

Submitted by: GENERATION CURES

**TITLE:** PLOT

**SUBJECT:** English Language Arts

**GRADE:** 5th

**RECOMMENDED TIME:** 25-30 minutes

**GENERATION CURES CONTENT:** Zebrafish Webisode 1-What's a Zebrafish?

**LEARNING GOALS:**

Students will observe the plot in the Zebrafish Webisode #1, "What's A Zebrafish" by discussing the main conflict and the solution in the webisode.

**RESOURCES/MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Computer / Internet / Projector
- Pen / Pencil / Paper
- Zebrafish Webisode #1 "What's A Zebrafish?" [www.kids.generationcures.org](http://www.kids.generationcures.org)
- Dictionary: Define
  - Vita- though it is her proper name, the word *vita* is originally a Latin word meaning 'life.'
  - Callous- Vita mentions that her guitar playing has produced a callous on her fingers, as often happens to guitar players. A callous is a hardened or thickened area, usually on the skin.
  - Albino- Pablo describes the Zebrafish that are used for medical research as albino, or mutants. An albino Zebrafish is one that is lacking skin color or pigment and is usually see-through or transparent.
  - Mutant- a result of a random change in genes, causing an unexpected trait. Mutant 'albino' Zebrafish are one example of a mutation, which affects the gene that causes color in the fish.
  - Plot- in literature, the plot is the order of main events within a story typically consisting of an exposition (the setting forth of the main purpose of the text), rising action (the actions that build to the high point of the story), climax (the point of greatest intensity in a story), and the resolution (the point at which the main character's problem(s) is solved).

**BACKGROUND:**

While visiting her brother Pablo at the hospital, Vita notices a Zebrafish in a fish tank. Pablo explains that Zebrafish are used in medical research to treat illness. So, Vita takes the name Zebrafish for her band's name. The only problem: her band mates don't play any instruments.

**LESSON STEPS:**

- **Watch with a purpose:** Ask the students to analyze the plot of Webisode #1, “What’s A Zebrafish.” What is this webisode all about? Who is the main character and what is her/his major problem? How does she/he resolve the problem?
- **Critical thinking:** Explain to students the dilemma Vita faces spending 90 dollars. Ask them how they would spend the money. Is 90 dollars a lot of money? Is there a better way to spend money than what they choose or what Vita chose?
- **Review the following components within fictional narratives:**
  - **Exposition-** the exposition is the laying out of the story, the building up of characters and their traits, and the explanation of the setting.
  - **Rising action-** the rising action of the story is the complication of the exposition. Once the setting and its players have been described, the rising action is the complication of the characters and their relationships to one another. The rising action leads directly to the climax.
  - **Climax-** the climax is the highest point of tension within a story. Climax describes the main point of action and the item of greatest importance to the story.
  - **Resolution-** the resolution is the conclusion of the story when the main characters resolve the situation within themselves or within their relationships in the story.
- **Diagram the rise and fall of a plot:** With the students, plot the exposition, rising action, climax, and resolution of the plot in Webisode #1.

**EXTENSIONS:**

- Ask the students to tell the class where they would spend 90 dollars. Ask them if there is a way they can spend the money on something that could be used to make more money or to raise money for a cause.