

Lesson Plan

Teacher: Bethany MacNeur
Class/Topic: Reading/Bullying
Grade Level: Fourth

Location: St. Clare
Time: 40-45 minutes
Date: October 11, 2006

Goal/Rationale –

The goal of this lesson is for students to activate prior knowledge about bullying in anticipation of a new unit in the *Steps to Respect* program. The purpose of this lesson is for students to activate background knowledge and think critically about bullying. Also, the purpose is for the teacher to assess where the class is with the topic before teaching new material.

Objective(s) –

1. Students will access prior knowledge of bullying through the initial completion of the anticipation guide.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the topic by recalling specific events and examples from the book through a discussion format.
3. Students will recall specific information, related to bullying, from the lesson as they complete their anticipation guide.
4. Students will reflect on their own experiences through a written reflection.

Resources –

Anticipation guide (28 copies)
My Secret Bully picture book
Bullying questions (28 copies)

Procedure –

I will begin my lesson with a brief introduction on the topic for the lesson: bullying. I don't want to begin a discussion on the topic before I introduce the anticipation guide. The purpose of the anticipation guide is to see what students already know about bullying.

I will introduce the anticipation guide and read over the statements with the class. I want to make sure they understand each statement, but I want to refrain from getting into a conversation about whether or not they agree with what's written. It's important for me to get an accurate picture of what they know and don't know about bullying. Do they agree or disagree with each statement?

When the anticipation guides are complete, I will ask some students to share their responses to each statement, and defend their position. Prior to sharing, I will emphasize to all students that answers should not be changed as people begin to share their positions.

After discussing each of the statements in the anticipation guide I will read the book *My Secret Bully* to the class. I will use the following questions as an opportunity for discussion:

- How was Katie being mean to Monica? What did she say? What did she do?
- What could Sarah have done to help Monica when Katie was bullying her?
- How did Monica stop the bullying?

Students will re-visit their anticipation guide and fold back their first set of responses on the left side of the paper, and then respond to each item again on the right side of the paper.

I would also like to get a sense of the students' personal thoughts and feelings about bullying. Because of the sensitive nature of the topic I will have students respond to the following questions:

- Why are kids mean to each other?
- How are kids mean to each other at St. Clare?
- Have you ever been bullied? Explain.
- What would you do if you ever saw a friend being bullied by another friend?

I will provide a sheet of paper for them with the questions already written out.

I will close the lesson with a preview of the *Steps to Respect* bullying program that we will be using in fourth grade. Students should be somewhat familiar with the program, as it was used in third grade.

Assessment –

Using the anticipation guide, students will have the opportunity to show me what they already know about bullying (pre-assessment). After reading the book and discussing it together, I will also be able to get an idea of how much they learned. Did any of the thoughts or ideas they had change by the end of the lesson?

Through informal observation, I will be able to get a sense of how familiar students are with the topic of bullying, and what misconceptions some may have.

I will also examine their written responses to the specific bullying questions to determine how much experience/knowledge they have about this issue.

Based on what I observe in the lesson and through their anticipation guides and writing, I will decide how to begin teaching *Steps to Respect*.

Name: _____

Date: _____

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Use your best cursive handwriting and write complete answers for the following questions.

1. Why are kids mean to each other? Include some possible reasons in your answer.

2. How are kids mean to each other at St. Clare?

3. Have you ever been bullied? Explain.

4. What would you do if you ever saw a friend being bullied by another friend?
