

ELA LESSON PLAN ACTIVITIES

Valentine's Day Movies
By Grade Level & Common Core Alignment



EARLY EDUCATION
(Grades PRE-K-2)



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Grades 3-5)



MIDDLE SCHOOL
(Grades 6-8)



HIGH SCHOOL
(Grades 9-12)

EARLY EDUCATION

(Grades Pre-K-2)



Aladdin (G)

THEME

Honesty, kindness, and being true to oneself

ELA FOCUS

Listening comprehension, character identification, and story structure

LEARNING ABOUT FEELINGS, KINDNESS, AND STORY ORDER

OBJECTIVES:

- Listen to and talk about key events in a story
- Identify the main characters and describe how they feel
- Recognize that honesty and kindness are important values

MATERIALS:

- Film: “Aladdin”
- Picture cards or visual aids
- Drawing paper, crayons, or pencils

ASSESSMENT:

- Student participation in class discussions
- Ability to name characters and describe their feelings
- Teacher observation during story retelling activities

ACTIVITIES:

- **Character Feelings Chart:**
Use pictures or facial expressions to show how Aladdin and Jasmine feel at different parts of the movie
- **Beginning-Middle-End Retelling:**
Retell the story using picture cards or simple drawings
- **Being Yourself Talk:**
Share one thing that makes each student special

COMMON CORE ELA ALIGNMENT

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2 / RL.1.2 / RL.2.2:**
Retell stories, including key details, and identify the central message or lesson
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3 / RL.1.3 / RL.2.3:**
Identify characters, settings, and major events in a story
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1 / SL.1.1 / SL.2.1:**
Participate in collaborative conversations with peers and adults
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.2 / SL.1.2 / SL.2.2:**
Ask and answer questions about key details in a story read aloud or presented orally
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7 / RL.1.7 / RL.2.7:**
Use illustrations and details to describe characters, settings, or events

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Grades 3–5)



Beauty and the Beast (G)

THEME

Kindness, empathy, and understanding others beyond first impressions

ELA FOCUS

Character development, theme, and narrative structure

ANALYZING CHARACTER GROWTH AND THEME IN A FAIRY TALE

OBJECTIVES:

- Describe main characters using specific character traits
- Explain how characters change in response to events in the story
- Identify the central theme and support it with examples from the film

MATERIALS:

- Film: “Beauty and the Beast”
- Character trait and theme graphic organizers
- Student notebooks or writing journals

ASSESSMENT:

- Short written response explaining how a character changes and why
- Completed character or theme organizer
- Teacher observation of participation in group discussions

ACTIVITIES:

- **Character Development Chart:**
Identify Belle’s and the Beast’s character traits at the beginning, middle, and end of the film
- **Theme Exploration Discussion:**
Discuss how kindness and empathy affect the characters’ relationships
- **Being Yourself Talk:**
Identify key events that move the story forward in the beginning, middle, and end

COMMON CORE ELA ALIGNMENT

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3 / RL.4.3 / RL.5.3:**
Describe characters in a story and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2 / RL.4.2 / RL.5.2:**
Determine a theme and explain how it is supported by key details
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3.1 / SL.4.1 / SL.5.1:**
Engage effectively in collaborative discussions

MIDDLE SCHOOL

(Grades 6–8)



Gnomeo & Juliet (G)

THEME

Love, conflict, and resolving differences

ELA FOCUS

Literary adaptation, conflict, and point of view

UNDERSTANDING LITERARY ADAPTATION AND CONFLICT THROUGH FILM

OBJECTIVES:

- Compare a modern film adaptation to a classic literary text
- Identify the central conflict and analyze how it is resolved
- Explain how tone and setting influence meaning and character actions

MATERIALS:

- Film: “Gnomeo & Juliet”
- Selected, age-appropriate excerpts from *Romeo and Juliet*
- Comparison charts or Venn diagrams

ASSESSMENT:

- Written comparison paragraph using textual or film-based evidence
- Completed conflict or comparison organizer
- Participation in small-group or whole-class discussion

ACTIVITIES:

• Text-to-Film Comparison:

Identify similarities and differences between the film and Shakespeare’s play

• Conflict Analysis:

Describe the central conflict and its impact on characters

• Creative Rewrite:

Rewrite a scene with a different tone, setting, or ending

COMMON CORE ELA ALIGNMENT

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2 / RL.7.2 / RL.8.2:**
Determine a theme or central idea and analyze its development
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.3 / RL.7.3 / RL.8.3:**
Analyze how story elements interact, including responses to conflict
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.7 / RL.7.7 / RL.8.7:**
Compare reading a text to viewing a film version
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.9 / RL.7.9 / RL.8.9:**
Compare texts in different forms or genres
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3 / W.7.3 / W.8.3:**
Write narratives using effective technique and details
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1 / SL.7.1 / SL.8.1:**
Engage effectively in collaborative discussions

HIGH SCHOOL

(Grades 9–12)



Emma (PG)

THEME

Self-awareness, misunderstanding, and relationships

ELA FOCUS

Characterization, irony, and literary adaptation

ANALYZING CHARACTER PERSPECTIVE AND IRONY IN LITERARY ADAPTATIONS

OBJECTIVES:

- Analyze a complex protagonist and her motivations
- Identify and explain examples of irony and misunderstanding
- Evaluate how social expectations influence relationships

MATERIALS:

- Film: “Emma”
- Selected excerpts from Jane Austen’s *Emma*
- Note-taking guides or discussion questions

ASSESSMENT:

- Analytical paragraph or short essay using evidence
- Participation in structured discussion or seminar
- Exit ticket identifying a key theme or example of irony

ACTIVITIES:

• Character Analysis:

Examine Emma Woodhouse’s decisions and their consequences

• Irony Study:

Identify scenes where characters misunderstand situations or one another

• Adaptation Analysis:

Compare how a scene is presented in the novel versus the film

COMMON CORE ELA ALIGNMENT

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.3 / RL.11-12.3:**
Analyze complex characters and their development
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.6 / RL.11-12.6:**
Analyze point of view and irony
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.7:**
Analyze representations across different mediums
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2:**
Write informative/explanatory texts using evidence