



Fishtank Plus Feature Sample

Student Handouts

6th Grade English Language Arts
Unit 1 - Developing Resilience: *The Watsons Go to
Birmingham - 1963*
Lesson 1

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Today's Materials:

- Book: [The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963](#) by Christopher Paul Curtis — pp. 1–7 , Chapter 1, end at "...cold can kill you!"

Objective: Describe how author Christopher Paul Curtis reveals the narrator's perspective in the first chapter of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*.

1. What does the reader learn about Byron in the first pages of the novel?

2. How does Christopher Paul Curtis reveal the dynamics of the Watson family at the beginning of the novel?

3. How does Momma and Dad's discussion of Birmingham help to establish the setting of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*? How is the setting relevant to the plot and characters in the first chapter?

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Writing Prompt

perspective narrator coming of age juvenile delinquent

How does Christopher Paul Curtis reveal the narrator's perspective in the first chapter of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*?

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Objective: Describe how author Christopher Paul Curtis reveals the narrator's perspective in the first chapter of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*.

Which statement **best** describes the narrator of the novel, *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*?
(RL.6.6)

- a. Kenny is a wise, mature boy who is not interested in engaging with his family.
- b. Kenny is a young, impressionable boy who exaggerates a lot and has a close-knit family.
- c. Byron is a teenage juvenile delinquent who acts too cool to spend time with his family.
- d. Joetta is the younger sister of Kenny who follows her other brothers around.

Name: _____

Date: _____

How do Byron and his friends treat Kenny? Give an example.

How would you describe Kenny's relationship with Byron? Why?

On pages 11–12, what happens to Byron? How does Kenny respond?

How does the family respond to Byron's predicament? Why?
