

**Teacher:** Lisa M. Barbi  
**Cooperating Teacher:** Lindsay Avitalle

**Grade Level:** 4

**English Language Arts: Vocabulary Lesson Plan**  
**Adjectives in Context**  
**Peanut Butter Sandwich by Shel Silverstein**  
***Regal, Royal, Sovereign***

**Content and Standards:**

The teacher will guide students in recognizing, evaluating, and comprehending the following three, Tier 2 vocabulary words from the Shel Silverstein poem, "Peanut-Butter Sandwich": **regal, royal, and sovereign.**

**Reading:**

**R4.A.1.1.1:** Identify and/or interpret meaning of multiple-meaning words used in text.

**R3.A.1.1.2:** Identify and/or interpret a synonym or antonym of a word used in text.

**Listening and Speaking:**

**1.6.4.A:** Listen critically and respond to others in small and large group situations. Respond with grade level appropriate questions, ideas, information, or opinions.

**ELA Common Core:**

**CC.1.1.2.D:** Know and apply grade level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

- Distinguish long and short vowels when reading regularly spelled one-syllable words.
- Decode two-syllable words with long vowels and words with common prefixes and suffixes.
- Read grade level high-frequency sight words and words with inconsistent but common spelling-sound correspondences.
- Read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.

**CC.1.4.2.E:** Choose words and phrases for effect.

**Prerequisites:**

- Students must know how to recognize adjectives as vocabulary used to enhance stories and poems using figurative language.
- Students must know that adjectives are parts of speech that describe persons, places, or things.
- Students must know how to work within groups to convey words meanings through verbal, nonverbal, and written means.

**Goals and Objectives:**

- Students will extend prior knowledge of adjectives to identify them as vocabulary within a poem.
- Students will use context clues to decode the meanings of new vocabulary words.
- Students will collaborate to create a short story using adjectives to enhance the message.
- Students will be able to apply phonemes and decoding to comprehend word meanings and put these concepts together to construct sentences.

**Procedure:**

- The teacher will ask students to recall the definition of adjectives as a part of speech.
- The teacher will ask students to give examples of words that are adjectives.
- The teacher will display the artwork associated with the poem “Peanut-butter Sandwich” by Shel Silverstein.
- The teacher will read the Shel Silverstein poem, “Peanut-butter Sandwich” being sure to emphasize descriptive adjectives including Tier 2 vocabulary, regal, royal, and sovereign.
- The teacher will display a digital copy of the poem on the Smartboard.
- The teacher will stop after each word and ask students to use context clues to determine what the three, Tier 2 vocabulary may mean.
- The teacher will remind the students that the words are used to describe how the king behaves.
- The teacher will guide the students in identifying synonyms from the story to reinforce comprehension of the three vocabulary words.
- The teacher will write the three vocabulary words on the Smartboard.
- The teacher will re-read the poem while students list as many adjectives as they can recall from the story focusing on the three vocabulary words.
- The teacher will ask the students to break into pairs and create original definitions and illustrations to represent the meaning of regal, royal, and sovereign.
- The teacher will ask student pairs to share original definitions and illustrations with the entire class.
- The teacher will display formal definitions and illustrations of the three vocabulary words on the Smartboard so students can check their work.
- The teacher will have students work together to write a paragraph, dictated by the students and written on the board by the teacher, using the vocabulary words, royal, regal, and sovereign.
- The teacher will ask for student volunteers to read the original paragraph that was composed by the class.
- The students will write original paragraphs using the vocabulary words, royal, regal, and sovereign individually.

**Materials & Equipment:**

- The poem, “Peanut-butter Sandwich” by Shel Silverstein from the book, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*.
- Digital copy of the poem, “Peanut-butter Sandwich”.
- Dictionary and thesaurus (online and hardcopy)
- Internet access
- PC and I pad
- Smartboard
- Lined paper
- Pencils, crayons, and markers

**Assessment:**

- The teacher will administer an informal survey to assess student comprehension of adjectives.
- The teacher will use a rubric to assess the accuracy and creativity of the final paragraph.
- The teacher will use informal evaluation to review the original definitions and illustrations created by the student pairs.
- The teacher will use the partner evaluation paragraph to assess the successfulness of the think-pair-share activity.
- The teacher will conduct informal surveys of students during and after the vocabulary lesson to ensure understanding and determine differentiation needs.
- The teacher will collect the student paragraphs including the three, Tier 2 vocabulary words to determine if the students remained on task and created original work.

**Technology:**

- PC/laptop with Internet access
- i Pad
- Smartboard

- Digital copy of poem retrieved from, <http://faculty.weber.edu/chansen/humanweb/projects/MeghanUng/peanutbuttersandwich.htm>.

**Differentiation:**

- The teacher will have students; especially those who are accommodated and/or modified, use the iPad or a PC to create original definitions, research vocabulary meanings, and download digital illustrations to represent the three vocabulary words.
- The teacher will encourage students who struggle with writing to use single words, symbols, and illustrations to represent the message to be conveyed.
- The teacher will provide audio/visual versions of the story to students who have visual learning disabilities.

**Self-Assessment:**

I found that students can easily assimilate Tier 2 vocabulary words such as royal, regal, and sovereign into daily spoken and written language when properly engaged with relevant and entertaining content such as the Shel Silverstein poem. It is important to provide the students with various options for creating original definitions, paragraphs, and illustrations such as using digital imaging or hand drawn illustrations. It is most important to use engaging tone and an animated voice to engage students while encouraging them to tune into context clues that will give hints as to the meaning of new vocabulary words.

**Peanut-Butter Sandwich  
by Shel Silverstein**



**Peanut-Butter Sandwich by Shel Silverstein**

I'll sing you a poem of a silly young king  
Who played with the world at the end of a string,  
But he only loved one single thing—  
And that was just a peanut-butter sandwich.  
His scepter and his royal gowns,  
His regal throne and golden crowns  
Were brown and sticky from the mounds  
And drippings from each peanut-butter sandwich.  
His subjects all were silly fools  
For he had passed a royal rule  
That all that they could learn in school  
Was how to make a peanut-butter sandwich.  
He would not eat his sovereign steak,  
He scorned his soup and kingly cake,  
And told his courtly cook to bake  
An extra-sticky peanut-butter sandwich.  
And then one day he took a bit  
And started chewing with delight,  
But found his mouth was stuck quite tight  
From that last bite of peanut-butter sandwich.  
His brother pulled, his sister pried,  
The wizard pushed, his mother cried,  
"My boy's committed suicide  
From eating his last peanut-butter sandwich!"  
The dentist came, and the royal doc.  
The royal plumber banged and knocked,  
But still those jaws stayed tightly locked.  
Oh, darn that sticky peanut-butter sandwich!  
The carpenter, he tried with pliers,  
The telephone man tried with wires,  
The firemen, they tried with fire,  
But couldn't melt that peanut-butter sandwich.  
With ropes and pulleys, drills and coil,  
With steam and lubricating oil—  
For twenty years of tears and toil—  
They fought that awful peanut-butter sandwich.  
Then all his royal subjects came.  
They hooked his jaws with grapplin' chains  
And pulled both ways with might and main  
Against that stubborn peanut-butter sandwich.  
Each man and woman, girl and boy  
Put down their ploughs and pots and toys  
And pulled until kerack! Oh, joy—  
They broke right through that peanut-butter sandwich  
A puff of dust, a screech, a squeak—  
The king's jaw opened with a creak.  
And then in voice so faint and weak—  
The first words that they heard him speak  
Were, "How about a peanut-butter sandwich?"