

Wilfred Smith and the Great San Francisco Earthquake 20-Minute Classroom Lesson

Lesson Question

What is one way Wilfred helped someone? Use a detail from the story.

California Standards

RI.2.1, RI.2.3

HSS-2.1.1, HSS.2.1.3, HSS-2.5

Materials

- *Wilfred Smith and the Great San Francisco Earthquake*
- Optional: Classroom audio
- Optional: Copy of the original letter

Teacher Plan (20 minutes)

Talk about how this story is from the letter of a real person who was in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. (Optional: show a copy of the original letter/tie it to the book.)

1. Listen (5 minutes)

Read or play a short section where Wilfred helps others.

(Recommended: Chapter 4 *My First Bread Line* (3 minutes) or Chapter 7 *The Rescue of Ethel* (minutes))

2. Talk (5 minutes)

Ask:

- What happened first?
- What happened next?
- What happened last?
- What problem did the earthquake cause?
- How did people respond?

Say: “This story comes from a real letter Wilfred wrote to his family.”

3. Find Evidence (5 minutes)

Say:

“Tell me one way Wilfred helped someone. Use a detail from the story.”

Allow a few students to share responses using specific details.

4. Write or Draw (5 minutes)

Students:

- Write one sentence **OR**
- Draw a picture

Student Question:

- What is one way Wilfred helped someone? Use a detail from the story.

Prompt:

Wilfred helped by _____.

Student audio file at: www.WilfredSmithBook.com

Purchase hardcopy books: www.amazon.com/fillinhere