

Lesson One

This lesson coincides with Chapter One of the book, *A Gifted Child in Foster Care: A Story of Resilience*
Chapter One – “Left by Mother”

Character Trait – “Appreciation”

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

 X Mother left when Grace was two years old and never came back. (p. 7)

 Grandmother believed Grace was a strong and resilient child.

 Grace stayed home with her mother while her father worked.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

The words “your mother doesn’t want you” devastated Grace. (p. 7)

Grace was embarrassed for her friends at school to know about her mother leaving. (p.8)

Grace remembers both good and bad things her mother. (p. 8)

Grace has gained a greater appreciation for life because of her mother. (p. 13)

Sequencing

Place a “1” on the line beside the event that happened first in Chapter One.

Place a “2” on the line beside the event that happened second in Chapter One.

and so on...

 5 Grace often wonders what type of life her mother is living (p. 13)

 3 Grace’s school mates asked, “Where is your mother?” (p. 8)

 6 Grace feels a strong sense of love and loyalty towards her mother (p. 13)

 1 Grace was born (p. 7)

 2 Grace’s mother left (p. 7)

 4 Grace remembers a lot of things about her mother (p. 8)

Identifying Cause and Effect

“Mother went out into the backyard one evening and lay down to hide in the tall, uncut grass because she feared being picked up by the state to be locked up again in a mental institution.”

What is the cause? Mother feared being picked up by the state to be locked up (p. 13)

What is the effect? Mother went out into the backyard and hid in the tall, uncut grass (p. 12)

Interpreting and Evaluating Information

Circle all of the feelings Grace experienced after her mother left. (p. 8) (p. 12 - devastation)

Devastation Joy **Embarrassment** **Fear** Guilt **Insecurity** Excitement **Rejection**

Comparing and Contrasting

Name three(3) things that are different about these two stories from Chapter One

<i>Mother made cookies</i> (p. 9)	<i>Mother popped popcorn</i> (p. 10)
<i>Grace sat on the porch</i>	<i>Grace took a bath</i>
<i>Grace never got cookies</i>	<i>Grace got popcorn</i>
<i>Siblings and neighbors ate the cookies</i>	<i>Neighbor boy took Grace’s popcorn</i>

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson One is “Appreciation”.

Appreciation means to feel “thankful”.

Read the statement below. Then chose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

Grace still loves and appreciates her mother even though she left her with her father and never came back.

1. Would you appreciate your mother if she left you and never came back? Why or why not?
2. Name a person who you appreciate. Why do you appreciate that person?
3. Why is it important to “appreciate” other people?

Answers will vary. No right or wrong answer.

