

Grade 7 English Language Arts

Week of Sept 28- Oct 2

Curricular Area: Story

Lesson Materials (Included in this PDF)

- Lesson 1.1 What Can Fear Teach Us?
- 1.1 Learning Guide Activity

Big Ideas

- Language and text can be a source of creativity and joy.
- Exploring stories and other texts helps us understand ourselves and make connections to others and to the world.

Learning Targets

- Describe the form, function and genre of narratives (stories).
- Correctly punctuate and use dialogue.
- Respond and analyze different texts.

Task

Read through the lesson for Section 1.1 What Can Fear Teach Us? After you finish reading the lesson pages, complete the activities in the Learning Guide. You can print the Learning Guide, or, copy out the questions onto a separate piece of paper.

Be sure to spend time on independent reading practice with a book of your choice.

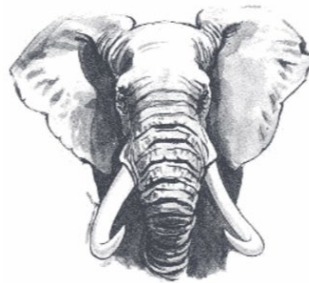
Introduction: Bravery

Since the beginning of time, why have we told stories?

Stories help us understand ourselves, define ourselves. Perhaps more importantly, stories that are shared with others bring us all closer together as we realize two important facts:

- **We all have common experiences that make us the same.**
- **We tell stories from different viewpoints and experiences, and until we all have the whole picture, we will never understand each other.**

Read a famous story that originated in India. This version was made into a video by Kevin McLeod under Creative Commons license.



[Click here to watch a video of the Six Blind Men and the Elephant](#)

1.1 TedTalk: What Fear Can Teach Us

Founder and Director of On Stage Leadership Kimberley Davis explores the connection between daring to be ourselves and bravery.

[Listen to her speech in this TED Talk.](#)

It is important to make connections when you listen and read. Active listening and reading is a process the reader uses to engage with the subject material. This is a good reading and listening strategy to use to better understand the text and conversation and the task being assigned to you. It is important to read text and listen to conversations while thinking critically about the material and asking

relevant questions. Active listening and reading also involves understanding what is expected of you.

"ACTIVE" reading stands for Asking questions, Making connections, Tracking down important information, Inferring/predicting, Visualizing and Evaluating and synthesizing.

While you are listening, complete the activity below.

1.1 Learning Guide - What It Means to be Brave

Reading for Information

Answer the following questions:

1. In a few words explain specifically how the author gets your attention at the beginning.

2. She suggests looking at bravery in a fresh way. How?

3. She suggests that we can uncover what it takes to tap into that illusive "want" and be the brave leader you were born to be. How do we do this?

4. List some “tools” she refers to that help us act bravely.

5. What commitment does the author make in her conclusion that allows her to make an impact in the world? She asks us “What are you fighting for?” Why is this an important question to answer?