

### **District-Aligned Lesson Plan: *Puma***

**Book:** *Puma* by Gail Scoates

**Grade Level:** 3–6

**Time Frame:** 2–3 class periods

#### **Lesson Overview**

In this lesson, students will explore themes of courage, trust, and belonging through the novel *Puma*. Students will analyze character development, practice perspective-taking, and make text-to-self connections while engaging in discussion, writing, and creative response activities.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- 1 Analyze character growth and change over time.
- 2 Explain how point of view shapes a story.
- 3 Identify themes and support ideas with text evidence.
- 4 Demonstrate empathy through discussion and reflection.

#### **Standards Alignment**

Common Core State Standards (ELA):

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3-6.2 – Determine a theme and summarize key details.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3-6.3 – Describe characters and how they respond to challenges.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3-6.6 – Describe how point of view influences a story.

Social-Emotional Learning (CASEL):

- Self-Awareness
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills

#### **Materials Needed**

- 1 Copy of *Puma*
- 2 Student journals or writing paper
- 3 Drawing materials (optional)

#### **Instructional Activities**

**Day 1:** Pre-reading discussion on courage and fear; introduce point of view.

**Day 2:** Guided reading and group discussion using provided questions.

**Day 3:** Writing or art extension activity and reflection.

**Assessment**

- Participation in discussion
- Written reflection or creative response
- Informal teacher observation

**Differentiation**

- Provide sentence starters or visual supports for emerging readers.
- Offer a choice between written or artistic responses.
- Extend learning with independent research on working dogs.