



EXPEDITIONARY  
LEARNING

# **Grade 6: Module 3A: Unit 1: Lesson 7**

## **Inferring Laurence Yep's Perspective on the Police, from the Crime in the Neighborhood**

### **Excerpt of *The Lost Garden***



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**Long-Term Targets Addressed (Based on NYSP12 ELA CCLS)**

Explain how an author's geographic location or culture affects his or her perspective. (RL.6.6a)

**Supporting Learning Targets**

- I can find the gist of the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt.
- I can identify details in the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt that affected Laurence Yep's perspective on the police.
- I can infer how those details affected Laurence Yep's perspective on the police.

**Ongoing Assessment**

- Structured notes (from homework)
- Gathering Evidence of Yep's Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood graphic organizer



Agenda	Teaching Notes
<p>1. Opening</p> <p>A. Engaging the Reader: Chapter 4, Pages 74–97 of <i>Dragonwings</i> (5 minutes)</p> <p>B. Unpacking Learning Targets (3 minutes)</p> <p>2. Work Time</p> <p>A. Reading for Gist: The Crime in the Neighborhood Excerpt from <i>The Lost Garden</i> (15 minutes)</p> <p>B. Identifying Cultural Details through Questions: The Crime in the Neighborhood Excerpt of <i>The Lost Garden</i> (8 minutes)</p> <p>C. Inferring Laurence Yep’s Perspective on the Police (9 minutes) (8 minutes)</p> <p>3. Closing and Assessment</p> <p>A. Sharing Ideas (5 minutes)</p> <p>4. Homework</p> <p>A. Read Chapter 5 up to page 108, stopping after “... all the others in the room could feel it too.” Answer this focus question in your structured notes:</p> <p>* “What was Moon Shadow’s point of view of Black Dog after he stole the collection money?” Use evidence flags to identify three text details from this section of Chapter 5 to support your answer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In this lesson, students read a second excerpt from Laurence Yep’s autobiography, <i>The Lost Garden</i>.</li><li>• This lesson is similar in structure to Lesson 6; however, due to the length of the excerpt, in this lesson students do not refer back to <i>Dragonwings</i> to find evidence of Laurence Yep’s perspective. They do this in Lesson 8 to ensure they have sufficient time to closely analyze both texts.</li><li>• In advance: Review the Concentric Circles protocol (Appendix).</li><li>• Be prepared to return the mid-unit assessment to students in Lesson 8.</li><li>• Post: Learning targets.</li></ul>



Lesson Vocabulary	Materials
<p>gist, infer, perspective; Paragraph 3: lingered Paragraph 4: blustered, threatened Paragraph 5: agonizing, circular file, confrontation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured notes (distributed to students in Lesson 1)</li> <li>• Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt from <i>The Lost Garden</i> (one per student and one to display)</li> <li>• Word-catcher (from previous lessons; one per student)</li> <li>• Dictionaries (enough for students to be able to refer to as they are reading)</li> <li>• Gathering Evidence of Laurence Yep’s Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood (one per student)</li> <li>• Gathering Evidence of Laurence Yep’s Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood (answers for teacher reference)</li> </ul>

Opening	Meeting Students’ Needs
<p><b>A. Engaging the Reader: Chapter 4, Pages 74–97 of <i>Dragonwings</i> (5 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remind the class of the Concentric Circles protocol, in which students stand in concentric circles and rotate to face a partner to answer the teacher’s questions.</li> <li>• Direct students to form two circles, an inside circle and an outside circle, standing face-to-face. If there is an odd number of students, join a circle so that everyone has someone to pair up with. Invite students to bring their <b>structured notes</b> with them to the circles.</li> <li>• Ask the two questions below twice to give students increased opportunities to speak and listen about the novel. Rotate after each question is asked: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* “What happens in the second half of Chapter 4 after Windrider fixes Mr. Alger’s horseless carriage?”</li> <li>* “What is Moon Shadow’s point of view of the opium dens?”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Direct students to return to their seats and refocus whole class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing homework holds all students accountable for reading the novel and completing their homework.</li> <li>• Learning targets are a research-based strategy that helps all students, especially challenged learners.</li> </ul>



Opening	Meeting Students' Needs
<p><b>B. Unpacking Learning Targets (3 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invite students to silently read the learning targets as you read them aloud:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* “I can find the gist of the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt.”</li><li>* “I can identify details in the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt that affected Laurence Yep’s perspective on the police.”</li><li>* “I can infer how those details affected Laurence Yep’s perspective on the police.”</li></ul></li><li>• Point out that students had similar learning targets in the previous lesson when reading the opening excerpt. Remind them of what <i>gist</i>, <i>infer</i>, and <i>perspective</i> mean.</li><li>• Tell students that in this lesson, they will read a new excerpt from <i>The Lost Garden</i> and use clues from the excerpt to infer about Laurence Yep’s perspective.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Posting learning targets allows students to reference them throughout the lesson to check their understanding. They also provide a reminder to students and teachers about the intended learning behind a given lesson or activity.</li><li>• Discussing and clarifying the language of learning targets helps build academic vocabulary.</li></ul>



Work Time	Meeting Students’ Needs
<p><b>A. Reading for Gist: The Crime in the Neighborhood Excerpt from <i>The Lost Garden</i> (15 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display and distribute the <b>Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt</b> from <i>The Lost Garden</i>. Invite students to read along silently in their heads as you read it aloud. Remind them that the purpose for reading is to discover Yep’s perspective and how it influences what he writes about. Tell the class to listen for things that shaped his beliefs, values, and ideas.</li> <li>• Tell students they are going to reread the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt for gist.</li> <li>• Pair students up and invite them to work together to annotate for gist and record unfamiliar words on their <b>word-catcher</b>. Remind students to write their gist annotations of each paragraph in the margin of the paper and to use their word-catchers to record any new vocabulary.</li> <li>• Tell students that if they aren’t sure what the word means after looking for context clues and looking in the <b>dictionary</b>, they should leave the definition blank, awaiting discussion with the whole group later on.</li> <li>• Circulate and support students as they read. For those who need more support, ask them to practice telling you the gist of a section before they write it down.</li> <li>• Invite students to get into triads to compare what they wrote for their gist statements and to help each other with any unfamiliar vocabulary they haven’t been able to figure out.</li> <li>• Refocus whole class and invite students to share any unfamiliar vocabulary words they found, along with the definition. If students were unable to work out the definition from the context or find it in a dictionary, encourage other students to assist them with the meaning. To keep things moving, if no one else knows a definition, offer one yourself.</li> <li>• These are words students may struggle with, so be sure to address them here: <i>lingered, blustered, threatened, agonizing, circular file, confrontation</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing a complex text read slowly, fluently, and without interruption or explanation promotes fluency for students. They are hearing a strong reader read the text aloud with accuracy and expression and are simultaneously looking at and thinking about the words on the printed page. Be sure to set clear expectations that students read along silently in their heads as you read the text aloud.</li> <li>• Allow students to grapple with a complex text before explicit teaching of vocabulary. After students have read for gist, they can identify challenging vocabulary for themselves.</li> <li>• Asking students to identify challenging vocabulary helps them monitor their understanding of a complex text. When students annotate the text by circling these words, it can also provide a formative assessment for the teacher.</li> </ul>



Work Time (continued)	Meeting Students’ Needs
<p><b>B. Identifying Cultural Details through Questions: The Crime in the Neighborhood Excerpt of <i>The Lost Garden</i> (8 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Display and distribute the <b>Gathering Evidence of Laurence Yep’s Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood graphic organizer</b>. Remind students that the purpose of the organizer is to support them with the learning targets.</li> <li>• Invite them to reread along with you the learning target that will be the next focus:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* “I can identify details in the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt that affected Laurence Yep’s perspective on the police.”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Invite students to read the questions on the organizer with you as you read them aloud. Remind them that, as in the previous lesson, they need to reread the questions in Column 1, review their excerpt, discuss the answers with their triad, and then record the answers to the questions in Column 2. For now, they should leave the other columns blank. Clarify directions as needed.</li> <li>• Invite students to work in triads to discuss their answers before recording them.</li> <li>• Circulate and observe student work. As needed, support students by asking them to use evidence from the excerpt to answer the questions.</li> <li>• Refocus the whole class after a few minutes. Cold call students you missed while circulating to increase your check for understanding of the whole class. Listen for responses like those listed on the <b>Gathering Evidence of Laurence Yep’s Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood (answers for teacher reference)</b>. Invite students to revise their organizers as necessary based on what they hear from the rest of the class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking students to discuss challenging questions before recording them helps to ensure that all students have an idea about what to write and can give students confidence in their responses.</li> <li>• Text-dependent questions can be answered only by referring explicitly back to the text being read. This encourages students to reread the text for further analysis and allows for a deeper understanding.</li> <li>• Some students may benefit from having access to “hint cards”: small slips of paper or index cards that they turn over for hints about how/where to find the answers to text-dependent questions. For example, a hint card might say, “look in the third paragraph.”</li> <li>• Some students may benefit from having key sections pre-highlighted in their texts. This will help them focus on small sections rather than scanning the whole text for answers.</li> </ul>



Work Time (continued)	Meeting Students' Needs
<p><b>C. Inferring Laurence Yep's Perspective on the Police (9 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask for a volunteer to read the last learning target aloud:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* "I can infer how those details affected Laurence Yep's perspective on the police."</li></ul></li><li>• Remind students that perspective means how you see something, based on your background and your previous experiences. Direct their attention to the question at the top of the third column of the graphic organizer:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* "As a result of what you have read so far, what do you think Yep's perspective on the police might be? How do you think Laurence Yep sees the police as a result of this experience with them?"</li></ul></li><li>• Remind students that they are going to have to infer the answer to the question because Yep doesn't give us this answer directly, but he does give us clues to infer the answer to the question.</li><li>• Remind students to reread the excerpt and their answers to the questions in the second column and to discuss the question at the top of the third column in triads before recording their answers in the final column of their graphic organizer.</li><li>• Circulate among students and listen for them to use clues from the text to answer the questions. If students are struggling, prompt them with the following questions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* "Do you think his perspective on the police was that they were helpful in controlling crime in his neighborhood? Why/why not? What evidence can you see in the excerpt to lead you to that answer?"</li><li>* "Do you think his perspective on the police was that they cared about the crime in his neighborhood? Why/why not?"</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asking students to discuss challenging questions before recording their answer helps to ensure that all students have an idea about what to write and can give students confidence in their responses.</li></ul>



Closing and Assessment	Meeting Students’ Needs
<p><b>A. Sharing Ideas (5 minutes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refocus whole class. Select volunteers to share an inference they made about Laurence Yep’s perspective on the police based on what they read in the excerpt.</li> <li>• Listen for responses like those listed on the Gathering Evidence of Laurence Yep’s Perspective: Crime in the Neighborhood (answers for teacher reference).</li> <li>• Invite students to revise their organizers as necessary, based on what they hear from the rest of the class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking students to share their ideas can enable them to build on their own thinking using the ideas of others, deepening their understanding. It can also help them to identify where they need to make revisions.</li> </ul>
Homework	Meeting Students’ Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Chapter 5 up to page 108, stopping after “... all the others in the room could feel it too.” Answer this focus question in your structured notes:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* “What was Moon Shadow’s point of view of Black Dog after he stole the collection money?”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Use evidence flags to identify three text details from this section of Chapter 5 to support your answer.</li> </ul>	



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## Supporting Materials



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**Crime in the Neighborhood**  
(excerpt from *The Lost Garden*)

One night a gang of junior high boys came into the neighborhood looking for some fun (as one of our neighbors later found out and told my father). Wanting to impress the girls who were with them, they tried to get some wine from our store windows.

The burglar alarm was hooked up to the door—the normal point of entry for the burglars. However, one of the boys tied a rag around his hand and began to break the window. We might not have noticed it later at night; but this was around ten when everyone was still up. My father charged down the steps and I followed.

In their inexperience, the boys lingered on and so my father caught the would-be burglar. He yelled up to my mother to call the police and then, as the gang closed in, my father kept his arm locked around the boy's throat. With our backs to the wall, we kept the boy as a shield between us and the rest of the gang.

The minutes ticked by like hours. Where were the police? The gang members frantically blustered and threatened. Fortunately, they had no weapons of their own; but they claimed our prisoner had an older brother who did have a gun and who would get even with us if we didn't let the boy go. I still remember the faces lit by the street light; and I can still remember the fear knotting in my stomach while I stood by my father against the wall.

After about ten agonizing minutes, the boy broke free and the whole gang ran off. My father chased them to the corner and just stood there in frustration cursing with words I had never heard him use before. After another ten minutes, a patrol car rolled up. A very bored policeman took the report that we knew would be dumped into the circular file.

Gathering Evidence of Yep's Perspective:  
Crime in the Neighborhood

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Targets:**

I can find the gist of the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt.

I can identify details in the Crime in the Neighborhood excerpt that affected Laurence Yep's perspective on the police.

I can infer how those details affected Laurence Yep's perspective on the police.

I can identify evidence of Laurence Yep's perspective on the police in *Dragonwings*.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS  (use evidence from the text to support your answers)	PERSPECTIVE  As a result of what you have read so far, what do you think Yep's perspective on what it's like to fit in to another culture might be?	EVIDENCE  Evidence of Yep's perspective in <i>Dragonwings</i> (use evidence from the text to support your answers)
<b>CRIME EXCERPT</b>			
1. What does Laurence Yep mean when he says, "The minutes ticked by like hours"?			



Gathering Evidence of Yep's Perspective:  
Crime in the Neighborhood

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS  (use evidence from the text to support your answers)	PERSPECTIVE  As a result of what you have read so far, what do you think Yep's perspective on what it's like to fit in to another culture might be?	EVIDENCE  Evidence of Yep's perspective in <i>Dragonwings</i> (use evidence from pages 66 and 67 of the text to support your answers)
<b>CRIME EXCERPT</b>			
2. Why did Yep describe the ten minutes before the gang broke free as "agonizing"?			
3. How long after the gang had gone did it take the police officer to show up?			
4. How does Laurence Yep describe the officer's attitude?			
5. What does he mean when he says, "...took the report that we knew would be dumped into the circular file"?			



Gathering Evidence of Yep’s Perspective:  
Crime in the Neighborhood  
(For Teacher Reference)

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS  (use evidence from the text to support your answers)	PERSPECTIVE  As a result of what you have read so far, what do you think Yep’s perspective on what it’s like to fit in to another culture might be?	EVIDENCE  Evidence of Yep’s perspective in <i>Dragonwings</i> (use evidence from the text to support your answers)
<b>CRIME EXCERPT</b>			
1. What does Laurence Yep mean when he says, “The minutes ticked by like hours”?	<b>He means that it seemed to take a very long time for the police to come after his father had asked his mother to call them. He says after this, “Where were the police?”</b>	<b>The police didn’t care enough about the people in his neighborhood to make an effort to show up quickly to help them out. He probably lost faith in the police and their ability to</b>	
2. Why did Yep describe the ten minutes before the gang broke free as “agonizing”?	<b>He and his father were in a dangerous situation facing the gang who “frantically blustered and threatened” them, and Laurence Yep was scared. He said, “I can still remember the fear knotting in my stomach.”</b>	<b>protect him and his family. As a result, it is up to the family and the community to protect themselves, rather than relying on police protection from crime.</b>	



Gathering Evidence of Yep's Perspective:  
Crime in the Neighborhood  
(For Teacher Reference)

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS  (use evidence from the text to support your answers)	PERSPECTIVE  As a result of what you have read so far, what do you think Yep's perspective on what it's like to fit in to another culture might be?	EVIDENCE  Evidence of Yep's perspective in <i>Dragonwings</i> (use evidence from pages 66 and 67 of the text to support your answers)
<b>CRIME EXCERPT</b>			
3. How long after the gang had gone did it take the police officer to show up?	<b>Ten minutes</b>		
4. How does Laurence Yep describe the officer's attitude?	<b>He describes him as "very bored."</b>		
5. What does he mean when he says, "...took the report that we knew would be dumped into the circular file"?	<b>It would be thrown away.</b>		