

Lesson Plan

Preposition Playbook

Book: *Aaron Donald: Football Star*

Series: Biggest Names in Sports

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students practice using prepositions and explaining their functions in specific sentences.

Supplies

- *Aaron Donald: Football Star* book
- Preposition Playbook Words (attached)
- Whiteboard
- 2 tables
- Preposition Playbook Statements and Answers (attached)

Before the Activity

Have students read the *Aaron Donald: Football Star* book. Print two copies of the Preposition Playbook Words and cut them apart so that each word is on a separate slip of paper.

Activity

Start by reviewing what a preposition is. Explain that a preposition is a word that tells how a noun or pronoun is related to other words in a sentence. For example, write the following sentence on the whiteboard and underline the words *through*, *in*, *toward*, and *with*:

- Donald darted through the opening in the offensive line and thundered toward the quarterback to bring him down with a hard tackle.

Explain that all the underlined words are prepositions. Each one shows a different relationship. *Through* and *in* show the location of Donald's movement. *Toward* shows the direction of Donald's movement, and *with* shows how Donald brought the quarterback down.

Divide students into two teams. The teams should sit at separate tables. Place a set of Preposition Playbook Words on the table in front of each team. On each team's turn, read one sentence from the Preposition Playbook Statements and Answers out loud. But instead of reading the preposition listed in red, say the word *blank*. Students should choose a word from the table in front of them to fill this blank. Give students 30 seconds to make their choice. One student should hold the slip of paper with that word up in the air. If the team chooses the right

word, the team gets one point. The student can earn a bonus point by explaining the function of that preposition in the sentence. The student should say what nouns the preposition goes with or what relationship it explains.

Note: In some cases, students' answers may not match the word listed in red. However, if an answer is still grammatically correct and if students can explain its function in the sentence, accept that answer as correct.

Evaluation

The team with the most points at the end wins.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 5 (L 5.1).

Preposition Playbook Words

with

on

to

through

from

behind

after

toward

in

at

for

during

Preposition Playbook Statements and Answers

1. Los Angeles Rams defender Aaron Donald stood **behind** the line of scrimmage.
shows where he stood
2. Arizona Cardinals quarterback Josh Rosen took the snap **from** the center.
shows where the snap came from
3. Donald immediately took off **toward** Rosen.
shows the direction of Donald's movement
4. Donald pulled the quarterback **to** the ground.
shows where Donald pulled the quarterback
5. Los Angeles had a 24–9 lead **in** the fourth quarter.
shows when Los Angeles had a lead
6. **On** third down, Rosen took the snap.
shows when Rosen took the snap
7. Donald found an opening **on** the left side.
shows where the opening was
8. **With** that sack, Donald tied the record.
shows how Donald tied the record
9. Donald powered **through** the offensive line.
shows the direction of Donald's movement
10. Aaron Donald was born **on** May 23, 1991.
shows when he was born
11. Aaron's dad built a gym **in** the family basement.
shows where the gym was located
12. The two woke up **at** 4:30 every morning and worked out.
shows when they worked out
13. Aaron was good enough to be a starter **on** both offense and defense.
shows where Aaron was a starter

14. He received offers from schools such as Toledo, Akron, and Pittsburgh.
shows which schools made him offers
15. As a sophomore, Donald became a starter.
shows when Donald became a starter
16. He finished with 11 sacks that season.
shows how he finished the season
17. He was one of the top defensive players in the Big East Conference.
shows where he was one of the top defensive players
18. The Bronko Nagurski Trophy goes to the best defensive player in college football.
shows who gets to the award
19. After his great senior season, Donald set his sights on the NFL.
shows when Donald started looking at the NFL
20. He set the record for the fastest 40-meter dash by a defensive lineman.
shows the kind of record he set
21. The Rams took him with the 13th pick in the draft.
shows how the Rams picked him
22. Donald began his rookie season as a backup.
shows how Donald began the season
23. In his second game, Donald recorded his first career sack.
shows when Donald got his first career sack
24. Donald finished his rookie year with nine sacks.
shows how Donald finished his rookie year
25. After his impressive season, he was named Defensive Rookie of the Year.
shows when he was named Defensive Rookie of the Year
26. Donald continued to play well during his second year.
shows the time period in which Donald continued to play well