

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

SOCIAL SKILL: TEAMWORK

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BOOK INFORMATION

Book title: Ricky, the Rock That Couldn't Roll

Author: Jay Miletsky

Illustrator: Erin Wozniak

Publisher and date of publication: New Paige Press, 2017

ISBN: 978-0-578-19803-3

Number of pages: 26

Reading level or interest level:

BOOK SYNOPSIS

All of the rocks have different personalities. But one thing they have in common is that they were shaped like a ball so they could roll down the hill. But Ricky the rock could not roll since he was flat. All of the other rocks would try to encourage him but he could not roll. They tried sliding him and covering him with bouncy balls. Finally, one rock has an idea. They pile mud on the flat side and created a mound. The mud dried out and they wrapped vines around Ricky to keep him together. Then he rolled!

This book could be used to help students understand the value of teamwork. They can understand that problems can be solved when more people are trying to solve it.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

The goal of this lesson is for students to understand that when they work as a team they are able to solve problems faster and better.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

K-2 Advance preparation:

- Bring supplies to make an obstacle course around the room
- If you prefer to use the gym, make sure to schedule it beforehand

K-2 materials

- 1 egg to use prior to reading the book
- Various supplies to make a developmentally appropriate obstacles course

3-6 materials

- One egg per group
- Fabrics, packaging material, etc. that students can use to protect egg

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Determined- having made a firm decision and being resolved not to change it.

Physique- the form and size of a body

Straining- force to make a great effort

Attributes- a characteristic that is inherently part of someone

Mound- a rounded mass projecting above a surface

Suspense- a state of feeling excited or anxious about what uncertain thing may happen

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Show the students an egg. Ask them what will happen if you drop the egg. Explain that you need to drop it but it cannot break. Ask the students what you could do. Start a discussion around different ideas of what could help prevent a break and build on different ideas.

Explain that the book is about a group of rocks that have got to find a solution to a problem.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the students what kind of attributes the rocks had that helped solve the problem. For those who did not come up with a solution, how was their contribution still important? Ask the students if they were successful in their first solutions? Why were those still important?

What good came from working together? If they had not talked about the problem, what would have happened?

POST READING ACTIVITY

K-2: Arrange some sort of obstacle course and divide students into teams. Students take turns navigating the "mine field" while blindfolded, with only their teammates to guide them. You can also require students to only use certain words or clues to make it challenging or content-area specific.

3-6: Ask the students to solve the problem you described earlier with the egg. Divide students into teams of 3-5 people and tell them to use what supplies they can find in the classroom to solve the problem. Explain that they only get one try. At the end of the period, go outside and have a person from each group drop the egg from above their head. Discuss what went well and what did not. Have teams clean up the egg afterwards.

CLOSURE

When we work as a team, we are more likely to come up with the best solutions possible. Sometimes it may take trial and error, but since everyone has different strengths, you can solve all kinds of problems together. This week remember to ask for help if you need it and offer it. Realize that someone on your team may be good at something you had not known was important.

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“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

- Helen Keller