

LESSON PLAN

OBJECTIVES

- Persuasive Writing

MATERIALS

- Read the stories about Alex Decoteau on the website. Read the letter his mother wrote, asking for permission to move back to the Red Pheasant Reserve, in the documents section.
- Discuss the relationship of parents with their children. Think about how Alex' mother would feel if he told her he wanted to accept his sister, Emily's invitation, and move to Edmonton to live with Emily and her husband, David Latta.

ANTICIPATORY SET

Discuss or role play how Alex Decoteau might have told his mother he was moving to Edmonton. Keep in mind that his mother had already agreed to let Emily go. For instance, she might have said to her son, "Emily. That was different. She married. She has a big house. A piano. What would you have? Nothing."

PROCEDURE

Write or role-play what Decoteau might have said to persuade his mother to let him move to Edmonton.

CLOSURE

Compare your version to the actual letter Decoteau wrote, found on the website under documents, from France to his sister Emily. Take special notice of what he says about his mother.

Look at photographs of Decoteau's mother on the website with all his silver cups. Retell the story of the violin in which Decoteau said he once came in second in a race because the first prize was a silver cup, and the second prize a violin. "My mother always loved the violin," he is reported to have said.

EVALUATION

Evaluate the writing. Have the students use strong words, such as those along the bottom of the Persuasive Writing organizer.