# LESSON PLAN FOR *Huckleberry Finn*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept or Topic:</th>
<th>Literary raft</th>
<th>Suggested Grade Level: 7th through 9th (can be modified for other levels)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Suggested Time Frame: 2-3 Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective(s):**
1. Student will research the construction of a raft representative of Huck’s era
2. Student will follow directions to build the literary raft with 95% accuracy
3. Student will find and write 6 quotes from the voice of Huck that will become the logs (building blocks) that demonstrate his burgeoning friendship as they travel the river.
4. Student will find and write out 6 quotes from the voice of Jim that will become the planks that demonstrate his burgeoning friendship as they travel the river.
5. Student will defend their quote selections to the class by introducing quotes with page number and contextual references that demonstrate their knowledge of the character and the importance of the quote.

**State Standards:**
1. Read with understanding and fluency
2. Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas
3. Write to communicate for a variety of purposes
4. Listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations
5. Use language arts to acquire, assess and communicate information.

**Assessment Options:**
Raft must show adherence to directions, attention to detail, and quality of craftsmanship and use of 6 quotes from Huck and 6 from Jim with page numbers where they can be found.

Student may work in pairs or by themselves and choose from the following options:

- Oral presentation defending the student’s raft to the class
- Written presentation defending the student’s raft to the class

See attached rubric
**LESSON PLAN FOR *Huckleberry Finn***

**Vocabulary:** Vocabulary is more than a definition of a word; it is an understanding of a word and its meaning in the context of communication.

Student will demonstrate a conveyance of meaning with each quote selected.

Explain to the students that they may need to explain the vernacular and/or meaning of words.

**Subject Area Integration:** Art, literature, writing, speech

**Background Information:**
Research the making of a raft reflective of the era and of the reading of Huck.

Bring to class a picture of a raft.

**Materials:**
- Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- Heavy paper
- Template for floats and planks
- Glue
- Paper
- Scissors
- Instructions

**Technology:** Students can use the web to find pictures of a raft.

**Related Twain Quotes/Passages:** By virtue of their literary raft, quotes will vary depending on the student’s knowledge of the novel.

**Lesson Sequence:** (include approximate length of time for each part of the lesson)
- Hook/Intro: five minutes
- Teaching of the Concept: 10 minutes
- Suggested Questions: How long do you think it would take to build a raft? What does a raft look like? How do they make a plank?
- Learning Activity: two - three class periods
- Review/Closure: 10 minutes

**Homework:** Students will begin the process of building their literary rafts in the classroom and then finish them at home.
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Student will find 6 quotes from Huck’s voice that demonstrate the developing friendship with Jim and write each quote on the template for a float/log.

Student will find 6 quotes from Jim’s voice that demonstrate the developing friendship with Huck and write each quote on the plank template.

Student will glue the template together so that we can read the quotes from Jim and then turn it over and read Huck’s quotes.

Student will either prepare an oral presentation defending their quotes and explaining vocabulary within the quote, or student will type a paper defending their quotes and explaining the vocabulary with the quotes.

## Strategies for Exceptional Students:
Student with disabilities can use modifications to construct their rafts, such as use of a word processor, getting help with manipulation of materials, and/or having extended time.

Gifted student should explore the construction of a tent on their raft that might symbolize protection/security and find quotes that illustrate that concept.

## Suggested Follow-Up Activities:
Class could go to a marina and explore piers and docks to extend their appreciation of buoyancy, and the necessary building materials, functions and craftsmanship. We could also explore area manufacturer of docks, rafts, boats, piers, etc.
Assignment

Literary Raft

As Huck and Jim float down the Mississippi, they develop a powerful and unique friendship. Search for quotes from Jim and Huck that demonstrate the progression of their relationship.

You will build a raft out of the literary quotes. You can be creative or you can use the attached templates. Your raft does not need to actually float; it is a symbol of the importance the raft plays in the story.

Building the Literary Raft

1. Choose 6 direct quotes from Huck's dialogue to become the logs or floats.
2. Choose 6 direct quotes from Jim's dialogue to become the planks or platform of the raft.
3. Remember the quotes need to demonstrate their developing friendship.
4. Write or type one quote from Huck onto each float. Please include page numbers where quotes can be found.
5. Write or type one quote from Jim onto each plank. Please include page numbers where quotes can be found.
6. Adhere the floats and planks together in a way so that we can read Jim quotes from the top and Huck's quotes by turning the raft upside down.

Presenting the Literary Raft

1. Along with the raft, type a paper (3-4 pages) explaining/defending your choice of quotes. Be sure to include a brief explanation for each quote and how it illustrates the progression of the friendship between the two. Also, discuss a minimum of 6 vocabulary words that illustrate vernacular or conveyance of meaning.

Or

2. Along with your raft, prepare a speech (8-10 minutes) that explains/defends your choice of quotes. Be sure to include a brief explanation for each quote and how it illustrates the progression of the friendship between the two. Also, discuss a minimum of 6 vocabulary words that illustrate vernacular or conveyance of meaning.
Rubric for raft and presentation

**Construction of raft**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>satis.</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>v. good</th>
<th>excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quotes are neatly typed or written</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim’s quotes are easily viewed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huck’s quotes are easily viewed when turned over</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raft is firmly constructed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raft is neatly constructed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quotes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>satis.</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>v. good</th>
<th>excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim’s quotes reflect his developing friendship with Huck</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huck’s quotes reflect his developing friendship with Jim</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page number are listed after quotes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vocabulary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>satis.</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>v. good</th>
<th>excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 words were discusses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Presentation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>poor</th>
<th>satis.</th>
<th>good</th>
<th>v. good</th>
<th>excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim’s quotes were adequately explained and defended</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huck’s quotes were adequately explained and defended</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student demonstrated an Understanding of the characters and their development</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

________/60 points possible
Raft templates

Floats – Make 6 – type or write Huck’s quotes; one on each float. Include page numbers

Planks – Make 6 – type or write Jim’s quotes; one on each plank. Include page numbers