

Lesson Plan

Building the Scene

Series: Biggest Names in Sports

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students write a brief essay that uses descriptive details to highlight an exciting sports moment.

Supplies

- One or more books in the Biggest Names in Sports series
- Notebooks or paper
- Pencils or pens

Before the Activity

- Print out copies of Chapter 1 of the Biggest Names in Sports book(s)

Activity

Pass out the copies of Chapter 1. If you have examples from multiple books, choose one to focus on. Then do a popcorn-style read-aloud of the chapter. Have each student read a short section of the printed chapter, then pass it along to another person. As students read, ask them to pay attention to how the chapter uses play-by-play descriptions and scene-setting details. After they read the chapter, ask students to write a one-page essay using the same writing style as Chapter 1. It should describe an exciting game they watched or played in. Like the example, it should include specific details that show the action unfolding.

Evaluation

Collect the essays at the end of class. Give each student up to 16 points for their essay:

- 4 points for choosing a relevant topic
- 4 points for using play-by-play descriptions
- 4 points for including scene-setting details
- 4 points for using correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' writing standards, grade 4 (W 4.3, 4.4) and grade 5 (W 5.3, 5.4).