

Understanding Key Details

Misty Copeland

In this lesson, students will learn about Misty Copeland's journey to becoming a principal dancer for the American Ballet Theatre, her challenges and achievements, and the importance of perseverance and creativity in pursuing one's passions.

Grades: 1 & 2		Subject(s): ELA
Focus Standard(s)	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	
Learning Objective(s)	The students will be able to answer questions about Misty Copeland to demonstrate an understanding of the key details in the article.	
Materials/Resources	Misty Copeland Chart paper or whiteboard; marker Reader's Notebook or cut-out hands (one per student)	
Vocabulary	Intertwined: connected; vital: important	
Anticipatory Set	Ask students, "Does anyone take dance lessons or has anyone gone to a ballet before?" (Optional: Display ballet shoes or a ballet costume for students to observe or play a clip from a popular ballet for students to view.)	
Mini-Lesson	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share with students that good readers use retelling to help them understand a story better. 2. Display the article Misty Copeland for all students to see. Explain that Misty Copeland is a famous ballerina and author. Let students know that you will pause periodically to ask questions and check for understanding as you read the article aloud. 3. Draw an outline of your hand on a piece of chart paper and label each finger who, what, where, when, and why. [Optional: Include "how" in the palm.] (May be drawn ahead of time.) 4. Have students trace their hands in their Reader's Notebook or on a piece of construction paper. (Optional: Provide each student with a cut-out hand.) Explain to students that they will write their answers in each finger space. This will help them remember what the article was about. 	
Guided Practice	Read the article aloud to students. Pause to ask questions and allow time for students to complete their graphic organizers. [who: Misty Copeland; what: first Black woman principal dancer; where: American Ballet Theatre; when: 2015; why: she wanted to be a ballerina, creative, and express herself; how: perseverance, hard work, discovery of self]	
Differentiation	Adjust lexile® levels as needed; answer questions as a whole group; use accessibility features or read-to-me feature as needed; print copies of article	