# UNIT OF STUDY

**Title:** Discovering and Creating Voice with Figurative Language  
**Subject/Course:** Pre AP English  
**Length:** 1 week  
**Designer:** Megan Harness  

### UNIT GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

#### IMPORTANT CONCEPTS/UNDERSTANDINGS:
- Figurative language is one way to enhance a piece of writing.
- Metaphors, similes, and personification are types of figurative language.
- Figurative language is a “rich, strong, and vivid way to express meaning” (Discovering Voice 35).
- We use figurative language all the time without realizing it.

#### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:
- What is figurative language?
- Why/how should I use figurative language?
- What is the difference between a metaphor and a simile?
- What is personification?
- How do I write about literal terms in a figurative manner?

#### STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

**W.7.10.1**  
Use figurative language effectively with emphasis on metaphor and symbolism (metaphor covered in this unit; symbolism in the next unit).

**R.10.10.23**  
Recognize the impact of diction, imagery, style, and figurative language on tone, mood, and theme, using literary terminology.

#### SPECIFIC DECLARATIVE KNOWLEDGE – What I know:
- Recognize use of figurative language in a piece of text.
- Explain relationship of figurative language to meaning.

#### SPECIFIC PROCEDURAL KNOWLEDGE – What I need to do:
- Identify specific uses of similes, metaphors, and personification within a given piece of text.
- Analyze impact of similes, metaphors, and personification in a piece of text.
- Create short pieces of writing using figurative language.

#### UNIT ASSESSMENTS

*(Include tasks related to Dimensions 3 and 4 and Bloom's Taxonomy)*

- A piece of writing that effectively uses figurative language to express voice and convey specific meaning.

**Traditional Assessments:**
- Several figurative language lessons from voice books.
- Short writing pieces that incorporate figurative language to speak more specifically about a literal term.

**Other Evidence of Learning:**
- Write a narrative essay that encompasses each aspect of voice taught thus far (half way through book).
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<th>ACTIVITIES AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES</th>
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| - Bell Ringer: What are some figurative expressions you use frequently? Example: “it’s as plain as day;” “she eats like a bird.”  
- Discuss figurative language—why it is necessary, what it is, how to identify it, how to incorporate it  
- Write a paragraph about a sporting event using *only* literal terms; revise the paragraph, adding figurative language; compare the meaning and effectiveness of the two paragraphs.  
- Simile and metaphor exercise from *Grab Hands and Run* - or- *The House on Mango Street*  
- Personification exercise from *The Wind in the Willows* | *Discovering Voice*  
Excerpts from various short stories |

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<tr>
<td>Writer, story teller, comedian, radio or television show host</td>
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