will vary.
6. Who telephoned Jess and what did the caller want? Miss Edmunds called Jess and asked him if he would like to ride to Washington, DC to go to the Museum of Art and the Smithsonian.
7. Why didn't Jess fully wake up his mother to tell her where he was going?  
Jess was afraid his mother would say no if she was fully awake.
8. What didn't occur to Jess until the car passed Millsburg?  
After the car passes by Millsburg Jess thinks that he should have asked Miss Edmunds if Leslie could go with them to Washington, DC.
9. When does Jess first realize that something is wrong?  
Jess realizes something is wrong when he comes into the house and everyone is sitting in the kitchen and there is no dinner on the table, and the television is off.
10. Describe the scene in the kitchen upon Jess' return. Answers will vary.



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### Chapter 11 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who explained to Jess what happened to Leslie?
2. How did Jess react when he was given the news?
3. Why did Jess leave the house and start running?
4. Who went after Jess and brought him back home?
5. Describe how Jess feels when he wakes up in the middle of the night.
6. Why does Brenda Aarons express surprise at her brother's behavior?
7. What changes do you notice in the behavior of Mr. and Mrs. Aarons towards Jess?
8. Why does Jess' father suggest that they should pay a visit to the neighbors?
9. Why did May Belle say that she wanted to visit the neighbors with them?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
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### Chapter 11 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Who explained to Jess what happened to Leslie?

Jess' father told him what happened to Leslie at the creek.

2. How did Jess react when he was given the news?

When Jess heard the news that Leslie died, he was in denial. He could not believe that she died in the creek, because she could swim.

3. Why did Jess leave the house and start running?

Jess left the house and started running because he thought it was the only way he could keep Leslie alive.

4. Who went after Jess and brought him back home?

Mr. Aarons went after Jess and brought him back home.

5. Describe how Jess feels when he wakes up in the middle of the night.

When Jess wakes up in the middle of the night, his stomach feels cold. He has had a bad dream but he does not remember what it was but he believes the bad dream may have been that Leslie was dead. He still does not believe she is dead.

6. Why does Brenda Aarons express surprise at her brother's behavior? Brenda believes that Jess should be screaming and crying about Leslie's death. She does not believe he should be sitting at the table eating pancakes.

7. What changes do you notice in the behavior of Mr. and Mrs. Aarons towards Jess?

Answers will vary but should include both are showing a kinder, more gentle side of themselves towards Jess.

8. Why does Jess' father suggest that they should pay a visit to the neighbors?

Mr. Aarons tells Jess they need to go down to see the Burkes to pay their respects.

9. Why did May Belle say that she wanted to visit the neighbors with them?

May Belle wanted to go down to the Burke's house because she had never seen a "dead person before."

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
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### Chapter 12 Bridge to Terabithia

Name\_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe the scene in the Burkes' home when the Aarons arrive.
2. Why does Jess think that Leslie has failed him?
3. What is the significance of the phrase, "I am now the fastest runner in the fifth grade?"
4. What does Jess realize when Bill mentions that they had decided to have the body cremated?
5. What does Jess mean when he says that Leslie has left him stranded like an astronaut on the moon?
6. What does Jess do with the paints and paper Leslie gave him for Christmas?
7. Why do you think Jess did that?
8. Why do you think Jess told his father he hated Leslie?
9. Why did Bill give P.T. to Jess?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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### Chapter 12 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Describe the scene in the Burkes' home when the Aarons arrive.

Answers will vary but should include PT running and jumping on Jess. The house was full of older people, all of whom were crying or had red eyes from crying. Bill told Jess that Leslie loved him, he hugged Jess so tight it made Jess uncomfortable. Bill thanked Jess for being such a good friend to Leslie.

2. Why does Jess think that Leslie has failed him?

Jess feels like Leslie went and died just when he needed her the most. She left him.

3. What is the significance of the phrase, I am now the fastest runner in the fifth grade?

Leslie was the fastest runner in the fifth grade, and now that Leslie was dead, he would be the fastest runner.

4. What does Jess realize when Bill mentions that they had decided to have the body cremated?

When Bill said they were going to have Leslie cremated, something clicked inside Jess's head. That meant Leslie was actually dead and turned to ashes. Jess would never see her again, not even dead. Never. Jess felt like they should have asked him before they decided to cremate Leslie.

5. What does Jess mean when he says that Leslie has left him stranded like an astronaut on the moon?

Jess felt like Leslie had introduced him to so many things he did not know about until he met her. She had made him leave his old self behind and come into her world, and now he was going to be alone.

6. What does Jess do with the paints and paper Leslie gave him for Christmas?

Jess takes all of the things Leslie gave him for Christmas and throws them in the creek.

7. Why do you think Jess did that? Answers will vary.

8. Why do you think Jess told his father he hated Leslie? Answers will vary.

9. Why did Bill give P.T. to Jess?

Bill and his family were going to Pennsylvania to spread Leslie's ashes and he asked Jess to take care of P.T. until they got back home.

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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### Chapter 13 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why is the glass of milk that Jess pours for himself warm?
2. Jess goes back to Terabithia to look for the paint he threw in the creek. What does he do after that?
3. Whose cry shatters the quietness of Jess' solemn procession?
4. Why did Mrs. Myers ask Jess to step into the hall?
5. Jess remarks that Leslie took him from the cow pasture to Terabithia and turned him into a king. What does Jess mean by this statement? Explain in your own words.
6. At the end of the story we find that Jess is building a bridge to Terabithia. Why is this so important and what does it tell the reader about Jess?

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
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### Chapter 13 Bridge to Terabithia

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Answer Key

1. Why is the glass of milk that Jess pours for himself warm?

The glass of milk is warm because Jess has just milked Miss Bessie.

2. Jess goes back to Terabithia to look for the paint he threw in the creek. What does he do after that?

He went into the castle stronghold. Jess felt the need to do something fitting for the Queen of Terabithia. He decided to make a funeral wreath for Leslie. He sat in the clear space between the bank and the first line of trees and bent a pine bough into a circle, tying it with a piece of wet string from the castle. He picked spring beauties from the forest floor and wove them among the needles. Jess and P.T. walked slowly, as part of a great procession, carrying the queen's wreath to the sacred grove. He went to the dark center of the grove and, kneeling, laid the wreath upon the thick carpet of golden needles. Jess said, "Father, into Thy hands I commend her spirit." He knew Leslie would have liked those words.

3. Whose cry shatters the quietness of Jess' solemn procession? May Belle's cries interrupted the procession.

4. Why did Mrs. Myers ask Jess to step into the hall?

Jess did not stand during the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. Myers asked Jess to stand in the hall. When Mrs. Myers went into the hall, she told Jess how much she loved Leslie as a student and that the two of them would have to help each other through her death.

5. Jess remarks that Leslie took him from the cow pasture to Terabithia and turned him into a king. What does Jess mean by this statement? Explain in your own words. Answers will vary.

6. At the end of the story we find that Jess is building a bridge to Terabithia. Why is this so important and what does it tell the reader about Jess? Answers will vary.

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Figurative Language *Bridge to Terabithia*

Figurative Language-Writers use figurative language to make their writing more interesting and effective.

**Alliteration** – the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.

**Hyperbole** – exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally

**Idiom** – a commonly used expression that means something totally different than what it says

**Metaphor** – calls one thing another

**Personification** – gives a nonhuman object human traits

**Simile** – a comparison of two things using the words like, as, or than

**Directions:** Read the following examples of figurative language from *Bridge to Terabithia*.

Place the first letter of the form of figurative language in the space provided. If it is an example of a simile, put the letter S.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Momma would be as mad as flies in a fruit jar if they woke her up at this time of day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. They would follow him around like a country-music star. And May Belle would pop her buttons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. She had left him stranded there – like an astronaut wandering about on the moon. Alone.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jess drew the way some people drink whiskey.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Ba-room, ba-room, ba-room, baripity, baripty, baripty, baripty.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. “Bang,” he said, and took off flying around the cow field.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. “Well, look at the big Olympic star,” said Ellie,... “Sweating like a knock kneed mule.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. His hot skin crawled under the cold drops.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Their hearts thumping with anticipation as they listened.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The boys quivered on the edges of their seats like moths fighting to be freed of cocoons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The Case of the Crooked Crocodile
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Mrs. Myers was liable to crack her face if she kept smiling like that.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. They’d kill her for sitting in their territory.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Mrs. Meyers always caught him when his mind was on vacation.

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Here where the dogwood and redbud played hide and seek between the oaks and evergreens.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Herby the Haunted Hippo
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Being Mrs. Myers' pet was pure poison at Lark Creek.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. The cold stream lapped his bare heels momentarily, but then he was in the air above it and falling awkwardly and landing on his bottom.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. He was drifting, drifting like a fat white lazy cloud back and forth across the blue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. He didn't worry about a shirt because once he began running he would be as hot as popping grease even if the morning air was chill, or shoes because the bottoms of his feet were by now as tough as his worn-out sneakers.

**Directions:** Write figurative language that describes each of the character's personality(what they're like, not their looks). Circle the type of figurative language you use. See the example below:

Miss Edmonds	personification	When Miss Edmonds played her guitar, the sound was so sweet, it sang like the angels in heaven.
Jess Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
May Bell	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Leslie Burke	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mrs. Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mr. Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mrs. Myers	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

### ANSWER KEY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Figurative Language *Bridge to Terabithia*

Figurative Language-Writers use figurative language to make their writing more interesting and effective.

**Alliteration** - the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.

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**Metaphor** - calls one thing another

**Personification** - gives a nonhuman object human traits

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**Directions:** Read the following examples of figurative language from *Bridge to Terabithia*.

Place the first letter of the form of figurative language in the space provided. If it is an example of a simile, put the letter S.

- S   1. Momma would be as mad as flies in a fruit jar if they woke her up at this time of day.
- S   2. They would follow him around like a country-music star. And May Belle would pop her buttons.
- S   3. She had left him stranded there - like an astronaut wandering about on the moon. Alone.
- M   4. Jess drew the way some people drink whiskey.
- O   5. Ba-room, ba-room, ba-room, baripity, baripty, baripty, baripty.
- O   6. "Bang," he said, and took off flying around the cow field.
- M&S  7. "Well, look at the big Olympic star," said Ellie,... "Sweating like a knock kneed mule."
- P   8. His hot skin crawled under the cold drops.
- O   9. Their hearts thumping with anticipation as they listened.
- S   10. The boys quivered on the edges of their seats like moths fighting to be freed of cocoons.
- A   11. The Case of the Crooked Crocodile
- I   12. Mrs. Myers was liable to crack her face if she kept smiling like that.
- H   13. They'd kill her for sitting in their territory.
- P   14. Mrs. Meyers always caught him when his mind was on vacation.
- P   15. Here where the dogwood and redbud played hide and seek between

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

the oaks and evergreens.

**A** 16. Herby the Haunted Hippo

**M** 17. Being Mrs. Myers' pet was pure poison at Lark Creek.

**P** 18. The cold stream lapped his bare heels momentarily, but then he was in the air above it and falling awkwardly and landing on his bottom.

**S** 19. He was drifting, drifting like a fat white lazy cloud back and forth across the blue.

**S&M** 20. He didn't worry about a shirt because once he began running he would be as hot as popping grease even if the morning air was chill, or shoes because the bottoms of his feet were by now as tough as his worn-out sneakers.

**Directions:** Write figurative language that describes each character's personality(what they're like, not their looks). Circle the type of figurative language you use. See the example below: **Answers will vary.**

Miss Edmonds	personification	When Miss Edmonds played her guitar, the sound was so sweet it sang like the angels up in heaven.
Jess Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
May Bell	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Leslie Burke	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mrs. Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mr. Aaron	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	
Mrs. Myers	alliteration hyperbole idiom personification metaphor simile	

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Compare & Contrast Character Traits

Directions: Select 3 characters from the book. Drawing from the text, write 4-character traits or adjectives that describe each character in the space provided. Do you have character traits that are similar or the same as some of the characters in the book? If so, list them in the space provided below.

#### Title of the Book

#### Character 1

#### Character 2

#### Character 3

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Character traits I share with Character 1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Character traits I share with Character 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Character traits I share with Character 3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Wreaths Across America

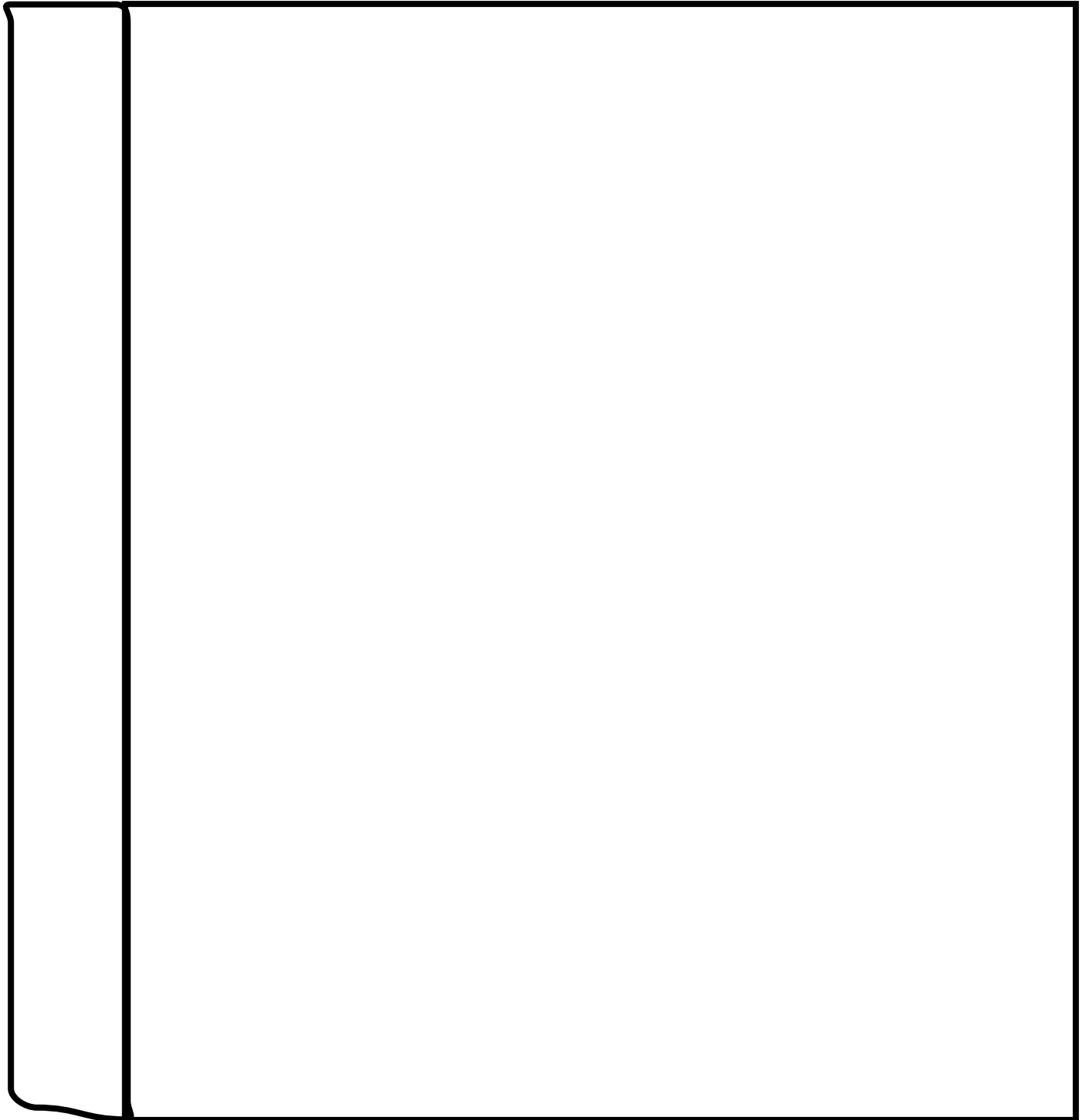
## Lesson Plan

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Grades: 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Lesson: Live with Purpose-Love for One Another

Name\_\_\_\_\_

### You Are the Illustrator

Design your own cover for the book *Bridge to Terabithia*. Use the blank book cover below to create your design.



# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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CCSS-RL 7.3

Name\_\_\_\_\_

### THEMES: *BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA*

The book, *Bridge to Terabithia* contains several different themes including Friendship, Tolerance (acceptance of people's differences), Imagination, Fear, Caring for Others, Giving, and Death. Select one of the themes above and analyze its development over the course of the text.

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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CCSS-RL 8.2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### THEMES: *BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA*

Determine a theme or central idea in the book *Bridge to Terabithia*. Analyze its development over the course of the book, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.

# Wreaths Across America

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## THEMES: *BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA*

**Excerpt from:** (Scholastic Inc., Katherine Patterson, *Bridge to Terabithia*-Interview, June-2004)

### **Friendship**

The value of friendship is one of the major themes in *Bridge to Terabithia*. It is through friendship that Jess and Leslie are able to accept themselves, feel a sense of belonging, and grow.

Before Jess meets Leslie, he feels all alone in the world. His father works long hours and is too tired to pay much attention to him when he is home. He has his mother and four sisters, but “sometimes he felt so lonely among all those females.” At school, Jess has no real friends, except for Miss Edmunds, the music teacher. So when Leslie moves in, Jess is ripe for friendship.

But initially Jess is not interested in being Leslie’s friend. First off, she’s a girl. And not only that, she’s a girl who “had no notion of what you did and didn’t do,” as she proves when she joins the boys for races at recess.

Jess doesn’t appreciate Leslie for being herself, despite the fact that he is so often torn between being himself—a sensitive boy who loves to draw—and being what others expect him to be. It isn’t until music class that first week of school that Jess reveals his real self and smiles at Leslie in a way that tells her he wants to be friends.

Leslie enriches Jess’s life in ways he could never have imagined. She encourages him to use his imagination in ways that go far beyond drawing. She tells Jess stories and lends him books. She believes in him. When Leslie tells Jess, “You should draw a picture of Terabithia for us to hang in the castle,” Jess responds, “I can’t. . . . I just can’t get the poetry of the trees.” Leslie reassures him, “Don’t worry. You will someday.”

In return, Jess gives Leslie the comfort of his friendship, which helps her survive in a world that is far different from the one she left behind. Jess also teaches Leslie about caring for others. When she finds Janice Avery crying in the girls’ room and doesn’t want to do anything to help her, Jess says, “You’re the one who’s always telling me I gotta care.”

### **Accepting Differences**

*Bridge to Terabithia* is also about being different and accepting your differences as well as those of others.

Jess is different from the people around him. He likes to draw and wants to be an artist when he grows up. But many in Jess’s community do not respect art; even his father thinks being an artist is not very manly.

In the beginning of the story, Jess tries to hide his differences. In one instance, when Mrs. Myers asks the class to write a paper about their favorite hobby, “Jess had written about football, which he really hated, but he had enough brains to know that if he said drawing, everyone would laugh at him.”

But then Jess meets Leslie, who is also different, but is accepting of her differences as well as those of others. Leslie shows her comfort with who she is when she joins the boys for races during recess. Leslie loves to run and doesn’t care if only boys have run in the past.

At first, Jess is annoyed by the way Leslie marches to the beat of her own drummer. “Lord,” he thinks, “the girl had no notion of what you did and didn’t do.” It is Miss Edmunds, Jess’s “fellow outlaw,” who helps Jess accept Leslie, and they both help Jess accept himself. When Miss Edmunds sings “Free to Be. . . You and Me” after meeting Leslie, Jess finds himself smiling at Leslie.

Later, when the two are best friends, Jess must listen to the taunts of his sisters and his schoolmates about having a “girl friend.” Even his mother and father disapprove of him spending so much time with a girl. But Jess doesn’t care. He is learning to accept who he is.

# Wreaths Across America

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### Imagination

The importance of imagination is another theme Paterson weaves into *Bridge to Terabithia*. Without imagination, life can be pretty dreary, which is how Jess's life is before he meets Leslie. Until she arrives in Lark Creek, Jess's only imaginative outlet is drawing. But when Leslie arrives, she uses her imagination, and encourages Jess to use his, to create a magical new world where the two of them can be themselves and so much more.

"He grabbed the end of the rope and swung out toward the other bank with a kind of wild exhilaration and landed gently on his feet, taller and stronger and wiser in that mysterious land." This imaginative kingdom is not only a place where Jess and Leslie are taller and stronger, it is also a place where fears are forgotten: "Between the two of them they owned the world and no enemy . . . could ever really defeat them."

When Leslie dies, Jess wonders if the magic is lost, but discovers that it isn't—it is still inside him. And it is inside May Belle, too, though she may not be aware of it until Jess shows it to her: "He put flowers in her hair and led her across the bridge—the great bridge into Terabithia—which might look to someone with no magic in him like a few planks across a nearly dry gully."

### Fear

Fear and learning to accept one's fears is another important theme in *Bridge to Terabithia*. Before he becomes more self-accepting, Jess is ashamed of his fears. He is afraid to befriend 36 Leslie, and when he finally does, he is angry at himself for having waited. "He smiled at her. What the heck? There wasn't any reason he couldn't. What was he scared of anyhow? Lord. Sometimes he acted like the original yellow-bellied sapsucker."

When Jess listens to Leslie's scuba diving essay, "he could hardly breathe," because he can't swim and is afraid of the water. Again, he is ashamed. "Lord, he was such a coward. . . . He was worse a baby than Joyce Ann."

And when the creek bed fills with water, Jess becomes afraid to cross it to get to Terabithia. "For Jess the fear of the crossing rose with the height of the creek." He doesn't know what to do. "It wasn't so much that he minded telling Leslie that he was afraid to go; it was that he minded being afraid."

Jess refuses to let fear get the better of him, though. He decides he'll ask Leslie to teach him to swim come summer. "I'll just grab that old terror by the shoulders and shake the daylights out of it."

But Leslie dies before he can ask her. And Jess wonders if she was scared. "Did you know you were dying?" he wonders. "Were you scared like me?"

When May Belle tries to follow him over to Terabithia and nearly falls in the creek, Jess rescues her. When May Belle tells him she was scared, he tells her it's okay. "Everybody gets scared sometimes, May Belle. You don't have to be ashamed."

And as Jess looks to the future, he seems to be more at ease with his fears. "As for the terrors ahead—for he did not fool himself that they were all behind him—well, you just have to stand up to your fear and not let it squeeze you white."

### Caring for Others

Another theme in *Bridge to Terabithia* relates to the importance of caring for others. We see it especially when Leslie finds Janice Avery crying in the bathroom, and Jess wants to do something to help her. "Lord, what was the matter with him? Janice Avery had given him nothing but trouble, and now he was feeling responsible for her." Despite Leslie's initial reluctance, Jess talks her into going back into the girls' room to try to help Janice.

Miss Edmunds also shows the importance of caring for others. She does this by paying special attention to Jess, encouraging him in his artwork, and taking him to the National Gallery and the Smithsonian.

Remember-Honor-Teach

# Wreaths Across America

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May Belle shows how much she cares when she tries to follow Jess to Terabithia, even after he hit her in the face. “I just wanted to find you,” she tells him, “so you wouldn’t be so lonesome.”

### **Giving**

The value of giving and giving back is another theme that runs through this book. One of the first and most natural places we see this giving is at Christmastime. Jess wants to give Leslie the perfect gift. “It was not that she would expect something expensive; it was that he needed to give her something as much as he needed to eat when he was hungry.”

Jess does find the perfect gift for Leslie—a puppy. And she gives him a wonderful gift of paper, brushes, and paint in return.

We also see the value of giving when Jess goes over his budget to give May Belle the Barbie that she wants for Christmas. Later, when Jess thinks about doing something nice for Mrs. Myers, he tells the reader, “Sometimes like the Barbie doll you need to give people something that’s for them, not just something that makes you feel good giving it.”

When Jess realizes all that Leslie has given him, he feels that he must find a way to reciprocate. “It was up to him to pay back to the world in beauty and caring what Leslie had loaned him in vision and strength.” One way he does this is by building a bridge and leading May Belle into Terabithia.

### **Death**

Another important theme in *Bridge to Terabithia* is death. Jess must learn to accept his best friend’s death, despite feeling that “Leslie could not die any more than he himself could die.”

Jess reacts to the news of Leslie’s death with shock, selfishness, anger, and grief. At first, Jess does not believe his father when he tells him that Leslie has died: “No! I don’t believe you. You’re lying to me!”

When Jess goes to see Leslie’s parents, he finds himself filled with conflicted emotions. He feels briefly elated to think “he was the only person his age he knew whose best friend had died. It made him important.” He feels annoyed at all the adults crying around him: “They weren’t crying for Leslie. They were crying for themselves.” And he feels angry, angry that Leslie’s parents brought her here in the first place.

Jess is also angry at Leslie. “She had tricked him. She had made him leave his old self behind and come into her world, and then . . . she had left him stranded there.” He flings the paper and paints she had given him for Christmas into the creek, crying out, “I hate her. I hate her. I wish I’d never seen her in my whole life.” When his father pulls Jess onto his lap and tells him, “Hell, ain’t it,” Jess finds it “strangely comforting.”

# Wreaths Across America

## Lesson Plan

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### “Free to Be You and Me”

#### The New Seekers

There's a land that I see where the children are free  
And I say it ain't far to this land from where we are  
Take my hand, come with me, where the children are free  
Come with me, take my hand, and we'll live  
In a land where the river runs free  
In a land through the green country  
In a land to a shining sea  
And you and me are free to be you and me  
I see a land bright and clear, and the time's comin' near  
When we'll live in this land, you and me, hand in hand  
Take my hand, come along, lend your voice to my song  
Come along, take my hand, sing a song  
For a land where the river runs free  
For a land through the green country  
For a land to a shining sea  
For a land where the horses run free  
And you and me are free to be you and me  
Every boy in this land grows to be his own man  
In this land, every girl grows to be her own woman  
Take my hand, come with me where the children are free  
Come with me, take my hand, and we'll run  
To a land where the river runs free  
To a land through the green country  
To a land to a shining sea  
To a land where the horses run free  
To a land where the children are free  
And you and me are free to be  
And you and me are free to be  
And you and me are free to be you and me

# Wreaths Across America Lesson Plan

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## Cards of Gratitude



### Veteran's Last Patrol CARDS OF GRATITUDE

Our volunteers visit veterans in hospice care around the country. Volunteers provide Friendship, Honors, and Support. These visits also allow the veteran on their Last Patrol a chance to share stories and memories for what might be the final time.

The visits also give all of us a chance to say one final time: "THANK YOU for your service". Please help us honor them. You can be one of those thanking these veterans by writing a card to "Dear Veteran" or "Dear Hero".



Mail your cards to:  
Veteran Last Patrol  
140B Venture Blvd.  
Spartanburg, SC, 29306

We accept these  
cards year around!

More Information:  
[www.veteranlastpatrol.org](http://www.veteranlastpatrol.org)  
864-580-8005



## 6th Annual Operation Holiday Salute



### 6th Annual Operation Holiday Salute-2024

Last year we obtained and delivered nearly 60,000 Holiday Cards to veterans in hospice around the country. Americans across the nation participated in this amazing operation to bring a little joy to veterans on their Last Patrol.

This year our goal is 70,000! Can you help us? You are welcome to send cards to us addressed: "Dear Veteran" or "Dear Hero".

Our packaging and postage expenses for this drive to get these cards to dying veterans is significant. Would you consider a small donation to help? Donations can be mailed us by check or made online at [www.veteranlastpatrol.org](http://www.veteranlastpatrol.org)



Mail your cards to:  
Veteran Last Patrol  
140B Venture Blvd.  
Spartanburg, SC, 29306

We accept cards year  
around. Cards received  
by 1 DEC will get to the  
veterans this Christmas.

More Information:  
[www.veteranlastpatrol.org](http://www.veteranlastpatrol.org)  
864-580-8005



# Wreaths Across America

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## *Wreaths Across America & Veteran's Last Patrol*

are partnering to send cards of gratitude to veterans in hospice care.

As you color this “*What is a Veterans’ Wreath*” page, please include a special note to a veteran. Take the time to reflect on the bouquets that make up a veterans’ wreath. Wreaths Across America will work with Veteran’s Last Patrol to distribute these letters to veterans across the



country.



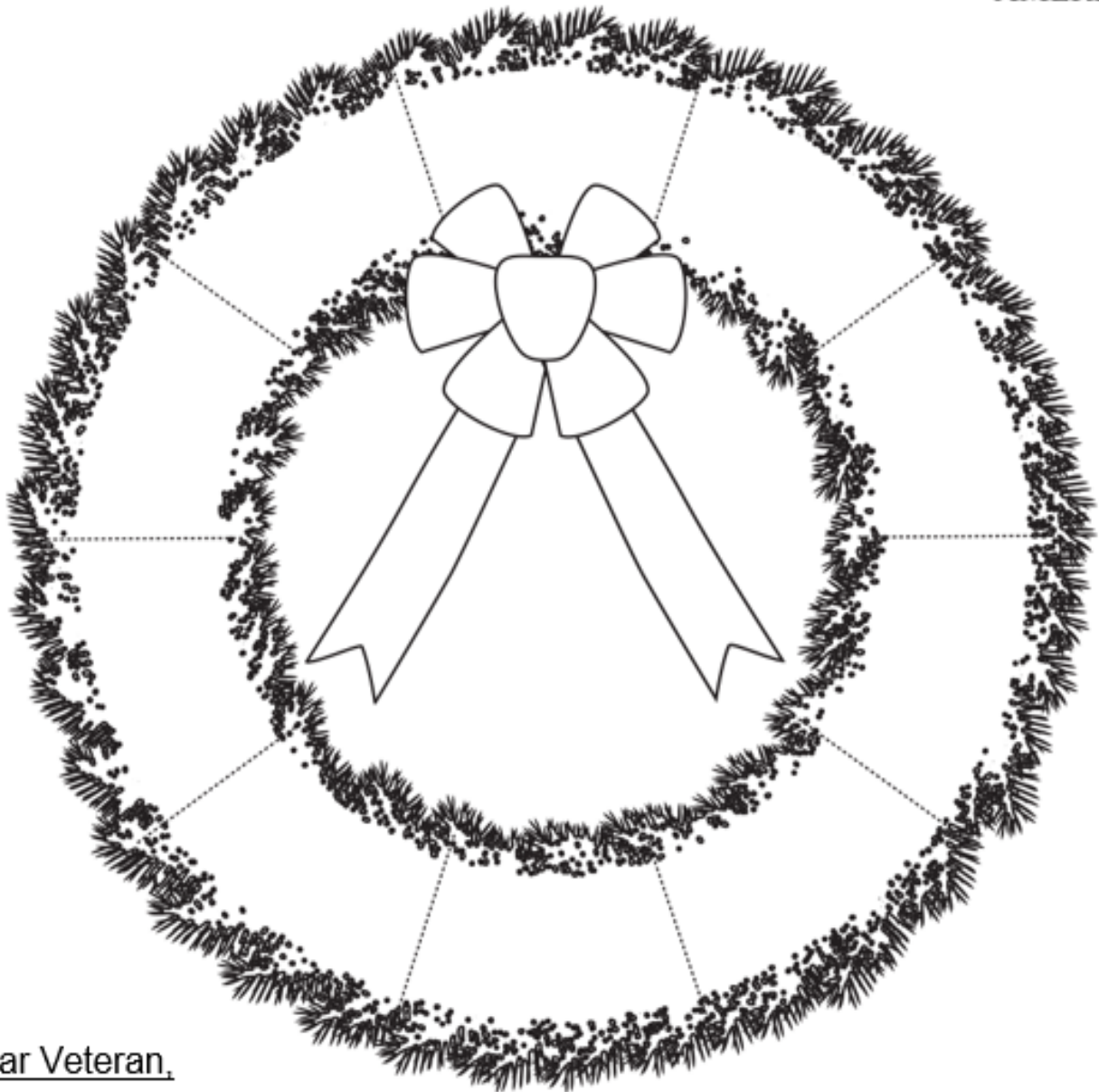
Visit [www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/veteranslastpatrol](http://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/veteranslastpatrol) to sponsor a wreath and \$5 will be given back to Veteran’s Last Patrol to support their mission.

# Wreaths Across America

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**COLOR YOUR WREATH** Show YOUR  
Love for One Another and Gratitude by writing a thank  
you note for a veteran receiving hospice care.



Dear Veteran,

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Sincerely yours,

Remember-Honor-Teach