

Unit 1 Concepts Review

Explain a Theme

- The **theme** of a story is an important message or lesson about life that the author wants to share.
- As you read, notice how a theme develops. Pay attention to the **conflicts**, or problems the characters face. Think about how the characters respond to the problems and what they learn during the course of the story.

Summarize a Story

- When you **summarize** a story, you retell the most important parts of the story in your own words.
- A summary includes only the most important details about the characters, setting, and **plot**, or what happens in the story. A summary may also include the theme of the story. A **theme** is the story's message or lesson about life.

Analyze Story Elements

- Story elements, also called literary elements, are the parts that make up a story.
 - The **setting** is where and when a story takes place.
 - A **character** is a person, animal, or creature in a story.
 - A **conflict** is the challenge or problem that characters face in a story.
 - The **plot** is the series of events that happen in a story. All the story elements contribute to the plot.
 - **Character development** shows the way a character changes from the beginning to the end of a story.

Make Inferences

- Authors do not explain everything that happens in a story. If something is unclear in the story, you can make an inference to help you better understand the characters and events.
- An **inference** is an idea you form when you combine details in the text with information you already know.
- **Text evidence** can be a detail, an example, or a quote from the text.
- Use text evidence, along with your own knowledge and experience, to support each inference you make when you read.