

Body Investigators: The Case of the Stolen Time

(Year 5 - Ages 10-11):

Lesson 4 of 9

Teacher Preparation

Introduction for Teachers

This lesson is a pivotal moment in the Year 5 curriculum. It adapts the senior "The Gift of Time" module by transitioning students from personal reflection (like the Year 4 "Treasure Map") to empathetic investigation. Students will analyze "The Case of the Stolen Time"—an exploration of how illness can "steal" a person's quality of life and future "Dream Adventures."

This lesson also directly fulfills the Year 5/6 scaffolding by introducing the unit's first real-life (age-appropriate) hero story. To reinforce the "Organs vs. Tissues" concept from Lesson 1, this story ("The Gift of Sight") focuses on a tissue transplant (corneas), demonstrating a different but equally miraculous and heroic form of donation.

Safety and Sensitivity Considerations

- **CRITICAL: USE THE PREPARED STORY ONLY.** The 16+ curriculum's case studies (videos, etc.) are not suitable. You must use the teacher-created, age-appropriate, positive story (like "The Gift of Sight") that focuses 100% on the joyful outcome (gaining sight) and the gratitude for the gift.
- **USE METAPHORS FOR THE DONOR:** The story must not include any details about the donor or their passing. Refer to them only with our established, safe, and heroic language: "a 'Helping Hero' family" who "made the 'Hero's Pledge'" and "started their 'echo'."
- **Focus on TISSUE Donation:** This lesson is a deliberate opportunity to show the other side of donation. Emphasise that this tissue transplant is just as miraculous and life-changing as an organ transplant. This reinforces Lesson 1 and expands their understanding.
- **Acknowledge Student Feelings:** This is the first "real" story. Be mindful that students (especially at this age) may have experiences with illness or loss (e.g., a grandparent with cataracts or vision loss). Acknowledge any personal stories with empathy, validate their feelings, and gently guide the focus back to the kindness and positive outcome of the lesson's story.

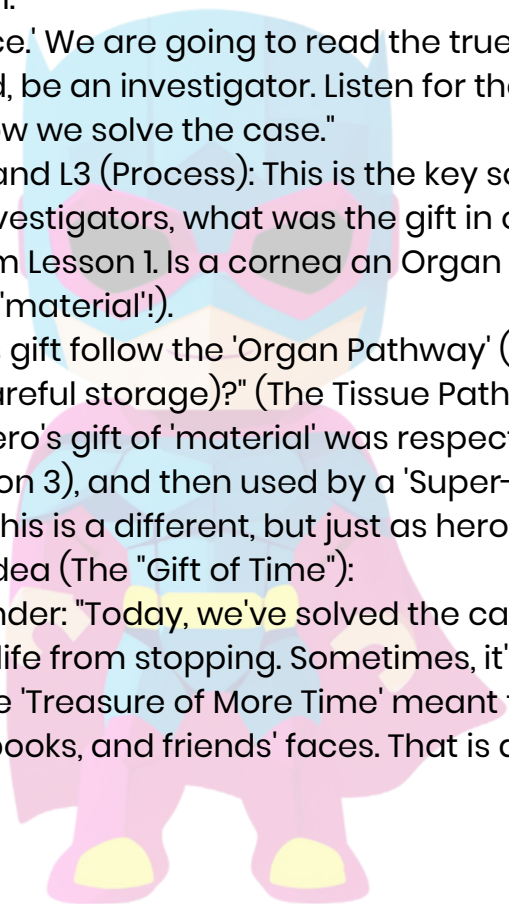
Teacher Resources

- **Resource: "A Hero's Story: The Gift of Sight"** (A new, 1-page, teacher-read story about a child who receives a cornea transplant. This is the central resource you will need to create, similar to the "Gift of a New Game" story).
- **Student Worksheet: "Case File: The Stolen Time."**
- **"Organ vs. Tissue Fact Cards"** (from Lesson 1, for review).
- **Markers and coloured pencils.**



Key Concepts & Language for Teachers

- The "Investigative Case File" Metaphor: This is the central theme.
 - Say: "Okay, Investigators. In Year 4, we looked at our own 'Treasure Maps.' Today, we open a new case file: 'The Case of the Stolen Time.' Our mission is to investigate what happens when someone's health 'steals' their time and their 'Dream Adventures.'"
- Defining the "Stolen Time" (The Problem): This is the empathetic challenge.
 - Say: "When we read our story, 'The Gift of Sight,' our first job as investigators is to find the 'stolen time.' This isn't just about minutes or hours. What experiences were stolen? What 'Dream Adventures' from their 'Treasure Map' were put on hold?" (e.g., seeing the stars, reading a book, playing with friends, recognising faces).
- Connecting to the Real-Life Story (The "Evidence"): The teacher-read story is the primary source for the investigation.
 - Say: "This is our 'evidence.' We are going to read the true, positive story of a hero who received a gift. As I read, be an investigator. Listen for the 'problem,' the 'solution,' and the 'outcome.' This is how we solve the case."
- Connecting to L1 (Tissues) and L3 (Process): This is the key scientific "level-up" for Year 5.
 - Ask (after the story): "Investigators, what was the gift in our story?" (A cornea). "Let's check our Case File from Lesson 1. Is a cornea an Organ ('machine') or a Tissue ('material')?" (A Tissue / 'material!').
 - Ask: "Exactly! So, did this gift follow the 'Organ Pathway' (the high-speed race) or the 'Tissue Pathway' (the careful storage)?" (The Tissue Pathway!).
 - Say: "That's right! The hero's gift of 'material' was respectfully collected and stored in a 'Tissue Bank' (from Lesson 3), and then used by a 'Super-Mechanic' to give the amazing 'Gift of Sight.' This is a different, but just as heroic, pathway as an organ."
- Connecting to the Bigger Idea (The "Gift of Time"):
 - Say with a sense of wonder: "Today, we've solved the case. The 'Gift of Time' isn't always about saving a life from stopping. Sometimes, it's about giving a life back. For the hero in our story, the 'Treasure of More Time' meant the gift of sight—the gift of a future filled with stars, books, and friends' faces. That is a truly heroic 'echo' (from Year 4)."



Magical Body Facts for Year 5 (Ages 10-11)

- **Brain Power (Organ):** Your brain, an organ, is the most complex thing in the known universe. It has over 86 billion nerve cells, creating more connections than there are stars in our galaxy.
- **Your Skin Shield (Tissue):** Your skin is your body's largest organ (though it's also a collection of tissues!). You shed about 30,000 to 40,000 dead skin cells every minute. You get a whole new "shield" about once a month!
- **The Liver's "Superpower" (Organ):** The liver is a "super-machine" with over 500 jobs, from cleaning your blood to storing energy. It's also the only organ that can regenerate—it can regrow itself!
- **The See-Through Window (Tissue):** Your cornea (the "window" of your eye) is one of the only tissues in your body that has no blood vessels at all. It gets its oxygen directly from the air! This is one reason it can be transplanted so successfully.
- **A Bone "Factory" (Tissue/Organ):** Your bones are not just "scaffolding" material; they are also living "factories." The marrow inside your large bones produces over 2 million new red blood cells every second.
- **Heart's Electrical Team (Organ):** Your heart is so powerful it has its own electrical system (like a built-in 'team') that tells it to beat. This is why a heart can continue to beat for a short time even when separated from the body.
- **The "Spare Part" We Can Give Twice (Organ):** A person can donate a whole kidney (one of their "spare machines") while they are still alive to help a family member or friend.

