From Supporting Students in a Time of Core Standards: English Language Arts, Grades 3-5 by Jeff Williams, with Elizabeth C. Homan and Sarah Swofford. ©2011 National Council of Teachers of English.

Carrot Chinchilla: I think that the theme is not to lie because if you lie you just get in big trouble then you just have to make up other lie to get out of it.

Pacific Alligator: I agree with you because I had to make up all kinds of lies to get out of one

Midnight Marten: i agree with u, but i want to add on. I think that if u lie someone is going to get in trouble and that is going to be the person that lies

Shadow Fox: I think the theme is a blend of not to lye and don't do something you don't know about because Franciso said that his grandpa knew about gardening but he didn't know so that led to lying.

Forest Chameleon: I agree with u because that totally makes sence

Brick Bat: Grandpa didn't lie though!

Desert Deer: I DISAGREE with you because, I don't think that you can blend.

Desert Deer: What to mean?

Brick Bat: I think the theme is that honesty is the more important than knowing how to do things.

FIGURE 2.1: An excerpt from students' blogs about theme in Scott's classroom.