



 Prestwick House

Activity Pack

TEARS OF A TIGER

BY SHARON M. DRAPER



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ISBN 978-1-60389-301-5

Item No. 202343
Written by Kelley Stewart McConathy

Name: _____

Date: _____

November**Reading Check****Objective:** Understanding the events in a novel**Activity**

Fill in the blanks with the correct words to indicate what happened in the novel. The first one is done for you.

1. The students involved in the crash are: Andy, Robbie, B.J., and Tyrone.
2. The accident occurs after a school _____ game.
3. The only person not drinking that night was _____.
4. In *The Hazelwood Herald*, it is stated that “_____ fatalities are the number one cause of death in teenagers.”
5. In elementary school, Tyrone and Robbie played around calling each other names like _____ and _____.
6. Andy was surprised at his court hearing to have so many people there to support him, including kids from the _____ club.
7. Andy's charge of vehicular homicide was dropped because of his _____ and good driving record.
8. As part of his sentence, Andy is required to attend _____ classes every Saturday.
9. Andy's _____ has never attended one his ballgames, and when his _____ has attended, she always seems out of place and over-dressed.
10. In his homework, Gerald Nickelby wants to change the world by getting rid of _____, _____, and _____.

Name: _____

Date: _____

December**Context Clues**

Objective: Using context clues to determine the meaning of words and phrases

Activity

Read each quote in the chart on the following page and explain what each underlined word means using context clues. The first two are done for you.

Name: _____

Date: _____

December**Poetry Writing**

Objectives: Composing a poem focusing on tone
 Using figurative language to enhance poetry
 Analyzing the poetry of peers
 Expressing feelings through writing

Activity

Using the poems in *Tears of a Tiger*, write your own poem that expresses a particular tone.

Choose one of the following tones or choose one of your own:

- Happiness
- Sadness
- Humorous, amusing
- Thought-provoking
- Foreboding, unsettling
- Loving
- Carefree
- Angry
- Awed, respectful
- Wondrous

Use rhyming words if you wish, or use free verse. Include any figurative language you can, including similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, or other figurative language. When finished, share poems with the rest of the class.

Name: _____

Date: _____

January**Symbolism****Objective:** Interpreting common literary symbols**Activity**

Re-read "Black on White: Andy and Keisha on a Snowy Day" from January 11th, and examine how color is used as symbols and metaphors for feelings and ideas. For example, Andy asks Ms. Blackwell why "black usually stands for somethin' bad and white stands for somethin' good? The good guys always ride a white horse, and the bad guy is always a black-hearted villain." (Pg. 85)

Using the clues, unscramble the following common literary symbols. Look for colors, seasons, animals, and other common symbols are used. The first two are done for you.

Name: _____

Date: _____

February – March**Writing/Drama**

Objectives: Creating a scene from provided information
 Composing words and thoughts from different characters' point of views
 Performing a dialogue in front of an audience

Activity

Here's the situation: Andy has stumbled upon Keisha's diary. It is open to the current date, March 9th. Andy cannot resist; he reads Keisha's diary and is astounded at what she has written. Later on that day, Andy feels that he must call Keisha to discuss her thoughts. He knows she may become angry with him, but he must speak with her about the diary entry.

Will Andy ask her about the diary directly, or will he chat meaninglessly for a while? Will Keisha become angry, or will she be compassionate when she hears Andy's feelings? Is Andy angry about the diary entry, or does Keisha know exactly how Andy thinks?

Re-read the phone conversation between Keisha and Andy on pages 97 – 100 as an example. Note that quotation marks are unnecessary because entire phone conversations are spoken. Characters take turns speaking, and each comment begins with a dash (—). Because telephone conversations are largely informal, it is okay to use slang as well as incomplete sentences to make the conversation more realistic. Here is a sample beginning of what your conversation might look like:

- Hello, is Keisha there?
- What's up, Keisha?
- Oh, nothin' much. Just watchin' some T.V. What're you up to tonight?
- Just thinkin' 'bout you, sweetie. It's our five-month anniversary, ya know.
- Yeah, what of it?
- Nevermind. Look, I've gotta ask ya about somethin'...

When you are finished, take turns reading your conversations for the class. Pretend you are the characters and speak with feeling and emotion.

Name: _____

Date: _____

February – March**Drama**

Objectives: Performing selected scenes from a novel
 Understanding major events in a novel

Activity

Working in your groups, choose a scene from the following list to act out for the class. Memorize your lines and practice your scene before performing for your class. Be sure to say your lines with feeling and really try to become the character you are portraying. If possible, it would be beneficial for your audience if you could use a few props.

Name: _____

Date: _____

April – May**Characterization**

Objectives: Analyzing a character for signs of depression and suicide
Determining appropriate quotations to support reasoning

Activity

Symptoms of depression and danger signs of suicide are listed below. Complete the chart by choosing **Yes** or **No** if Andy exhibits each behavior. If the answer is positive, cite an example from the book that shows the behavior. The first question has been answered for you.

Name: _____

Date: _____

April – May**Writing a Will**

Objectives: Writing a will to expressing a character's wishes
Writing using formal Standard English using correct grammar, mechanics, and usage

Activity

On the night of April 2nd, Andy makes desperate phone calls to Dr. Carrothers, Coach Ripley, and Keisha, but does not get to talk to anyone. The next day, Andy leaves for school, but returns home and commits suicide.

Your task is to write a will for Andy. It will be read aloud a few days after Andy's funeral. The purpose of a will is to distribute personal belongings, like money or material possessions and to express one's final wishes and thoughts. Here are some ideas that might be appropriate for Andy's will:

- What would Andy want his loved ones and the world to know?
- Why did he commit suicide? What was he thinking?
- What would he want to tell Monty? His mother? His father? Keisha? His friends?
- Would he leave any advice for anyone?
- Would he divide his possessions? You know enough about Andy's character to create the types of possessions he would have had. For example, would he leave his basketball to Monty?

Write in first person, from Andy's point of view. Wills should be about one page in length. Do not forget to revise and/or proofread to reduce grammatical errors. Use the following line as your beginning:

"I, Andrew Jackson, declare this to be my last will...."

Name: _____

Date: _____

Post-Reading**Writing a Scene**

Objectives: Creating fictional events based on facts
 Writing dialogue for characters

Activity

What would you have liked to happen differently in *Tears of a Tiger*? Could the novel have had a different ending just by adding one scene? Now is your chance to change history. Choose one of the four suggested scenes below or ask your teacher to approve an idea for a scene of your own. There are endless possibilities for this extra scene.

- Keisha and Andy just before his death
- Andy and Rob's mother at the hospital
- Andy's coach and Andy's dad
- Andy and Rob after Andy's death

You will need to write dialogue for each character that remains true to each character. Remember to write using a conversational style. Scenes should range from two to four pages in length. After creating your scene, write one short paragraph explaining how this new scene could have changed the novel. Share your scene with the class and have class members describe how the novel would be different.