

The Baker's Dozen: A Colonial American Tale

By Heather Forest

Outcome:

Students will learn about the consequences of greed and pride as well as the benefits of generosity. Students will be introduced to the origins of the term “baker’s dozen”.

About the Book:

Guided Reading:

P

Lexile Level:

850L

Character Traits:

Courage

Fairness

Trustworthiness

Region:

USA

ISBN:

978-1-9391-6070-6

Materials:

Book, *The Baker's Dozen*

Counting Money Worksheet

Scissors

Crayons or markers

Whiteboard/chalkboard

Prebaked sugar cookies from the store

Raisins

Whole walnuts

2 – 16oz containers of vanilla icing

Red food coloring

Ziploc bags

Scissors

Bowls

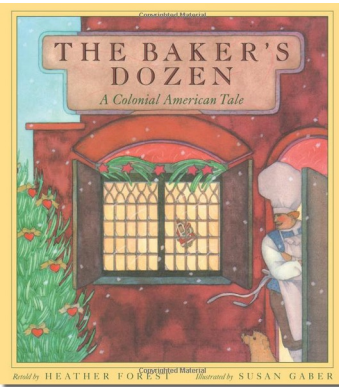
Spoons

Plates, napkins

Generosity Skits Worksheet

Pencil and Paper

Sentence Match Up Worksheet



The Baker's Dozen

First Grade

Instructional Plan

Introduction:

- This folktale serves as an explanation behind the origin of a “baker’s dozen.” Describe the concept of a “dozen” and a “baker’s dozen” to students.
- Ask students to describe a time when they were greedy. How did the student feel? What were the consequences?
- Ask students to describe a time when they were generous. How did the student feel? How did the other person feel?
- Ask students which action felt more rewarding and why. Being greedy or being generous?

Read the Story:

- Inform students that they will be reading a story about a greedy baker.
- Reread the story or pass around the book so that each student can read one page aloud and show the illustrations.

Common Core

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1

Participate in collaborative conversations

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1

Ask and answer questions about details

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2

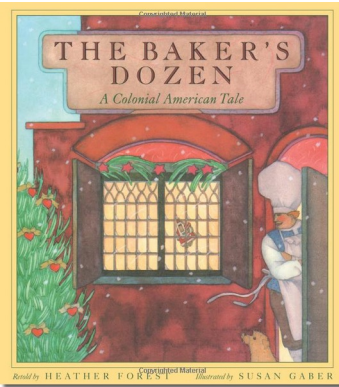
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.4

Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

Questions for Assessing Students’ Comprehension:

- Who are the characters in this story?
- How does Van Amsterdam display his greed?
- How did Van Amsterdam react when the old woman asked for 13 cookies?
- How did the old lady react when Van Amsterdam would only give her 12 cookies?
- What happens to Van Amsterdam and his bakery after the old lady leaves the first time?
- How does Van Amsterdam react after all of his customers leave him?
- What does Van Amsterdam do the second time the old lady visits his bakery?
- What happens to Van Amsterdam and his bakery after the old lady leaves the second time?
- What lesson does Van Amsterdam learn?



The Baker's Dozen

First Grade

Common Core

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1

Ask and answer questions about details

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2

Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud.

CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.OA.A.1

Use addition and subtraction.

Questions for interpretation:

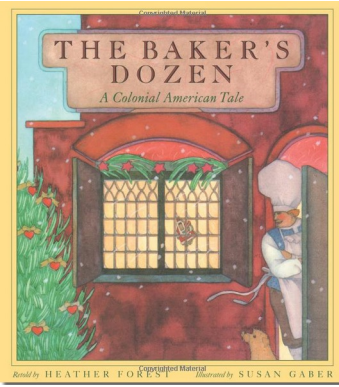
- What was your reaction to Van Amsterdam's behavior when he becomes popular?
- How would you have responded to the old lady's initial request for 13 cookies?
- Why did Van Amsterdam become greedy?
- What are the consequences of Van Amsterdam's greedy actions?
- What are the consequences of Van Amsterdam's generous actions?
- When is Van Amsterdam happiest?
- What does the St. Nicholas cookie mean when it says, "You'll never be rich because you're greedy?"
- Can you be "rich" without a lot of money?
- What are some ways that you might personally be "rich"?

Follow Up Activities:

Counting Money Worksheet

Directions:

- Print out the Counting Money worksheet and give each student one worksheet.
- Students color the money, keeping each category the same color: one dollar bills, five dollar bills, pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters.
- Draw out a menu on the whiteboard/chalkboard as if it were a menu for Van Amsterdam's bakery.
- Divide students into pairs.
- One student will be the customer and one student will be the cashier.
- Students take turns being the cashier, adding up menu items and making change.
- Print more money as needed.
- **Optional:** incorporate percentages by applying discounts to certain menu items.



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Follow Up Activities:

Make St. Nicholas Cookies

Materials:

- Prebaked sugar cookies from the store
- Raisins
- Whole walnuts
- 2 – 16oz containers of vanilla icing
- Red food coloring
- Ziploc bags
- Scissors
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Plates, napkins

Directions:

- In a bowl, teacher mixes 1 – 16oz container of vanilla icing with enough drops of red food coloring to make a bright red icing.
- Teacher fills alternating Ziploc bags with a few spoonfuls of red icing and white icing.
- Cut the tip off the Ziploc bags to make a piping bag.
- Give each student one red icing piping bag and one white icing piping bag.
- Give each student a plate with one sugar cookie; supply napkins as needed.
- Give each student 2 raisins (for eyes) and 1 whole walnut (for a mouth).
- Students decorate their cookies based on Van Amsterdam's St. Nicholas cookies. Refer to illustrations as needed.
- **Optional:** Give students a second sugar cookie to festively decorate as they wish using the red and white icing.

Common Core

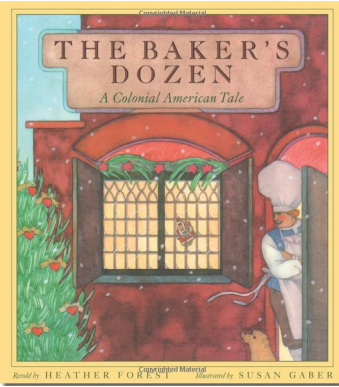
Standards:

CCSS.ELA-
LITERACY.SL.1.1.A

Follow agreed-upon
rules for discussions.

CCSS.ELA-
LITERACY.SL.1.1.C

Ask questions to clear
up any confusion.



The Baker's Dozen

First Grade

Follow Up Activities Continued:

Compare and Contrast

Directions:

- Show students the first image of Van Amsterdam, the image of Van Amsterdam counting his money, the image of Van Amsterdam after his customers leave him, and lastly, the final image of Van Amsterdam rejoicing.
- Have students describe each illustration in a group discussion, noting Van Amsterdam's expressions and the consequences of the actions.
- Compare Amsterdam's attitude in the first illustration to that of the final illustration.

Generosity Skits

Directions:

- Divide students into groups of 2 or 3.
- Cut the scenario strips out from the Generosity Skits worksheet.
- Put strips into a hat or bag and have one student from each group randomly pull a scenario.
- Each group creates their own skit to express a solution to the scenario, demonstrating generosity.

Write a Short Story

Directions:

- Select a favorite scene from the book. Now think about how to change the point of view to illustrate the scene from the old lady's point of view, the dog's view from the floor or maybe someone looking in through a window.
- Then draw the illustration from the new point of view.
- Next, write a new narration or description of the scene.
- Present to the class.

Sentence Match-Up Worksheet

Directions:

- Print out the worksheet for each student.
- Students cut out the phrase strips and the word strips.
- Match each word with a phrase to make complete sentences.

Common Core

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5

Add visual displays to descriptions

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3

Describe characters, settings, and events

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7

Use illustrations/details in a story to describe characters, setting, or events

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.6

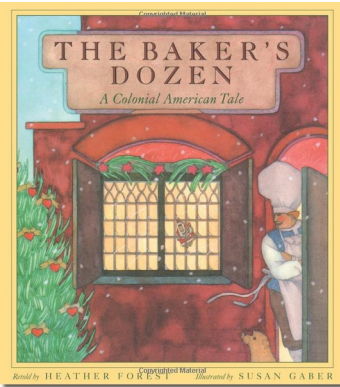
Produce complete sentences

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.6

Identify the narrator at various points

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9

Compare and contrast



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First Grade

Counting Money

Name _____

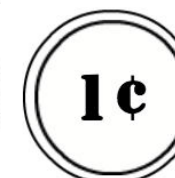
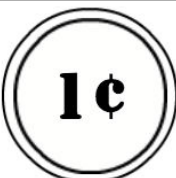
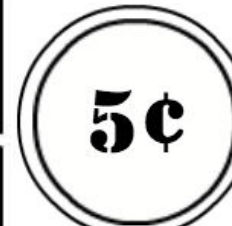
Date _____

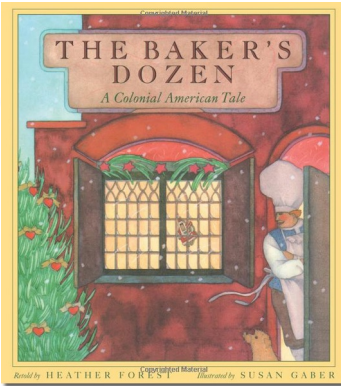


Counting Money

Name _____

Date _____



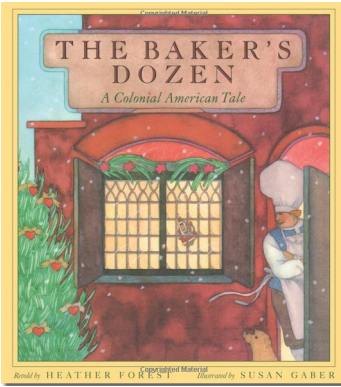


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Generosity Skits

<p>Your friends want a cookie but there is only one left.</p>	<p>You see a bully picking on another kid and no one is helping.</p>
<p>You see another student sitting alone at lunch, looking around the room.</p>	<p>The student sitting next to you forgot his/her school book and is afraid the teacher will be upset.</p>
<p>You see another student crying on the playground and everyone is ignoring the other kid.</p>	<p>You get a giant bag of your favorite candy, but you can't eat it all.</p>
<p>It's raining and you see a student, you know, without an umbrella walking home.</p>	<p>While walking in the hallway, your friend trips and falls, spilling a stack of papers.</p>



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Name _____

Date _____

Sentence Match Up

Van Amsterdam worked at a

famous.

Van Amsterdam baked a cookie in the shape of

greedy.

Before long, the cookies had become

13.

You'll never be rich because you're

measure.

A baker's dozen means

bakery.

Van Amsterdam began to bake his goods with an
extra

shawl.

A dozen means

St. Nicholas.

The old woman wears a black

follows.

When generosity replaces greed, good fortune

12