

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

SOCIAL SKILL: BEING KIND

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BOOK INFORMATION

Book title: Wolf in the Snow

Author: Matthew Cordell

Publisher and date of publication: Feiwel and Friends, 2017

ISBN: 978-1-250-07636-6

Number of pages: 41

Reading level or interest level: K-6

BOOK SYNOPSIS

There are very few words in this book. The pictures tell the story of a girl walking home in a snow storm and a wolf pup who cannot keep up with the speed of his pack. The girl finds the pup who cannot walk in the snow so she carries him to the sounds of howling. She protects the pup from many dangers and walks a long way. She gets the pup to the pack and is very tired. She tries to walk home but gets so cold and tired that she falls to the ground. The wolves find her and hear the bark of her dog at home. They start howling. The little pup licks her. Her dog and mom find her and they are grateful to the pack. Her mom carries her down the hill where her dad is waiting. The family warms up in the house together.

The book could be used to help students understand that they can both give and receive help. They can understand that everybody at time needs help. Most students will might be used to only receiving or getting help, and this demonstrates that people do both.

This could supplement a lesson on water color or telling stories through minimal language.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

The goal of this lesson is for students to understand that it is normal to both give and receive help. They can understand that if they see someone who is helpless they can help them and if they need help, they can take it.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

K-2 Materials:

- A piece of construction paper for each student

- Paintbrush for each student
- Water color pallet for each student

3-6 Materials:

- A piece of construction paper for each student
- Colored pencils for each student

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Gratitude: The quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and return kindness

Helpful: Ready to give help

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Tell the students that this book is about a girl and a pup traveling through a storm. Explain that the only words in it demonstrates not what the characters are saying, but the sounds they are making. Ask the class why the author may have chosen this? Explain that he may have wanted to capture only what both the girl and the pup are able to do.

Ask the class if they have ever taken care of an animal. What did they do to take care of it? Then ask if an animal has ever taken care of them? What did it do to take care of them?

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the class why the girl helped the pup. What the girl did to take care of the pup? Show the class the picture of the mama wolf staring at the girl and baby wolf. What does she probably feel?

Ask the class why the pack followed the girl. What did they do to take care of the girl? Show the class the picture of the mom embracing the girl under the dogs. What does the mom probably feel?

Both the pup and girl needed help and both times the mamas were grateful that their child was taken care of. When we help others, we are also helping those who love them.

POST READING ACTIVITY

K-2: Give each students a piece of construction paper, a paintbrush, and water colors. Explain that they should paint two pictures. One should be of them helping somebody else. This should be a real situation that they have or are likely to encounter. The other should be of them receiving help for something they are currently struggling with. Ask the students so show the facial expressions of those in the picture.

3-6: Give each student colored pencils and construction paper. Ask students to make a comic strip that follows a similar structure of the book: You help someone in need. And they soon help you in

need of something similar. Ask that this show a circumstances that has or could likely happen. Ask students to only use words to demonstrate body sounds, not dialogue or story. The picture should tell the story.

CLOSURE

Sometimes you might feel more comfortable giving help more than receiving help. Or you might feel more comfortable receiving help than giving help. I challenge you to do both this week. Notice when someone needs help and be OK with giving help. This is expected and part of developing friendships.



"Asking for and receiving help is a way to prime
the pump of generosity."

- Jay Perry

