



# Lesson Plans: *The Black Stallion*, by Walter Farley

(Materials: Class Set of *The Black Stallion*, sticky notes)

## Tasks and objectives:

Conduct close reading of the novel *The Black Stallion* by Walter Farley (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Perform preparatory tasks leading to a written discussion of the novel (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Write analytical essays (W.4.1a,b,c,d; W.4.4)

## Lesson 1: Chapters 1-3      Meet Alec and the Black

Identify the path of the Drake (RL.4.1)

Trace Alec's survival (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

Investigate Alec's efforts to survive (RL.4.1, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Probe Black's character (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

## Lesson 2: Chapters 4-6      Survival and Rescue

Continue to investigate Alec's acts of survival (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

Continue to explore Alec's personality (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

Continue to probe Black's character (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

Examine the evolving relationship between the boy and the horse (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Trace Alec's rescue (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

## Lesson 3: Chapters 7-9      Home

Investigate Alec's and the Black's early days at home (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

Continue to examine the relationship between Alec and the Black (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Note Napoleon's influence on the Black (RL.4.1, RL.4.3)

#### **Lesson 4: Chapters 10-12      Challenges**

Explore Black's evolution (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Investigate Alec's role in Black's evolution (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Examine Henry's contribution to Alec's relationship with the Black (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

#### **Lesson 5: Chapters 13-15      Progress**

Probe the purpose of racing Black (RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Explore the author's intent in shrouding Black's identity in a cloud of mystery (RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

Revisit earlier understanding of Alec's and Black's personalities (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3, SL.4.1)

#### **Lesson 6: Chapters 16-18      A Winner**

Examine Henry's statement that "Alec isn't the same boy that you sent to India last summer."  
(p.166) (RL.4.2, SL.4.1)

Closely review the race (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Explore the meaning of Black's victory (RL.4.2, SL.4.1)

#### **Lesson 7: Preparing to write essays**

Revisit the development of Alec's character (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Interpret the power of friendship as it is portrayed in the novel (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

Analyze the complexity of Black's victory in the race (RL.4.1, RL.4.2, RL.4.3)

**Provide a written analysis of a select objective from above (W.4.1a,b,c,d; W.4.4)**