

**Title “Where the Character Meets Their Journey” Journey Map for
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by JD**

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Project Summary

This project is designed for 3rd-6th grade students. After reading the book “Where the Mountain Meets the Moon” by Grace Lin, students will individually or in a small group, create a journey map for one of the characters in the book. They can be as creative as they want, and make a map however they wish! The map must include: their character's name; a picture/drawing of their character; short summaries of key details in their assigned character’s journey; pictures/drawings to represent different key details of the story; and a short description of how they do/don’t personally relate to their character. The goal of this project is to engage in a character’s personal experiences, recalling key events, and think about how they must have felt and what challenges they had to overcome throughout their journey. Each group/individual student will present their journey maps to the class so we can look into each different character’s experiences throughout the story.

Lesson Goal(s) and Objective(s)

Lesson Goals and Objectives include:

Students will be able to identify key details in a story.

Students will be able to place events in order of occurrence.

Students will be able to identify characteristics of characters and character development.

Audience

3rd-6th grade students

Materials Needed

***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin**

Poster Paper

Markers/Crayons/Colored Pencils

Pencil

Scissors

Glue

Description of the Teaching and Learning Process

This learning process will be over a course of about 2 weeks (adjustable if needed). Each student will receive their own book. For the first week we will be introduced to the book, read about the author, skim the pictures in the book, etc. Before we read, we will also assign characters to each small group/individual for their journey map project so they can really engage in their character while reading the book. We will read chapters from the novel everyday in class, and then the students will have certain chapters to read for homework. The chapters are very short, only a few pages each, so it won't be an overload of reading at home. Each day we will reflect on what we read the night

before and ask/answer questions about the book. There are reading group guiding questions at the end of the novel that we can look at and review. Also, I will have questions of my own to ask for guiding questions about different characters' journeys and how they have changed throughout certain parts of the story. It might be a good idea to also have each group have a set of questions regarding their assigned character, and they answer those questions as a group looking back through the book for their answers, etc. An example question for the “Minli group” might be, “How does Minli’s mother’s attitude towards their fortune affect Minli??” And the answer the group could discuss or write down (in a complete sentence!) would be something along the lines of “Minli is affected by her own mother’s attitude because her mother is always complaining and sighing about how unfortunate they are. Minli hears these complaints daily and wants to change their fortune to make her mom happy”. These questions will guide students into thinking about cause and effect about their character’s lives, and how characters react to certain situations.

We will repeat this everyday until we finish the book (48 chapters total). We will have time at some point every day during class to work on the project with our groups, and can also work on it at home. We will have an assigned dated deadline for our posters to be complete, and then we will present to the class. During classroom work time, the teacher will be walking around and assisting students with any questions or concerns they may have. The lesson planning calendar will look something like this for example:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Because I did not get the chance to do this project with students, I created a character journey map of my own so everyone can check out an example of this project! My journey map is based off of the main character Minli's journey throughout the story.

About Me

My name is Jaymi and I graduated from the University of Arizona this past spring with a degree in Elementary Education. Now, I am a graduate student at CU Boulder. My dream has always been to become an elementary school teacher, and I can not wait to have my own classroom someday! I really loved Grace Lin's *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* and I'm excited to use it with my future students!