

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

CASEL COMPETENCY: SELF MANAGEMENT

SOCIAL SKILL: SELF-MOTIVATION

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BOOK INFORMATION

Book title: Ox-cart Man

Author: Donald Hall

Illustrator: Barbara Cooney

Publisher and date of publication: Penguin Group, 1979

ISBN: 978-0-14-050441-5

Number of pages: 37

Reading level: 1-3

Interest level: 2-6

BOOK SYNOPSIS

The ox-cart man and his family packed his cart with everything they made or grew that year. He walked ten days through villages and farms until he got to the market. He sold each of the things he packed including his ox cart. He then bought things for everyone in his family. He walked home. Everybody used the things that he bought. He built a new ox-cart and each member of the family again made new things just like they did the year before.

This book could be used to show students that every member of the classroom has an important job to do. Students can understand that by planning ahead and working hard, they can contribute to the classroom's and their own success.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

The goal of this book is for students to understand the importance of hard work. When they work hard it pays off and they are better prepared to accomplish more.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

K-2 Lesson Materials:

- A large piece of construction paper for each student
- Markers for each student

3-6 Lesson Materials:

- Materials students can use to make items to trade: Cloth, construction paper, cups, tape, pipe cleaners

Advance Preparation:

- 3-6: Make something out of the materials that you can show as an example. A hat, vase of flowers, etc.

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Show the students the front of the book. Ask the students what they think the book will be about. Explain that the book is about a family that plans ahead and works hard to get what they need each year. Ask students how they or members of their family works hard to get what they need.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the students why the author listed all of the things that went into the hand cart. Ask the students what they have worked hard on and if they feel proud of these things.

Ask the class why the ox-cart man saved some of his things? How do we plan ahead to be successful in school?

Show the picture of the family at the fire. Ask the students how everybody probably feels using their new things? How did they earn what they had? Ask them what things do they own that they earned? Explain that when we work hard in school we are ready to learn more. And when we are older, when we work hard we are able to not just learn but buy things we need.

Ask the class if the kids appear to go to school. Explain that most children in the USA used to not go to school. Explain that we can work hard like the kids in the book by working hard in school. We learn skills that we can use to get what we need.

POST READING ACTIVITY

K-2: Ask students to divide a piece of paper in half. On the first half, they should draw pictures of themselves working hard on something that is meaningful to them. On the second half, they should draw a picture of what they got out of working hard. Ask the students to draw a picture

3-6: Students should spend 10 minutes making something from the cloth, construction paper, tape, pipe cleaners, etc. They should then take turns between walking around the class to trade and staying at their desk for a trader. Ask the students to share what they traded and why.

CLOSURE

Remind the students of the importance of hard work. Explain that when they plan ahead and work hard, they are better prepared and can accomplish more. Challenge students to work hard throughout the week and share with you what it felt like and what they gained from it.



"There is no substitute for hard work."

-Thomas Edison