

Mr. Lemoncello's All-Star Breakout Game

Written by Chris Grabenstein

Yearling

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LESSON FOCUS

Character development

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Authors develop characters in their stories in many ways. They can directly tell a reader about a character or reveal a character through what the character says, how he or she acts, how other characters interact with the character, what the character thinks, and what other characters say about a character. In this lesson, students will have the opportunity to read a chapter from *Mr. Lemoncello's All Star Breakout Game* by Chris Grabenstein and collect quotes as evidence to support the development of a single character. Students will also evaluate the quote and provide an explanation of how it reveals further character development.

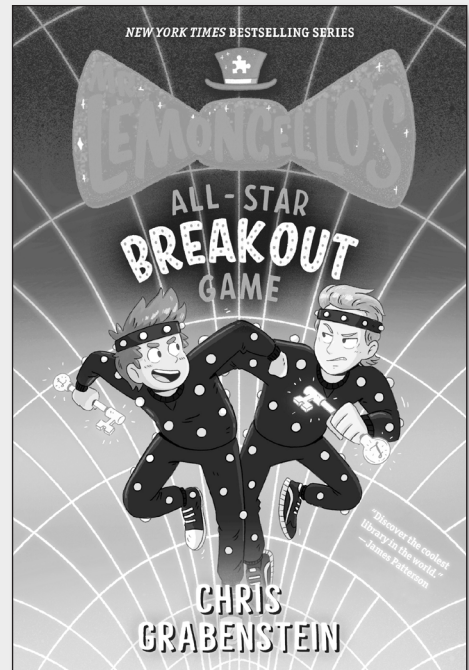
LEARNING TARGETS

1. Students will use quotes as evidence to support character development.
2. Students will evaluate what the quote reveals about a character.

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. *Mr. Lemoncello's All-Star Breakout Game* by Chris Grabenstein, chapters 2 and 4
2. Character Development worksheet

Lesson Plan *for* Marvelous Middle Grade Reads



SUMMARY

It's the biggest livestream event ever – Mr. Lemoncello is going live with his first-ever televised BREAKOUT game! Discover what James Patterson calls “the coolest library in the world” in the fourth puzzle-packed adventure in Chris Grabenstein’s *New York Times* bestselling MR. LEMONCELLO series!

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Step 1: Introduce *Mr. Lemoncello's All-Star Breakout Game* by Chris Grabenstein

Step 2: Review the concept of character development.

KEY IDEAS:

- What the character says
- How the character acts
- How other characters interact with the character
- What the character thinks
- What other characters say about the character

Step 3: Provide the class with a copy of chapter two. It will be used as a whole class (we do) instruction. You can read the chapter together or have students read it independently. Tell students they are looking for quotes to support the character development of Charles. As a class, fill out the first Character Development Worksheet (this one has been done for you).

Step 4: Provide the class with a copy of chapter four. It will be used for students to read and work on independently, with a partner or as a team. Tell students they are looking for quotes to support the character development of Charles again. They will create their own Character Development Worksheet.

Step 5: Discuss answers as a class.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

How does an author develop a character? Let's use chapter 2 from *Mr. Lemoncello's All Star Breakout Game* for practice in studying the character development of Charles (we do).

Character Focus: Charles	Quote	What does this reveal to the reader about the character?
What a character says	"Well, at least I wasn't playing mindless video games, as you miscreants and ne'er-do-wells indubitably were" (Grabenstein 5).	Charles thinks more highly of himself than the other kids.
How a character acts	"Charles smirked" (Grabenstein 8).	Charles is arrogant.
How other characters interact with a character	"I believe you were about to issue Kyle, Akimi, Miguel, and, sadly, even Sierra three detentions each,' said Charles" (Grabenstein 7)	Clearly, Charles does not like the other students.
What a character thinks	"In their never-ending competition, he had just pulled ahead of Kyle by slamming him with a dreaded 'Go to Detention' card" (Grabenstein 8).	Charles thinks he "got one over" the other students – he is ahead of them.
What other characters say about a character	"He was always super polite in front of adults" (Grabenstein 5).	Charles is insincere.

Let's use chapter 4 from *Mr. Lemoncello's All Star Breakout Game* to study the character development of Charles (you do). Please use an additional sheet of paper to create your own Character Development worksheet.



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