Unit 1/Week 3

Title: Nate the Great: San Francisco Detective

Suggested Time: 5 days (45 minutes per day)

Common Core ELA Standards: RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.4, RL.3.5, RL.3.7, RL.3.10; RF.3.3, RF.3.4; W.3.2, W.3.4, W.3.5, W.3.6; SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.4, SL.3.6; L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.4, L.3.5, L.3.6

Teacher Instructions

*Refer to the Introduction for further details.*

**Before Teaching**

1. Read the Big Ideas and Key Understandings and the Synopsis. Please do **not** read this to the students. This is a description for teachers, about the big ideas and key understanding that students should take away **after** completing this task.

Big Ideas and Key Understandings

When faced with a problem or challenge, persevere and keep gathering new information to try different solutions.

Synopsis

Detective Nate the Great searches San Francisco for a lost joke book. He discovers that the *wrong* place can be the best place to look for a lost item.

1. Read entire main selection text, keeping in mind the Big Ideas and Key Understandings.
2. Re-read the main selection text while noting the stopping points for the Text Dependent Questions and teaching Vocabulary.

**During Teaching**

1. Students read the entire main selection text independently.
2. Teacher reads the main selection text aloud with students following along.

(Depending on how complex the text is and the amount of support needed by students, the teacher may choose to reverse the order of steps 1 and 2.)

3. Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions and returning to the text. A variety of methods can be used to structure the reading and discussion (i.e.: whole class discussion, think-pair-share, independent written response, group work, etc.)

Text Dependent Questions

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| **Text Dependent Questions** | **Answers** |
| What problem does Nate have when he arrives at the San Francisco airport? | Nate is supposed to meet his cousin Olivia, but he can’t find her. |
| How is Nate’s problem solved? | Nate sees his name on a sign a man is holding. The man is Willie, Olivia’s chauffeur. He is going to drive Nate around. |
| The word “case” has multiple meanings. How does the author use the word “case” in the sentence “She’s out on her eight o’clock case?” | A case is an assignment or project. I know this because both Nate and Olivia have their own cases they are working on. |
| How did Nate know that Annie’s dog was on the line? | Annie told Nate, he heard Fang breathing and the dog was in the illustration. |
| What does Duncan say on the phone that alarms Nate? How do we know Nate is alarmed? How does he clear up the confusion? | Duncan’s joke book is missing and he needs to tell a joke to a friend by two o’clock. |
| What evidence from the story suggests why Nate took Duncan’s case? | Nate took the case because Duncan is so sad, and Olivia probably won’t be able to solve the case in time. |
| How does the author use Duncan’s appearance to show how Duncan feels? | The author makes Duncan’s feelings show on the outside. His hair and even his clothes look sad, not just his face. |
| What was the sequence of events when Duncan went to Perry’s Pancake House? | Duncan read the menu, he ordered mushyberry pancakes, the waiter left and Duncan kept reading the menu. Then Duncan took out his joke book to find a joke. |
| Who is the girl that is looking for the joke book? How do you know? | The girl is Olivia. The reader can tell because the waiter says she is a detective, she is wearing feathers, and she is working on Duncan’s case. |
| What did Nate find out about Duncan’s visit to the pancake house? | Duncan spilled the syrup and the waiter put everything in a take-out bag. |
| What does Nate think happened to the joke book? | Nate thinks the joke book fell into the menu when the syrup spilled, and the waiter quickly scooped it into the take-out bag. He thinks the bag is in the freezer. |
| “Olivia has her way. I have mine.” What do you know so far about “Olivia’s way” to solve a case? | Olivia asks questions, she puts up signs. |
| How do Nate and Duncan react differently to problems that come up in the case? | Duncan gets sad and discouraged and says the world will end. Nate tries to find a solution and doesn’t give up. |
| What happens in the bookstore that shows you Nate is someone who never gives up? | Nate looks in the joke book department even though the lady says no joke book was returned. He also goes to different places and tries different things. |
| What is the logic Nate used to find the book *Joke Stew?*? | He thinks about the word “stew” in the title, remembers that the bookstore clerk said somebody returned a cookbook, and looks in the cookbook section where he finds the lost book. |
| Explain what Nate means when he says this: “Duncan smiled. He *smiled.* I knew the world was safe for now.”. Why is the second smiled in *italics?* | Duncan was so sad but now he’s happy. He has his jokes back for 2:00. Now he doesn’t feel like his world is going to end. Nate knows he has done his job to help Duncan. |

Vocabulary

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|  | **KEY WORDS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTANDING**  Words addressed with a question or task | **WORDS WORTH KNOWING**  General teaching suggestions are provided in the Introduction |
| **TEACHER PROVIDES DEFINITION**  not enough contextual clues provided in the text | Detective  Case  Chauffeur  menu | Specific  Peered ,  Thaw  perhaps  Peering  Positive |
| **STUDENTS FIGURE OUT THE MEANING**  sufficient context clues are provided in the text | Moaned | Limp  Drooping  Assistant  Container  Definitely  Department  Hopeless |

Culminating Task

Re-Read, Think, Discuss, Write

Nate the Great runs into several dead –ends while trying to solve the mystery of the missing joke book. Trace these set-backs and describe what he does to move ahead each time*.*

Answer: Nate listens to Duncan’s case by asking Duncan detailed questions and having him retrace his steps. Nate goes to the places where Duncan went and asks pertinent questions. (Details to include: Perry’s Pancake House, the waiter, Duncan’s freezer, Booksie’s Book Store) Nate thought about the title of the book, not just the section of the store where the book belonged.

Additional Tasks

* What did Willie and Sludge do to help Nate solve the case?

Answer: Willie drove Nate around in an unfamiliar town. Sludge sniffed around when they were doing their investigating.

* Have students create a graphic timeline showing the progression of Nate’s investigation.
* How do the dogs in “Officer Buckle and Gloria,” “Pepita Talks Twice” and “Nate the Great” add to the stories? Use specific details from each story and compare them. Which dog is *most* important to the plot?

Answer: Gloria performs while Officer Buckle speaks; Lobo helps Pepita realize she needs to speak two languages and Sludge helps Nate to solve the mystery.

* Both Pepita in the story “Pepita Talks Twice” and Nate in the story “Nate the Great” have special talents. What do Pepita and Nate’s actions in the stories tell the reader about what they think about their talents.

Answer: Nate is proud of his talent as a detective. Pepita starts out being angry about being able to speak two languages.