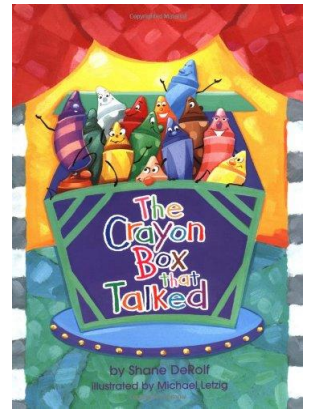


***The Crayon Box that Talked* by Shane DeRolf**

NOTE TO PRE-KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS:

Please complete the ***Teacher Activity*** with your class prior to the volunteer's visit. Since the volunteer only has 30 minutes, it's important to build the background knowledge necessary for listening comprehension.



Lesson Objectives:

At the end of the lesson, the students will be able to discuss the essential questions and synthesize the ideas important to the theme of diversity and friendships despite differences.

Essential Question:

1. What is courage?
2. What is kindness?
3. Why does kindness matter?
4. What can I learn from the story that can help me be a better citizen?

Discussion Format (Cooperative Learning):

Turn and talk with a partner and then share their thinking with the whole class.

Comprehension Strategy (Synthesizing):

Synthesis takes place when readers' thinking changes. Their thinking evolves. They infer meanings beyond the story line. They recognize themes.

Teacher Activity (Prior to the volunteer's visit):

Discussion:

1. Discuss what courage is and identify traits that show courage.
2. Discuss what kindness is and identify situations when students have been kind or have seen kindness.
3. Discuss the question, "Why does kindness matter?"
4. Discuss what moral of a story is.
5. Record responses on chart paper.

Teacher Activity (Day of the volunteer's visit):

Setting the Purpose:

1. Tell students they will be listening to the story, *The Crayon Box that Talked* by Shane DeRolf. As they listen to the story, they should be thinking about courage and kindness. Explain that at the end of the story, they will be having a discussion and will need to support their response with evidence from the text.
2. Review what courage and kindness are and the identified traits that show each. Display the responses that were recorded on the chart paper.
3. Review what moral of a story is.

Volunteer Activity:

Lesson:

- Read the book, *The Crayon box that Talked* by Shane DeRolf straight through (without stopping) so that students get the flow of the story.
- After you read the story, ask the following questions using the cooperative learning discussion format.

Comprehension Questions: (When possible, have students cite evidence from the text to support their responses)

1. What was the problem in the story? (the crayons couldn't get along/didn't like each other)
2. How did the crayons show kindness? (they saw the value of each color and how working together made a beautiful picture)
3. What is the moral of the story? (when we all work together, we can create a beautiful life)
4. How does kindness make you a good citizen? (everyone gets along)
5. How did the crayons show courage? (they changed their mind about the colors they didn't like)

Closure: Essential Question

1. What is courage?
2. What is kindness?
3. Why does kindness matter?
4. What can I learn from the story that can help me be a better citizen?