

Flowers for Algernon

by
Daniel Keyes

8th
Grade

A Comprehensive CCSS-Aligned Unit

Short Story Version



SHORT STORY OF THE MONTH

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

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"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Common Core Standards Alignment

List of Activities & Standards **Difficulty Level:** *Easy **Moderate ***Challenge

Activity 1: Review Lesson (Quick Notes) - Theme*	RL.8.2
Activity 2: Practice Theme Printables**	RL.8.2
Activity 3: Journal Question*	SL.8.1
Activity 4: Comprehension Quiz Part 1*	RL.8.1
Activity 5: Comprehension Quiz Part 2*	RL.8.1
Activity 6: Analyze Theme Dev. in Characters Actions***	RL.8.2, RL.8.1
Activity 7: Vocab Guide A: Allusions **	RL.8.4, RL.8.1
Activity 8: Vocab Guide B: Analogies & Fig Lang**	RL.8.4, RL.8.1
Activity 9: Plot Diagram Graphic Organizer**	RL.8.2, RL.8.1
Activity 10: Find Evidence That... Text Evidence**	RL.8.1
Activity 11: Analyzing Motivation**	RL.8.6, RL.8.1, RL.8.2
Activity 12: Story vs. Movie Analysis**	RL.8.7, RL.8.1
Activity 13: Skills Test**	RL.8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7
Activity 14: Modified Skills Test*	RL.8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7
Activity 15: Nonfiction Article**	RI.8.1
Activity 16: Finding Text Evidence in Nonfiction Art.**	RI.8.1
Activity 17: Ethics Code Analysis (Integrate Sources)***	RI.8.1, RI.8.2, RL.8.1, RI.8.9
Activity 18: Essential Question***	RI.8.6, RI.8.1, RL.8.1, RI.8.9

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

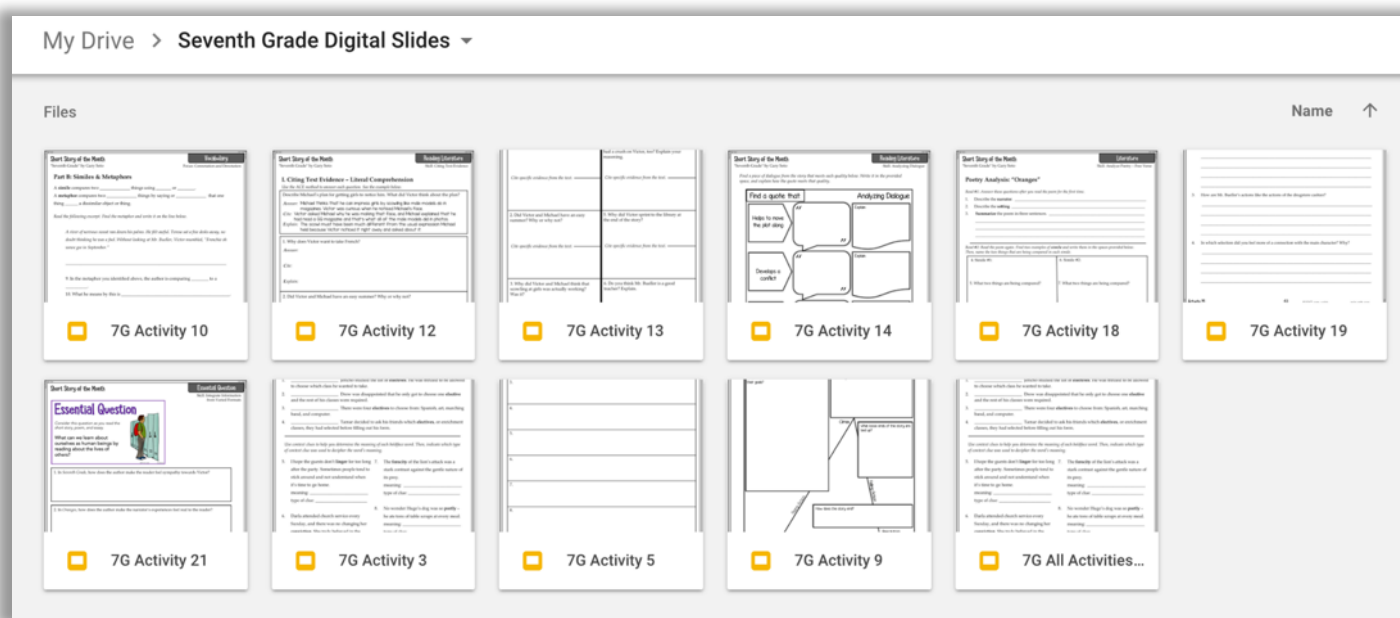
Instructions for Google Classroom Digital Components

All student activities are available in digital format compatible with Google Classroom. They are available in two formats: Google Slides and Google Forms.

Google Slides

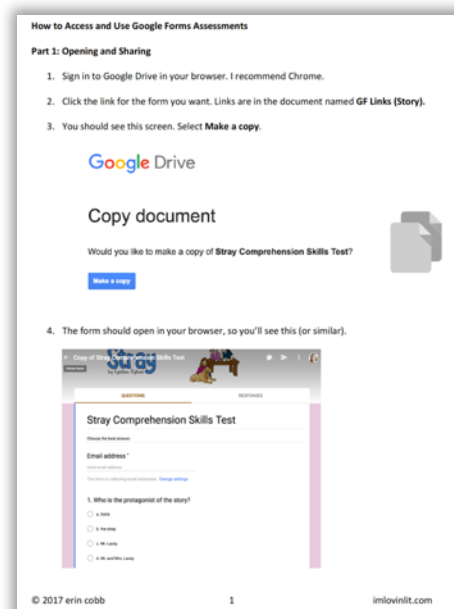
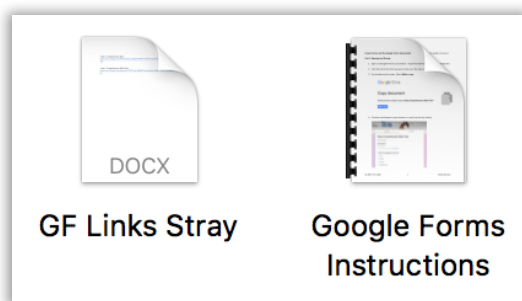
First, I have made all student pages in Google Slides format. Students can simply add text boxes to any area they wish to type on. To access the Google Slides for this short story unit, copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NFab2LLGdjRQYsmPEKELxV1gFN1XM81L?usp=sharing>



Google Forms

I have made the assessments available in Google Forms. Here, they are self-grading, and I have set them all up with answer keys so they are ready to go for you. You'll need to find these two files in your download folder to use Google Forms. The first file contains the links to the Forms, and the second file is explicit instructions for use.



"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Teaching Guide, Rationale, Lesson Plans, and Procedures

I have also discussed here how I use each activity and included hints and links to help you, too. I went ahead and mapped out the days for you. Feel free to take or leave what you like. Even if you don't plan to follow this schedule, I still recommend reading through this section to get the most out of these activities.

These lessons and activities were designed to meet the needs of incoming eighth graders. The stories, activities, questions, and assessments will become increasingly rigorous and challenging as we progress through the year.

Day 1

1. Activity 1: 20-25 minutes

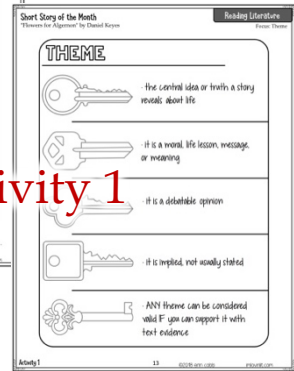
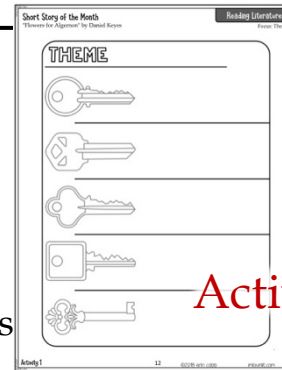
Introduce/review Theme- interactive notebook Quick Notes lesson included. You may wish to do the entire lesson from the interactive notebook and supporting practice worksheets and quizzes if you have them. This is a basic review of theme, and we'll be visiting theme in some way with pretty much every story from here on, so I want to make sure to review it and address it from the start. This gets it into their interactive notebooks. See Activity 6 for how we'll analyze theme with character's actions in this story.

2. Activity 2: 20-25 minutes

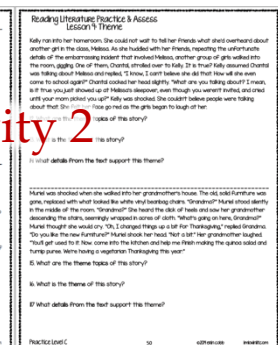
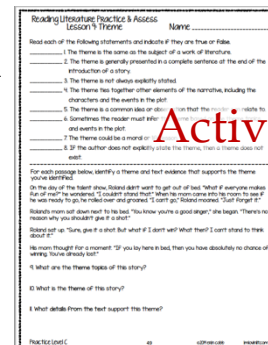
Again, this is just to make sure we've had a good, solid review of theme, so I included a theme practice with several different mini-stories so that students can get some good practice in simply choosing a theme and backing it up with text evidence before we go way deeper in Activity 6, after we read the story. Note that this is included as a separate file in the download folder and is an excerpt from Practice & Assess Literature Grades 7-8.

3. Activity 3: 5-10 minutes

Journal prompt - discuss if desired. Separate file (PPTX) in the download folder.



Activity 1



Activity 2

Journal Prompt

Activity 3

If someone asked you to be part of a medical experiment, would you?

Why or why not?



Short Story of the Month

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Day 2

1. Read Part 1: 35-45 minutes

Read Part 1 of the short story for understanding. Discuss as needed. Grab a copy of the story here: <https://goo.gl/kLntwX> or here: <https://goo.gl/sqCTrC>

2. Activity 4: 20 minutes

Quiz - Basic Comprehension (Recall Facts) This quiz checks for basic comprehension and recall of the story. There are no higher order thinking questions on this quiz, no inferring, no analyzing, no drawing conclusions, etc. so I do not recommend that students use a copy of the story for this quiz unless they need that as a testing accommodation. *Alternate Use* - Use this as a cold read opportunity after student completes first read independently.

NOTE Key included as always, not shown here.

Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Reading Literature
Skill: Recall Details

Comprehension Quiz, Part 1
Choose the best answer.

- During the Rorschach (inkblot) test at the beginning of the story, what is Charlie afraid of?
 - failing the test
 - forgetting the answers
 - getting into trouble
 - the man who administered the test
- Why does Charlie want to attend the adult night school?
 - to make new friends
 - to impress his parents
 - to have someone to go
 - to become smarter
- Why do Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss choose Charlie?
 - He is intelligent.
 - He is motivated.
 - He is the right age.
 - all of these
- As Charlie gets ready for the operation, what goal does he hope to achieve after the surgery?
 - to be smarter than Algernon
 - to be smarter than Dr. Nemur
 - to be smarter than Miss Kinnian
 - to be smarter than Dr. Strauss
- After he recovers from the operation, Charlie returns to his job at the...
 - factory
 - grocery store
 - garage
 - all of these
- What...
 - is an operation
 - is a test
 - is something stupid
 - is a package
- Charlie complains about the television he receives from Dr. Strauss because...
 - he can't understand what it says.
 - it makes it hard for Charlie to sleep.
 - he doesn't understand its purpose.
 - all of these
- When Charlie becomes confused over punctuation, how does he figure it all out?
 - Miss Kinnian explains it to him again.
 - He reads a grammar book.
 - He looks for punctuation in Robinson Crusoe.
 - all of these
- How is the Rorschach test different for Charlie the second time?
 - Charlie is able to complete the test.
 - Charlie understands the test.
 - Charlie isn't frustrated this time.
 - all of these
- Why does Charlie receive a \$25 bonus at work?
 - He receives a bonus every year.
 - He figures out a new way to line up machines that saves his boss money.
 - He is awarded Employee of the Month.
 - He is promoted to supervisor.

Activity 4

Day 3

1. Read Part 2: 35-45 minutes

Read Part 2 of the short story for understanding. Discuss as needed. See links in Day 2 instructions if you need a copy of the story.

2. Activity 5: 20 minutes

Comprehension Quiz, same routine and instructions as above in Day 2.

Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Reading Literature
Skill: Recall Details

Comprehension Quiz, Part 2
Choose the best answer.

- When Part 2 begins, why hasn't Charlie written any progress reports in the previous two years?
 - He's becoming forgetful.
 - He's been busy thinking and reading.
 - He's been trying to find a job.
 - He's mad at Dr. Nemur.
- How does Charlie react to the degrading comments made about the young, mentally handicapped diner worker by the plant?
 - Charlie takes part in making the degrading comments.
 - Charlie ignores the diner worker and his accident.
 - Charlie helps the diner worker clean up the mess from the accident.
 - Charlie stands up for the diner worker and tells all the people making the degrading comments.
- After the incident with the young dishwasher, Charlie decides that he must...
 - use his gift of intellectual awareness to help others with their lives.
 - volunteer his time on the weekends to teach students with intellectual disabilities to work for Miss Kinnian at the adult learning center.
 - spend more time with Algernon.
 - What is the first sign that something is wrong with Algernon?
 - He is losing weight.
 - He is acting mean and mean.
 - He lets Charlie know.
 - He is acting funny.
- In his lab research, what conclusion does Charlie reach?
 - Charlie's newly gained intelligence is permanent.
 - Charlie's newly gained intelligence will fade away.
 - Charlie will only grow smarter and smarter.
 - Charlie will become smarter, but Algernon will continue to decline.
- When Algernon died, Charlie...
 - denotes his body to science.
 - performs the autopsy himself.
 - burns him.
 - places him back in the maze.
- At the end of the story, Charlie...
 - moves away.
 - tells Miss Kinnian that he loves her.
 - uses Dr. Strauss and the psychology department.
 - finds his mother.

Activity 5

Day 4

1. Activity 6: 30-40 minutes

Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions This activity digs pretty deeply into theme (as we will with most stories in this collection) so make sure your students are ready. Go back to Activities 1-2 if needed. Here, students will have to identify themes, explain theme, and then cite specific actions by characters in the story that develop the theme. Note that there's a scaffolded version that includes parts already filled in. Heavy hitting RI.8.2 here early on.

2. Activity 7: 30 minutes

Deep allusion analysis here. Read over carefully. If your students need help with the bible story, try: <https://goo.gl/Y8bb4Q>

Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Reading Literature
Skill: Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions

Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions

Theme	Explain Theme

Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Reading Literature
Skill: Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions

Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions

Theme	Explain Theme
Ignorance is bliss.	Charlie becomes the more intelligent he becomes, the more he realizes that he is not as happy as he once was. He realizes that he is not as happy as he once was.

Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Reading Literature
Skill: Analyze Theme Development in Characters' Actions

Vocabulary Guide: Part A: Allusion in "Flowers for Algernon"

Read the passage and identify the allusion. Then explain the allusion's effect on the text.

Passage: "I had a strange sensation that I was not in my own body. It was as if I were looking at myself from the outside. I felt as if I were a stranger to myself." (Keyes, 23)

Identify the allusion and explain its effect on the text.

Activity 7

Short Story of the Month

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Teacher's Guide

Day 5

1. Activity 8: 25 minutes

Vocabulary Part B: This has students consider some analogies included in the story (note that RL.8.4 specifically mentions analogies, and allusions for that matter). Students will also find 2 similes (given the date of the progress report entry) and explain them.

2. Activity 9: 30 minutes

Plot diagram – routine practice mapping out the parts of the plot. Nothing crazy or special on this one, so consider trying independently.

Activity 8

Vocabulary Guide Part B: Analogy & Figurative Language

Read the reading on the left. On the right, explain the meaning of each analogy from the text. Circle all words from the list provided. Then, identify and explain each use of figurative language response.

1. Analogies

Find 2 analogies from the text. Explain the meaning of each analogy from the text. Circle all words from the list provided. Then, identify and explain each use of figurative language response.

2. Figurative Language

Find 2 similes from the text. Explain the meaning of each simile from the text. Circle all words from the list provided. Then, identify and explain each use of figurative language response.

Activity 9

Diagramming a Story

Read the reading on the left. On the right, explain the meaning of each analogy from the text. Circle all words from the list provided. Then, identify and explain each use of figurative language response.

1. Plot Diagram

Map out the plot of the story. Label the parts of the plot: Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Resolution.

Day 6

1. Activity 10: 15-20 minutes

Find Evidence That – backtracking a little bit after last week’s text evidence lesson for a quickie practice on just the evidence/explaining part. Find Evidence That... It is practice building up to having students answer questions with the ACE method. I love this activity though because students seem to be successful when they are “looking for evidence that...” proves the statement, and they can fall back on this when they’re using the ACE method.

2. Activity 11: 20-25 minutes

Motivation analysis – I created this activity specifically to address RL.8.6. This is a great story for seeing the various motivations of each character and how it affects their actions. Students have to identify what motivates a character and provide one or two examples of actions from the story that are results of the character’s motivations. See answer key for suggested answers.

Activity 10

Find Evidence That...

Read the reading on the left. On the right, explain the meaning of each analogy from the text. Circle all words from the list provided. Then, identify and explain each use of figurative language response.

1. Find Evidence That...

Find evidence from the text that proves the statement. For the example, explain how the text evidence you found proves the statement. For the example, explain how the text evidence you found proves the statement. For the example, explain how the text evidence you found proves the statement.

Activity 11

Analyzing Motivation

Motivation is the reason a character's actions or behavior. Think about each character's motivation. Describe their motivation, and list one or two actions that occur as a result of the motivation.

Character	Motivation	Action
Dr. Gordon		
Miss Kinnon		
Dr. Nemur		
Mr. Dorgeman		

Short Story of the Month

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Teacher's Guide

Days 7-8

1. Activity 12: 120 minutes

Students view the year 2000 movie version of "Flowers for Algernon" and consider the extend to which the movie stays faithful to or departs from the short story version.

Hard-hitting specifically RL.8.7 here!

Have students complete the first column before watching the movie - super helps with confusion during the movie.

They can complete the second column easily while watching the movie and may need a few extra minutes at the end to complete the last question.

Info about movie:

The movie can **currently** be streamed free for Amazon Prime members. DVD can be purchased here:

<http://a.co/d/cC44nN2>

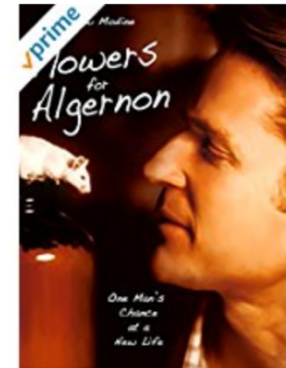
*There's an awkward love scene from 1:11-1:14 involving PG-13 sex. Preview, but I showed it to my 8th graders in a Catholic school and had no problems. Teacher judgment on this one. More info here:

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0210044/parentalguide>

Short Story of the Month		Reading Literature	
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes		Skill: Comparing/Contrasting Multiple Versions	
Story vs. Movie Analysis			
Analyze and evaluate how one version of the story is faithful to the 2000 movie version of "Flowers for Algernon" (page 14) or departs from the short story version.		Short Story	2000 Movie
How is Charlie's characterization in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?			
What is the significance of the title "Flowers for Algernon" in the short story (page 14) and the movie (page 14)?			
How is the characterization of Charlie in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?			
How is the characterization of Algernon in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?			
Which version has the most impact on you?			

Activity 12

Short Story of the Month		Reading Literature	
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes		Skill: Comparing/Contrasting Multiple Versions	
Story vs. Movie Analysis			
Analyze and evaluate how one version of the story is faithful to the 2000 movie version of "Flowers for Algernon" (page 14) or departs from the short story version.		Short Story	2000 Movie
How is Charlie's characterization in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?		Charlie discusses being evaluated and selected for his program reports.	Several candidates are shown to try for the award. Charlie is the "best" candidate and is chosen to be a member.
What is the significance of the title "Flowers for Algernon" in the short story (page 14) and the movie (page 14)?		Charlie's only to only acknowledge "Flowers for Algernon" as a reward for his performance in the program. He remembers the reward kept the program.	Charlie's mother is a prominent part of the movie. She is a reporter who writes about Charlie's progress. She is the one who tells Charlie that he is the "best" from the program.
How is the characterization of Charlie in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?		Charlie works on a job in a factory. He works "hard" and is proud of his work. He is making money and is proud of it. He is making money and is proud of it.	Charlie works in a factory. He works "hard" and is proud of his work. He is making money and is proud of it.
How is the characterization of Algernon in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?		Charlie reveals his feelings about the "Flowers for Algernon" reward in a letter to his mother.	Charlie reveals his feelings from an article in the newspaper in front of hundreds of people.
Which version has the most impact on you?		Algernon dies in the lab and Charlie dies in the lab. Charlie is the one who is the "best" from the program.	Algernon dies in the lab and Charlie dies in the lab. Charlie is the one who is the "best" from the program.
How is the characterization of Charlie in the short story (page 14) different from the movie (page 14)?		The movie has a more emotional ending than the short story. The first scene of the movie, an older Charlie, reminds a grieving Alice, who is a character who is not in the short story, that she should be proud of her son. The movie is a more emotional ending than the short story.	The movie has a more emotional ending than the short story. The first scene of the movie, an older Charlie, reminds a grieving Alice, who is a character who is not in the short story, that she should be proud of her son. The movie is a more emotional ending than the short story.



Day 9

1. Activity 13: Skills Test

Comprehension Skills Test. Meant to be given along with a copy of the selection, though I wouldn't allow students to use annotated selection unless it was a test modification. Keys included although not shown on the right. This test touches on the various activities throughout this unit to test for mastery. Questions 1-13 (pages 1-2) are multiple choice, and questions 14-15 (page 3) are extended response. I've included the specific CCSS skill tested with each question in green on the answer key.

NOTE - in order to test RL.8.7 (item 15 on the test), you'll need to show students an excerpt from the movie - from 18:30-21:50.

Here's a clip of only the scene: <https://goo.gl/dPJHo4>

Note that Activity 14 is a modified version of this test - all answer choices are reduced to 2 instead of 4.

Short Story of the Month		Reading Literature	
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes		Skill: Text	
Comprehension Skills Test			
Choose the best answer.			
1. What is the leading incident in the story?			
2. What is the climax of the story system when?			
3. Which event best occurs during the falling action?			
4. After which event did Charlie decide he wanted to do work in the field?			
5. The story includes allusions to all of the following except:			
6. Identify what is being compared in this analogy from the story:			
7. What best describes that Charlie may lose his intelligence?			



Short Story of the Month		Reading Literature	
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes		Skill: Text	
Answer the questions completely, citing textual evidence from the story to support your answer.			
14. You have one or more letters in your answer from #12 on this test. Identify another theme of the story. Justify your answer using details from the story.			
15. This test includes a clip of the scene from the movie "Flowers for Algernon." Watched from the movie you can see the video for "Why do you think that change was made?"			

Day 10

1. Activity 15: 30 minutes

Paired Text: Original Nonfiction Article, "The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation" - this and the next two activities are bonuses from the 8th grade Reading Informational Text Standards companion to this resource: Article of the Week! This is hands down my favorite part of the unit as students are asked to really consider ethical issues here. It's also super high interest! Find tons more activities with this article, including a quiz and test, in the full resource in my TpT store.

2. Activity 16: 25 minutes

Practice text evidence RI.8.1 as your students review the article and show their comprehension.

The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation

A Revolutionary Idea
In 1946, English doctor Edward Jenner routinely treated patients for smallpox, a devastating disease that killed 3 out of every 10 patients and left survivors with scars, often severe. At the time, there was a common belief that people who caught cowpox were immune to smallpox. Unlike the deadly smallpox virus, cowpox was a mild viral infection seen mostly in cows. It was not unusual for milk maids to contract smallpox on their hands after milking infected cows, resulting in recordable scars that lasted about a week.

The First Human Experiment
Some of the experiments on Greek physicians performed with the time, there is no scientific method. Most are dissections, not in the lab. Even after, no barriers, making systems of the kind for certain events that can be repeated.

The Nuremberg Code
The Nuremberg Code was created in 1947 by the International Commission on Medical Ethics. It consists of 10 principles that govern human experimentation. The code was developed in response to the Nuremberg Trials, where doctors who participated in the Holocaust and other war crimes were tried for their actions. The code is widely regarded as the foundation of modern medical ethics.

Activity 15
Read the article and answer the questions.

Activity 16
Practice text evidence RI.8.1 as your students review the article and show their comprehension.

RI.8.2 CENTRAL IDEAS & 8.3 ANALYZE CONNECTIONS

Nonfiction Article & Activities #8-5

The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation

NONFICTION ARTICLE OF THE WEEK CLUB 8th

Im LOVIN' LIT

Day 11

1. Activity 17: 50+ minutes

Flowers for Algernon + The Nuremberg Code
Students read about the need for and development of the Nuremberg Code in the above article. Now, they'll really look hard at the 10 points of the code and decide if each one was met in the fictional case of Charlie Gordon. Note that many of these are up for interpretation, so my sample answers in the key aren't always the only possible answers. I like putting students in groups of 3ish for this type of activity to foster some even deeper thinking and allow them to see others' points of view in addition to their own. So good! Don't skip it!

Nonfiction Article of the Week
8-5: The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation

"Flowers for Algernon" & The Nuremberg Code
Read the 10 points of the Nuremberg Code carefully. Then, decide whether or not each point was met in the fictional case of Charlie Gordon. Each item number below corresponds with the same number of the Nuremberg Code. Cite evidence from the story in each answer.

The Nuremberg Code

VOLUNTARY CONSENT
1. The voluntary, well-informed, understanding consent of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required.

PROTECTION
6. Risk of experiment should never exceed human benefit.

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES
2. Experiment should aim at positive results for society and be necessary.

QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS
8. Researchers must be fully trained and scientifically qualified.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE
3. Experiment should be justified based on previous knowledge.

FREEDOM TO WITHDRAW
9. Participants at any time.

INJURY & SUFFERING
4. Experiment should be set up in a way that voids unnecessary physical and mental suffering and injury.

TERMINATION
10. Research point when a consequence of death or serious injury.

Activity 17
50 pages

Nonfiction Article of the Week
8-5: The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation

"Flowers for Algernon" & The Nuremberg Code
Read the 10 points of the Nuremberg Code carefully. Then, decide whether or not each point was met in the fictional case of Charlie Gordon. Each item number below corresponds with the same number of the Nuremberg Code. Cite evidence from the story in each answer.

The Nuremberg Code

VOLUNTARY CONSENT
1. The voluntary, well-informed, understanding consent of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required.

PROTECTION
6. Risk of experiment should never exceed human benefit.

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2. Experiment should aim at positive results for society and be necessary.

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INJURY & SUFFERING
4. Experiment should be set up in a way that voids unnecessary physical and mental suffering and injury.

TERMINATION
10. Research point when a consequence of death or serious injury.

Activity 17
52 pages

Activity 17
52 pages

Short Story of the Month

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Day 12

1. Activity 18: 30-45 minutes

Essential Question: Tie it all together. The big SHE-BANG. Boom-shakalaka. Hard stuff. Good luck. :)


Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Essential Question
Skill: Integrate Information from Varied Formats

Essential Question

Consider this question as you read the short story and article.

What are the most important ethical considerations when using human subjects in research and experiments?



1. In "Flowers for Algernon," do you believe Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss acted ethically when they experimented on Charlie Gordon? Discuss why or why not.

Activity 18

2. In your opinion, which medical experimentation mentioned in the article, "The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation," bothered you the most? Why?


Short Story of the Month
"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Essential Question
Skill: Integrate Information from Varied Formats

Essential Question

Consider this question as you read the short story and article.

What are the most important ethical considerations when using human subjects in research and experiments?



Activity B

1. In "Flowers for Algernon," do you believe Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss acted ethically when they experimented on Charlie Gordon? Discuss why or why not.
No, I do not believe the doctors acted ethically. Looking at the Nuremberg Code, which was already in existence at the time the story was written and when it was set (during the 1950s or 1960s), the doctors denied nearly every one of the points, including voluntary consent, prior knowledge, and injury and suffering.

2. In your opinion, which medical experimentation mentioned in the article, "The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation," bothered you the most? Why?
I felt like the most disturbing example of human experimentation from the article was the case of subjecting concentration camp prisoners to hypothermia just to test treatment options. These people were forced to suffer over and over again and had absolutely no say in the matter, as they were being held as prisoners and tortured, often until their untimely deaths.

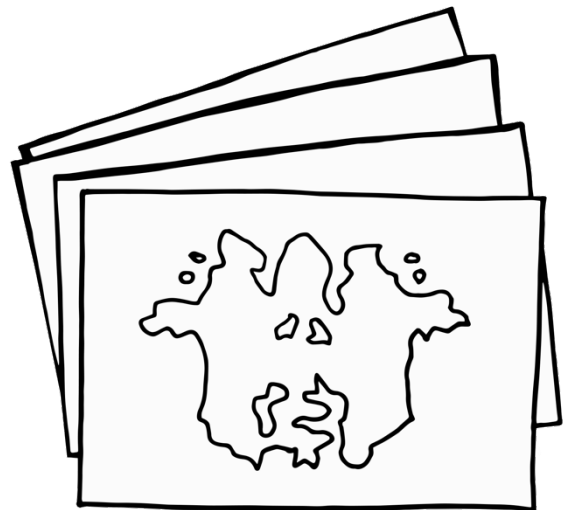
EQ: What are the most important ethical considerations when using human subjects in research and experiments?
I think that the most important ethical consideration when using humans in experiments must be to prevent any and all harm to the human subject. This means not rushing into an experiment before a technique has been studied as completely as possible. Another important ethical concern is complete understanding consent from the human subject. In cases where this isn't possible due to the size or mental ability of the human subject, I do not believe it is ethical to use them as research or for experiments.

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Comprehension Quiz, Part 1

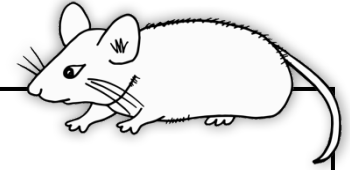
Choose the best answer.

1. During the Rorschach (inkblot) test at the beginning of the story, what is Charlie afraid of?
 - a. failing the test
 - b. forgetting the answers
 - c. getting into trouble
 - d. the mean man who administered the test
2. Why does Charlie want to attend the adult night school?
 - a. to make new friends
 - b. to impress his parents
 - c. to have someplace to go
 - d. to become smarter
3. Why do Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss choose Charlie?
 - a. He is intelligent.
 - b. He is motivated.
 - c. He is the right age.
 - d. all of these
4. As Charlie gets ready for the operation, what goal does he hope to achieve after the surgery?
 - a. to be smarter than Algernon
 - b. to be smarter than Dr. Nemur
 - c. to be smarter than Miss Kinnian
 - d. to be smarter than Dr. Strauss
5. After he recovers from the operation, Charlie returns to his job at the...
 - a. factory.
 - b. grocery store.
 - c. adult learning center.
 - d. hospital.
6. What does it mean to "pull a Charlie Gordon"?
 - a. have an operation
 - b. fail a test
 - c. do something stupid
 - d. lose a package
7. Charlie complains about the television he receives from Dr. Strauss because...
 - a. he can't understand what it says.
 - b. it makes it hard for Charlie to sleep.
 - c. he doesn't understand its purpose
 - d. all of these
8. When Charlie becomes confused over punctuation, how does he figure it all out?
 - a. Miss Kinnian explains it to him again.
 - b. He reads a grammar book.
 - c. He looks for punctuation in *Robinson Crusoe*.
 - d. all of these
9. How is the Rorschach test different for Charlie the second time?
 - a. Charlie is able to complete the test.
 - b. Charlie understands the test.
 - c. Charlie isn't frustrated this time.
 - d. all of these
10. Why does Charlie receive a \$25 bonus at work?
 - a. He receives a bonus every year.
 - b. He figures out a new way to line up machines that saves his boss money.
 - c. He is awarded Employee of the Month.
 - d. He is promoted to supervisor.



Analyze Theme Development In Characters' Actions

Use evidence from the story to help you complete the graphic organizer. First, identify three themes in *Flowers for Algernon* and explain each theme. Then, choose one theme to analyze further.



Theme	Explain Theme
Ignorance is bliss.	The more intelligent Charlie becomes, the more problems he has.
All human beings deserve to be treated with dignity.	The cruelty of others to Charlie shows the importance of kindness.
Everyone, regardless of disability, can contribute to society.	The contribution to society by Charlie Gordon gives hope that any person can do the same.

Theme: Ignorance is bliss.	
Explain Theme: The more intelligent Charlie becomes, the more problems he has.	
Characters	Specific Actions by Character That Develop Theme
Charlie's co-workers (Frank, Joe)	Charlie's co-workers pretend to be his friend, all the while making fun of him. They force him to dance for their cruel enjoyment, and even leave him wandering the city looking for them when they've gone home.
Mr. Donnegan	Even though Charlie's idea for rearranging machines will save his company tens of thousands of dollars, Mr. Donnegan gives in and fires Charlie when his other employees petition him to do so.
Charlie	Despite being depressed when he realizes the truth about his "friends" who aren't his friends, Charlie pulls himself up and finds a way to be happy, working in the laboratory.

Story:
Author:

Diagramming a Story



What are the main events in the story? What complications make it difficult for characters to reach their goals?

What is the most exciting or intense moment of the story?

What loose ends of the story are tied up?

How does the story end?

Who are the characters? What is the setting? What incident sets the story in motion?

Exposition

Rising Action

Climax

Falling Action

Resolution

RL.3

Find Evidence That...

Find text evidence that proves each statement and write it in the space provided. Then, explain how the text evidence you found proves the statement. See the example.



Example: Dr. Nemur was unsure about choosing Charlie for the experiment.

Cite specific evidence from the text:

(March 8) I didn't get all the words and they were talking to fast but it sounded like Dr Strauss was on my side and like the other one wasn't. Then Dr Nemur nodded he said all right maybe your right. We will use Charlie.

Explain:

Charlie overhears Dr. Strauss and Dr. Nemur arguing over whether or not Charlie is the right candidate. Clearly, Dr. Strauss has to work hard to convince Dr. Nemur to use Charlie.

1. After his operation, Charlie was able to learn things at an abnormally fast rate.

Cite specific evidence from the text:

Explain:

2. There were other animals before Algernon who were part of the experiment.

Cite specific evidence from the text:

Explain:

3. Intelligence brings Charlie loneliness.

Cite specific evidence from the text:

Explain:

4. Charlie will die soon after the story ends.

Cite specific evidence from the text:

Explain:

Short Story of the Month

Reading Literature

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

Skill: Comparing/Contrasting
Multiple Versions

Story vs. Movie Analysis *Possible answers; some will vary*

Answer each question as you consider the extent to which the 2000 movie version of "Flowers for Algernon" stays faithful to or departs from the short story version.

	Short Story	2000 Movie
How is Charlie's selection for the experiment portrayed?	Charlie discusses being evaluated and selected in his progress reports.	Several candidates are shown being interviewed; Charlie is shown to be the most qualified. The consent of Charlie's mother is mentioned.
How are Charlie's family relationships portrayed?	Charlie's family is only acknowledged briefly after Charlie's regression begins. He remembers a rumor that his father left them for another woman and remembers he never kept his promises.	Charlie's mother is a prominent part of the movie's action, not simply a memory. After he finds evidence she's been paid for consenting to the experiment, he visits her to find that she's mostly senile and unkempt. There's a subplot involving a locket from his mother that he kept from childhood.
What is Charlie's job? How are work friendships portrayed?	Charlie works as a janitor in a factory. His work friends make fun of him by taking him out with them, giving him drinks, and making him act foolish in front of others. They send him out to fetch a newspaper and leave him to fend for himself.	Charlie works in a bakery. His work "friends" make fun of him on the job and enjoy laughing at his expense.
How is the truth about Charlie's fate revealed?	Charlie reveals his findings about the Algernon-Gordon effect in a letter/progress report.	Charlie reveals his findings from an article at the big conference in front of hundreds of professionals.
How is Algernon's death portrayed?	Algernon dies in the lab and Charlie does an autopsy on him before burying him in a cheese box in his own backyard.	Algernon dies at Charlie's house and Charlie buries him immediately (without doing an autopsy) in the matchbox he had kept him in. Charlie buries him with the locket he had from childhood from his mother.
Which version has a more emotional ending? Why do you think that is?	<p>The movie has a much more emotional ending than the short story. In the final scene of the movie, an again-disabled Charlie consoles a grieving Alice, who is devastated she's lost her love, Charlie. Because their love was much more developed in the movie than the short story, it needed an appropriate ending to their love story.</p> <p>The short story ends more abruptly, with less closure and in a way that feels more disturbing. This may be because the nature of stories, many are written in a controversial way and intended for people to talk about them. A movie ends so happy because that's the point of movies, to make people feel good.</p>	

Comprehension Skills Test

Choose the best answer.



- _____ 1. What is the **inciting incident** in the story?
- Charlie is chosen to undergo the experimental operation to improve his intelligence.
 - Charlie begins to document his progress in reports.
 - Charlie wakes up from the operation.
 - Charlie begins to race Algernon in the mazes.
- _____ 2. The **climax** of the story occurs when...
- Charlie notices signs of his own regression.
 - Charlie discovers that his friends at work aren't really friends after all.
 - Algernon dies.
 - Charlie realizes that he is in love with Miss Kinnian.
- _____ 3. Which event below occurs during the **falling action**?
- Charlie has the experimental operation.
 - Charlie begins research in the lab on the procedure he had.
 - Charlie beats Algernon in the maze for the first time.
 - Charlie gets his old job back.
- _____ 4. After which event did Charlie decide he wanted to do work in the field of increasing human intelligence levels?
- Charlie discovers the Algernon-Gordon Effect.
 - Charlie figures out a new way to line up machines at the factory.
 - Charlie stands up for the developmentally disabled dishwasher in the diner.
 - Charlie retakes the inkblot test and is successful in completing the test this time.
- _____ 5. The story includes **allusions** to all of the following except...
- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. <i>Paradise Lost</i> | c. <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> |
| b. <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> | d. the bible |
- _____ 6. Identify what is being compared in this **analogy** from the story:
Even a feeble-minded man wants to be like other men. A child may not know how to feed itself, or what to eat, yet it knows of hunger.
- a child's desire to be smart and a man's desire to be smart
 - a baby's hunger and a man's desire to fit in
 - a child's desire to be smart and a man's desire to fit in
 - a baby's love for its mother and a man's hunger
- _____ 7. Who first discovers that Charlie may lose his intelligence?
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| a. Charlie | c. Miss Kinnian |
| b. Dr. Strauss | d. Dr. Nemur |

“Flowers for Algernon” & The Nuremberg Code

Read the 10 points of the Nuremberg Code carefully. Then, decide whether or not each point was met in the fictitious case of Charlie Gordon. Each item number below corresponds with the same number of the Nuremberg Code. Cite evidence from the story in each answer.

The Nuremberg Code

VOLUNTARY CONSENT

- 1. The voluntary, well-informed, understanding consent of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required.

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

- 2. Experiment should aim at positive results for society and be necessary.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

- 3. Experiment should be justified based on previous knowledge.

INJURY & SUFFERING

- 4. Experiment should be set up in a way that voids unnecessary physical and mental suffering and injury.
- 5. Experiment should NOT be conducted when there is reason to believe in risk of death or serious injury.

PROTECTION

- 6. Risk of experiment should never exceed human benefit.
- 7. Preparations and facilities must adequately protect the subject against the experiment’s risks.

QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS

- 8. Researchers must be fully trained and scientifically qualified.

FREEDOM TO WITHDRAW

- 9. Participants must be free to immediately quit at any time and for any reason.

TERMINATION OF STUDY

- 10. Researchers must stop experiments at any point when continuation could result in harmful consequences to the participant.

- 1. Point 1 states that the **voluntary, well-informed understanding consent** of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required. Do you believe that Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss obtained Charlie’s consent as described here? Explain why or why not with evidence.

- 2. Point 2 states that the experiment should be **necessary** and aim at **positive results for society**. Do you believe that the experimental procedure performed on Charlie meets this guideline? Explain.

3. Point 3 states that the experiment should be **justified** based on **previous knowledge**. Can this be said in Charlie's case? Explain why or why not.

4. Point 4 states that the experiment must be set up in a way that voids **unnecessary physical** and **mental suffering** and **injury**. Was this done in Charlie's case? Why or why not?

5. Point 5 states that the experiment should NOT be conducted when there is reason to believe in risk of **death** or **serious injury**. Do you believe that the scientists had reason to believe that death or serious injury might occur in this case? Explain your answer.

6. Point 6 states that the **risk** should never exceed **human benefit**. Does this standard hold up in Charlie's case? Explain.



7. Point 7 states that preparations and facilities must **adequately protect** the subject against the experiment's risks. Discuss whether or not this was done for Charlie.

I do not believe that this was done in Charlie's case. However, I believe that was because of the flaws of the experiment itself. How could Charlie have been protected during the procedure? I feel like there's no way he could have, meaning according to this code it shouldn't have been done in the first place.



8. Point 8 states that researchers must be **fully trained** and **scientifically qualified**. Do you believe that Dr. Nemur meets these requirements? Why or why not?

I do not believe that Dr. Nemur was fully scientifically qualified to carry out this research. In the end, it was Charlie's work on his own experiment that revealed the Algernon-Gordon Effect and the doomed fate of both Charlie and Algernon. A qualified researcher should have been able to come to this conclusion.

9. Point 9 states that participants should be **free to immediately quit** for any reason at any time. Was this point upheld in Charlie's experiment? Why or why not?

Due to the nature of the experiment - permanent, irreversible brain surgery - Charlie would never have the opportunity to truly quit. Although he could stop cooperating with the laboratory and scientists, he couldn't actually quit the experiment once the operation was complete.

10. Point 10 requires that researchers **stop experiments** at any point when continuation could result in **harmful consequences** to the participant. Do you feel like this was done in Charlie's case?

I do not feel like there was a point in Charlie's experiment - after the surgery, that is - where Dr. Nemur could have stopped the experiment since they were no longer doing anything except for helping Charlie gain new knowledge and observing him.

"Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes

TEKS Alignment (2017-Adopted)

List of Activities & Standards **Difficulty Level:** *Easy **Moderate ***Challenge

Activity 1: Review Lesson (Quick Notes) - Theme*	7(A)
Activity 2: Practice Theme Printables**	7(A)
Activity 3: Journal Question*	5(E), 6(A)(I)
Activity 4: Comprehension Quiz Part 1*	8(A)
Activity 5: Comprehension Quiz Part 2*	8(A)
Activity 6: Analyze Theme Dev. in Characters Actions***	7(A)(B)
Activity 7: Vocab Guide A: Allusions **	9(D)
Activity 8: Vocab Guide B: Analogies & Fig Lang**	9(D)
Activity 9: Plot Diagram Graphic Organizer**	8(A), 7(A)(B)(C), 6(D)
Activity 10: Find Evidence That... Text Evidence**	6(C)
Activity 11: Analyzing Motivation**	7(B)
Activity 12: Story vs. Movie Analysis**	
Activity 13: Skills Test**	5(F) 6(C)(D) 7(A)(B) 8(A) 9(D)
Activity 14: Modified Skills Test*	5(F) 6(C)(D) 7(A)(B) 8(A) 9(D)
Activity 15: Nonfiction Article**	6(C)(E)
Activity 16: Finding Text Evidence in Nonfiction Art.**	6(C)(E)
Activity 17: Ethics Code Analysis (Integrate Sources)***	5(E)(H), 6(A)(E)(I)
Activity 18: Essential Question***	5(E)(H), 6(A)(G)(I)