Story Theme Hunt

Students identify themes in short stories and explain what a theme is.

1.RL.9 "Describe what a theme is and identify common themes in stories (e.g., honesty, bravery)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 CIRCLE THEMES

a | patience | honesty | teamwork

b | bravery | kindness | patience

2 MATCH THEMES

1	•	•	kindness
2	•	•	patience
3	•	•	teamwork

ANSWER KEY

Story Theme Hunt

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read the stories and printed choices aloud, then give students time to make their own marks. Listen to each student's oral explanation of theme, and record any support you give on your roster.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · CIRCLE THEMES

SAY "What is a theme in a story? Tell me in your own words so I can hear your idea. Now listen to each short story and its three words, then circle the theme that fits best."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Tia spilled paint, and her teacher asked what happened. Tia told the truth. The words are patience, honesty, and teamwork. Which theme fits best?	**honesty**
b	Noah was afraid to share his poem with the class. He stood up and shared it anyway. The words are bravery, kindness, and patience. Which theme fits best?	**bravery**

PART 2 · MATCH THEMES

SAY "Story 1: Lee waits for a turn on the swing without pushing; story 2: Ava and Ben work together to put books away; story 3: Jo sees that Pat is sad and asks how to help. The theme words are kindness, patience, and teamwork; draw a line from each story number to the theme that fits best."

- **1** matches **patience**
- **2** matches **teamwork**
- **3** matches **kindness**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Circle honesty, then bravery. Match 1 to patience, 2 to teamwork, and 3 to kindness. For the oral response, accept an explanation that a theme is a lesson or big idea a story teaches.