

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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SOCIAL SKILL: MAKING A COMPROMISE
CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *Bink and Gollie*
Author: Kate DiCamillo
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ISBN Number: 0763659541
Number of Pages: 88 pages
Reading Level: 1st grade - 4th grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Meet Bink and Gollie, two precocious little girls — one tiny, one tall, and both utterly irrepressible. Setting out from their super-deluxe tree house and powered by plenty of peanut butter (for Bink) and pancakes (for Gollie), they share three comical adventures involving painfully bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion. No matter where their roller skates take them, at the end of the day they will always be the very best of friends.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this lesson is to teach students the importance of compromise and the consequences of not coming to an agreement.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

No materials or preparation needed.

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Compromise - to give and take when settling a disagreement; each person gives in a bit so no one gets their way 100%

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Explain to the students that compromising is a special form of cooperation—working together. When people cooperate they work together to achieve a goal. When people have different or opposing goals they can still work together by compromising, which is meeting each other half way. This way everyone can get something, even if they don't get everything they want. Ask the students to think of ways that the characters in this story compromise even though they are very different.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- What would have happened if Bink refused to take off one of her socks?
- What if Gollie refused to share her pancakes?
- How does compromise make us better friends?
- What are some examples of ways that we can compromise when we have a disagreement at school or at home?

Explain the “give and take” involved in making a compromise. Compromise is when two or more people each get a little of what they want. Everybody is happier if they get something out of a disagreement versus when they get nothing at all.

POST READING ACTIVITY

Imaginary Class Party

Discuss the option of having an imaginary classroom party. Although not everyone can have their way on each of the items to be discussed, explain that the majority rules. Practice the “give and take” required in compromising.

Discuss and then vote on the following items:

- what foods and drinks should we plan on having
- who will we invite to the party
- what games will we play
- when will we have the party
- what will we wear to the party
- what type of party (birthday party, holiday party, etc)
- how will we earn money to pay for the party
- who will be in charge of cleaning up after the party

Write the list of decisions on the blackboard. You may also want to write the official vote on each item to demonstrate that the majority rules. Explain that not everyone agrees on each item, but that all of us were involved in the decision making. Not everyone gets their way all the time. Compromise is needed.

If there is time, share this video clip with your class.

Perfect Strangers “Lunch Compromise”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRU1Y8zRb8M>

CLOSURE

Hang and discuss the poster in the classroom.

A black and white photograph of a gnarled, wind-swept tree on a hill against a cloudy sky. The tree's branches are heavily laden with leaves on the left side, while the right side shows bare, skeletal branches reaching out. The ground is dark and silhouetted against the horizon.

Compromise:
Better bend than break.
Scottish Proverb

Original photo by Rob Frankel at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gotowefoto/15542072391/>