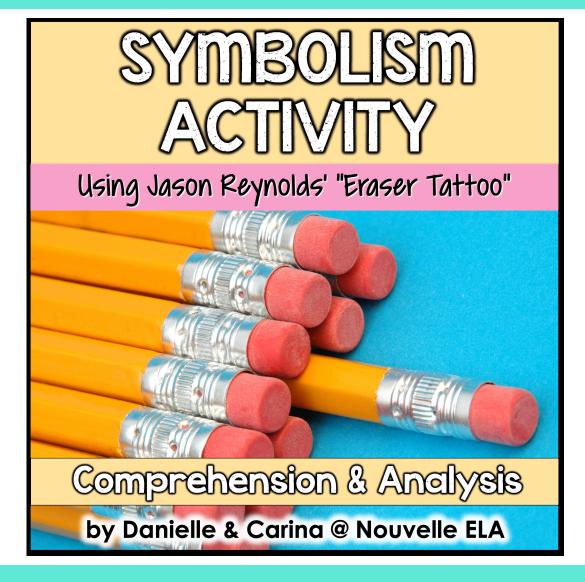
Symbolism -Comprehension ę Analysis Activity **USING JASON REYNOLDS'** "ERASER TATTOO"





_	SYM	BOL	ISM:	"Eraser	Tattoo'

PURPOSE	"Eraser Tattoo" by Jason Reynolds is a fictional short story about two teenagers in a relationship who are facing a challenge: one of them is moving away. This short story serves as an effective tool for analyzing symbolism within a story.					
MATERIAL	" <u>Eraser Tattoo"</u> – this provided link may require you to sign up for Common Lit, wh a free educational resource that I HIGHLY recommend and use frequently. You do opt to find it through another free means with a quick online search.					
OBJECTIVE(S)	ECTIVE(S) Students will determine and analyze the figuratively symbolic meanings within t short story (RL.9-10.1).					
SUGGESTED LESSON						
BELL RINGER (7-10 min)						
Pourvello, El	Conduct a first read of the short story. You can read this aloud as a class, listen to the udio reading aloud, have students read in pairs, groups, or independently. You w your students best. pute the worksheet* and have students work through their literary analysis. This be completed as a guided practice, a group analysis, or independent practice.					

Suggested ~50-minute lesson plan outline included complete with extension ideas, standard(s), and linked materials. Symbolism uses symbols—a person, an object, an image, words, a situation, etc.—to represent meaning beyond the literal.

In other words, symbols represent one thing while communicating a deeper meaning.

Example: The image below is literally an open door. Now, let's say we have been reacting a short story about a character who has felt trapped in a job they hate and a love Symbolism uses symbols—a person, an object, an image, words, fill the a situation, etc.—to represent meaning beyond the literal.

PRACTICE: Choose **one** of the three items below and give it **symbolic meaning** by **creating a story** behind it (see the 2 previous examples for reference).

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ecklace A trophy A key

Includes an editable bell ringer activity that introduces the literary element & provides students with a guided practice opportunity

SYMBOLISM	: "Eraser Tat	-too" —			
Instructions: For each of the 3 symbols below, cite of	a quote, then analyze the quot	e for its symbolic meani	ng.		
	SYMBOLIZE TO SHAY	'S MOM?			
CUAV'C	QUOTE AN		LYSIS		
SHAY'S MOM'S HOUSE	"[Shay's mother] couldn' stop crying. This had been her home for over twent years []] This was where	t n J			
	Symbols below, cite a quote, t	raser Tat			
		DOES THE HOUSE SY		-	
		QUOTE		ANALYSIS	
SHAY'S MOM'S HOU	JSE stop cr her hor years Sha	's mother] couldn't rying. This had been ne for over twenty [] This was where y took her first eps" (Reynolds).	To Shay's mom, the house symbolizes milestone memories of raising her daughter.		
	WHAT	DOES THE ERASER TAT TO) SYMBOLIZE TO I	DANTE & SHAY?	

Students read the short story, then analyze quotes for symbolism.

Suggested answers included.

SYMBOLISM: "Eraser Tattoo" —

There are many "right" answers to the following questions, so it's all about how you support your ideas. Use evidence from the short story, other texts (i.e. novels, movies, songs, etc.), and your own experiences to support your claims.

1. Author Jason Reynolds believes, "Love is a verb. It's something we do, not just something we feel." How do Dante and Shay represent love as a verb? In other words, what actions do they take to demonstrate their love for one another?

Answers will vary. A possible answer might include: Shay teaching Dante how to tie his shoes and kissing his boo-boos or Dante planning to get rich and build a bridge to Wilmington.

2. Everyday objects and images can hold symbolic meaning. For example, a clock is symbolic of the passing of time. List 3 common objects with their potential symbolic meaning.

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Answers will vary. See some possible answers below:
A stop sign can symbolize a need to pause in life.
A book can symbolize an adventure or a wealth of knowledge. A band aide can symbolize the healing of something broken or injured.

> In like Dante and Shay, how would you navigate a long-distance relationship with atters to you? It can be a friend, family member, etc. If you have experienced this, wou dealt with it below.

Includes optional short response questions:

- Text-to-text
- Text-to-world
- Text-to-self
- Drawing prompt