

## LAUGHTER & RISK-TAKING: A COMICAL ADVENTURE IN ACHIEVING GOALS

Grade Level: 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Standards Addressed:

Third Grade:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

Fourth Grade:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3: Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

**Subject:** English Language Arts

**Duration:** 60 minutes

**Lesson Objective:**

Students will explore the importance of taking calculated risks to achieve their goals by examining humorous stories from **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure** and applying the learned lessons to their own lives.

**Materials:**

- **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**
- The Manhood Manual Press Release (attached)
- The Manhood Manual Risk-Taking Comic Page (attached)
- Whiteboard or blackboard
- Dry erase markers or chalk
- Large sheets of paper
- Writing and coloring materials

**Lesson Procedure:**

**I. Introduction (5 minutes)**

- Write “Humorous Risks and Fun Goals” on the board.
- Initiate a short conversation with students about the meaning of risks and goals and how humor can help us learn from our mistakes.
- Discuss how risk-taking can lead to success, failure or something in between – and this is perfectly fine.
- Discuss some famous risk-takers such as:
  - **Michael Jordan** (born 1963) **Risk-taking:** Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team but persisted in his passion for the sport. **Successes:** A six-time NBA champion, five-time NBA MVP, and two-time Olympic gold medalist; widely regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time.

- **Steve Jobs (1955–2011) Risk-taking:** Jobs dropped out of college, co-founded Apple, and was later fired from the company. He returned to Apple after founding NeXT and Pixar. **Successes:** Jobs revolutionized the tech industry, creating iconic products such as the iPhone, iPod, and MacBook.
- **Henry Ford (1863–1947) Risk-taking:** Ford faced multiple business failures before founding the Ford Motor Company. **Successes:** Developed the assembly line technique for mass production, revolutionizing the automobile industry and making cars more affordable.
- **Walt Disney (1901–1966) Risk-taking:** Disney started several unsuccessful animation studios before creating the Disney Brothers Studio with his brother Roy. **Successes:** Established The Walt Disney Company, which has since become a world-renowned entertainment company.

## 2. Reading and Analysis (20 minutes)

- Split students into small groups.
- Introduce **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure** by reading the The Manhood Manual Press Release.
- Assign each group an amusing, age-appropriate story from **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure** featuring Jeffrey taking a risk and learning a lesson.
- Instruct students to read the story and discuss the following questions within their groups:
  - What was the amusing risk Jeffrey took?
  - What comical mistake did he make?
  - What lesson did he learn?
  - How can this lesson be applied to your own life?

### 3. Group Presentations (20 minutes)

- Each group will present their story, the amusing risk taken, the comical mistake made, and the lesson learned.
- Encourage groups to act out the amusing scenes from their stories to engage their classmates and emphasize the humor.

### 4. Goal Setting and Risk-taking Activity (10 minutes)

- Ask each student to consider a goal they want to achieve or a skill they want to learn.
- Instruct students to write down their goal and one calculated risk they can take to achieve it, while incorporating a funny twist to their plan.
- Encourage students to think about the humorous lessons learned from Jeffrey's stories and how they can apply those lessons to their own risk-taking.

### 5. Wrap-up and Reflection (5 minutes)

- As a class, discuss the significance of taking calculated risks in life and how humor can help us learn from our mistakes and grow.
- Encourage students to share their fun goals and the amusing risks they plan to take with their classmates or friends for support and laughter.

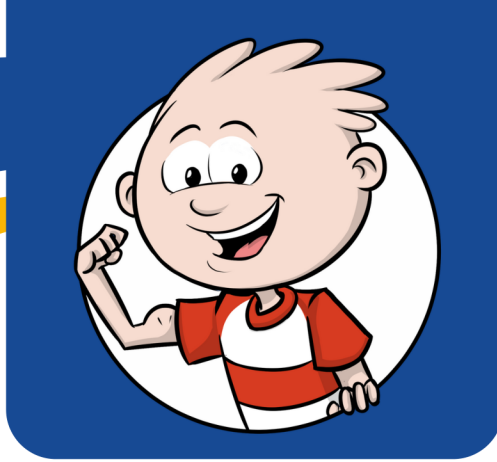
#### **Assessment:**

Students will be assessed based on their group presentations, participation in discussions, and their written goals and risk-taking plans with a humorous twist.

#### **Extension Activities:**

- Invite students to create their own comic strips illustrating the amusing risks they plan to take and the potential lessons they may learn (attached).
- Read more entertaining stories from [The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure](#) and discuss the risks and lessons in those stories.

- Encourage students to set goals and take risks in other aspects of their lives, such as academics, sports, or relationships, and have them reflect on their experiences in a journal or during class discussions, focusing on the humor they find in the process.



# PRESS RELEASE

Embark on a Hilarious and Inspiring Journey to Manhood with **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**.

*Discover the wisdom, the mistakes, and the life lessons hidden within this one-of-a-kind self-help book. Although crafted specifically for boys aged 7-12, this book is a delightful read for "kids" of all ages.*

[Horn Hill, USA] - Prepare to embark on an insightful and downright hilarious journey into the world of **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**. As the age-old adage goes, "to truly grow, we must make as many mistakes as possible." That's precisely what the book's protagonist, Jeffrey R. Crandle, does in his quest to become a "successful, well-adjusted, good-looking thirteen-year-old man."

In **The Manhood Manual**, Jeffrey shares his unique and humorous perspectives on how to become a man through a series of entertaining stories. These tales are brimming with Cool Ideas for any young person, such as fishing, tinkering with gadgets, negotiating allowances, sibling coexistence strategies, finding a hobby, maintaining a sense of humor, and even outsmarting your parents. Each story is accompanied by a Big Problem and, most importantly, a Lesson Learned.

Jeffrey Crandle has now achieved his self-proclaimed manhood status! So, how can he help other young boys? Well, Jeffrey noticed that his dad reads books about getting rich, his mom reads books on cooking (and ones with shirtless, long-haired men on the cover), and even his sister Kate reads self-help books about beauty and attracting boys. However, there wasn't a single book out there about becoming the man Jeffrey is today. Thus, **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure** was born!

# THE MANHOOD MANUAL

TM

[www.manhoodmanual.com](http://www.manhoodmanual.com)

## YOUR MANHOOD MANUAL COMIC STRIP

### Draw a Comic Strip About Risk-Taking

Take a risk and be ready to laugh either way! **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure**, is filled with funny stories with some tough lessons learned. If you want to follow in the footsteps of success, draw a cartoon strip about a hilarious risk taken on your way there. Even if it didn't pan out, share your story. Don't forget the life lesson you learned in the process and share it with all. Most of all, make sure to laugh! Good luck!

Jeffrey

