

*Fourth Grade Summer Reading Celebration*

*Thinking about Themes*

When you were younger, your parents may have read you stories that ended with “the moral of this story is...” That moral was a **message** that you could learn from the overall story. For example, from *The Three Little Pigs* we learned about the importance of planning a project well. We know this, because we learned that building a brick house works, while building a straw house is not such a good strategy. You could state that one theme for *The Three Little Pigs* is that good planning can lead to success. But we could also say the theme was about making smart choices.

As you can see, a theme isn’t something that’s written right out in the text; it often appears as a lesson or **message** that the reader figures out by reading between the lines.

A fiction book can have many themes. Why? Because different people can find different meanings in books. You may find a lesson that others don’t see.

In the box below, write some possible themes for *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davis. We will use these ideas to kick off our Summer Reading discussions.

*Possible Themes*

*The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davis

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