Bloom’s Taxonomy Questions

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Apple Pie Tree is written by Zoe Hall. It is illustrated by Shari Halpern and published in New York by The Blue Sky Press. This book would be appropriate for students in first, second, or third grade. The Apple Pie Tree begins with two sisters describing the apple tree in their backyard during the winter, telling of its bare branches. As the story continues, the sisters describe how the apple tree changes throughout each season. In spring, tiny leaves with flower buds grow on each branch before tiny apples start to form. During the summer months, the apples grew bigger and bigger. In autumn the apples are ready to be picked and the sisters and their parents bake them into an apple pie. The life cycle of robins, from the time the eggs are laid to when the baby robins are old enough to fly away, is also woven into the story.

BLOOM’S QUESTIONS:

1. KNOWLEDGE:

   • What animal was living the apple tree in the story The Apple Pie Tree?
   • This question is a knowledge question because it asks the students to recall a basic fact from The Apple Pie Tree, which is that robins live in tree.

2. COMPREHENSION:

   • Write the main idea of The Apple Pie Tree in one to two sentences.
   • This question belongs in the comprehension level because it asks students to demonstrate comprehension and understanding by stating the main idea of the story, which is that the apple tree changes throughout each season. Students might also mention the life cycle of the robins.

3. APPLICATION:

   • Would other fruit trees, like a pear tree, go through the same stages that the apple tree in The Apple Pie Tree did?
   • This question belongs in the application level because the students apply the facts that they learned by reading or listening to The Apple Pie Tree to a new situation. The students learn the stages the stages that one fruit tree goes through and applies that knowledge to a new situation, a pear tree in this case.

4. ANALYSIS:

   • Put the following events in order:
The apples are big and red.
Leaves and flower buds grow on the tree branches.
The green apples grow bigger and bigger.
Tiny green apple start to grow on the tree.

- This question belongs in the analysis level because the students have to analyze each part listed. They have to analyze the information about the life cycle of the apple tree and put each part listed above in the correct order.

5. SYNTHESIS:

- What else could the family make with the apples from their tree?
- This question belongs in the synthesis level because the students have to propose an alternative solution to The Apple Pie Tree. Instead of making an apple pie, the family could make caramel apple, applesauce, apple cider, etc.

6. EVALUATION:

- What did you like or dislike about The Apple Pie Tree?
- This question falls into the evaluation level because it asks the students to state their opinion and then use information from the text to back it up. This information could be what the students learned, what specific part or parts of The Apple Pie Tree they liked or disliked, and so on.