

## **Lesson Plan:** Book Launch: Synesthesia and A Wrinkle in Time!

80 Minutes

### **Objectives**

Students demonstrate understanding of figurative language and word relationships by practicing using their senses and imagination through a Synesthesia activity.

Students will begin analyzing how and why individuals develop and interact over the course of the text by making using the reading strategy of predictions to help introduce them to the novel.

### **Common Core Standards Addressed**

L. 7.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

RL.7.3. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

### **Assessments**

Formal: Synesthesia Worksheet

Informal: Whole class questioning, small group discussion

**Materials** quarter sheets of paper for diamond notes, Synesthesia worksheet, two stickies

### **Instructional Strategies and Learning Tasks**

**Warm-Up** Close your eyes-- What does blue taste like? Maybe it's salty like the ocean? Maybe it tastes really tart or sour like blue koolaid? Think of the number four, does number four have a color? Do you picture the number four yellow/red/purple? Think of a Miley Cyrus song, what does it feel like? Is it rough? Is it slimy? Maybe furry? What do you notice about those associations?

**Show** Ratatouille Clip Well, take a look at this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXoJjgxMj9M>

What is happening? What do you notice? Watch again. What happens when he eats the strawberry? What happens when he eats the cheese? How are they different?

**Synesthesia.** *Write word on board.* Means the blending of senses. *Write definition on board.* What are the five senses? Now imagine if we mixed our senses like Ratatouille. Explain psychological/neurological phenomenon, but explain that we can all practice.

We're going to watch a video to help us understand the science behind Synesthesia. While you watch this video, I want you to write down three examples of Synesthesia in each corner

of your diamond notes.

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/what-color-is-tuesday-exploring-synesthesia-richard-e-cytowic>

**I DO** Do number one together. So the first question- What color is noise?

**WE DO** How does green smell? Everybody think about what green smells like and write down what you think it smells like. Now that you have your ideas, turn to your partner and share with them what green smells like. Raise your hand if you and your partner had the same answer! Raise your hand if you had different answers- what were they?

**YOU DO** Now go ahead and finish the worksheet on your own. Synesthesia is personal! We all have different experiences and perceptions, so there are no right answers. Begin!

Back together. Have them share while walking around and mingling- musical chairs style.

Connect Synesthesia to novel-- visualization skills make us better readers! Now that our Synesthesia muscles are ready to go, we are going to use those to make predictions about the book trailer. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YQ1bdgy-VA> (twice). Now that you watched the trailer, I want you to also examine the cover of your book. Some of us have different covers, so we might have differing answers.

On both stickies, I want you to write your name, date, teacher. On one sticky, I want you to write down what you predict based on TRAILER and the COVER.

Phrase it-- I predict.....because.....

Read out loud from the first few pages of the novel. On the second sticky, answer these questions:

What color is the storm? Why?

What do the trees sound like? Why?

What do Meg's feelings taste like? Why?

What does Meg's teacher feel like?

Stickies go inside your novel! Excellent. I hope you all look forward to reading this awesome novel! It's a trip. See you tomorrow!

### **ELD and Other Special Needs Strategies**

Writing on board and speaking

Think-Pair-Share

Movement- allows students who are more kinesthetic to move around

Strategies- Synesthesia, predictions, visualization

Multimedia- using videos to demonstrate ideas

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Synesthesia

Is it possible to hear a color or to see a sound? This sort of crossing between the senses is known as **Synesthesia**, literally meaning “a union of feelings.” Answer the questions listed below with the **first idea** that comes to your mind. There are **no absolute answers**, so don't worry if you have something different than your partner. In fact, that's what makes this cool!

1. What color is noise? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How does green smell? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What color are nice dreams? \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you could hear a cloud, what sound would it make? \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you could taste anger, what taste would it have? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How do storms taste? \_\_\_\_\_
7. If you could touch summer, how would it feel? \_\_\_\_\_
8. If you could touch music, what would be the feel of a symphony?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Of a country song? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Of a rap song? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What sound does a breaking heart make? \_\_\_\_\_
10. If you could touch the stars, how would they feel? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What is the taste of time? \_\_\_\_\_
12. If you could touch time, what would it feel like? \_\_\_\_\_
13. If you could smell sunshine, what odor would it have? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What is the taste of fear? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What is the color of love? \_\_\_\_\_
16. If you could touch evil, what would it feel like? \_\_\_\_\_