

RED A CRAYON'S STORY

Synopsis

Red has a bright red label, but he is, in fact, blue. His teacher, mother, and others all try to help him without success. Red is miserable because he just can't be red, no matter how hard he tries! Finally, a brand-new friend offers a brand-new perspective, and Red discovers all along he's actually blue!

Lessons and objectives

This story highlights the emotional skill of self perception, specifically how we see ourselves. We want to teach the children to respect themselves and understand they will have strengths and weaknesses. In the story we see that it is important to be true to yourself and to not try to be someone that you are not. After trying for a long time, you may realise that you are failing not because you are bad, but because you are different and you need to try something else.

Materials Needed

- Worksheet
- Pencil Crayons
- Pencils
- A4 paper
- White crayons
- Watercolor Paints
- Paint brushes
- Water bottles
- Envelopes with letters
- Bags with crayon wrappers
- Bags with crayons
- Container with pom-poms
- Tongs
- Color cups

Discussion Questions

1. What is Red trying to do which he cannot do?
2. What does his teacher, mother, and grand-parents tell him to do? Does it work?
3. What does everyone say about Red? Do you think they understand him?
4. What happens that makes Red realize that he is actually Blue?
5. Have you ever tried to be someone that you are not?
6. Do you sometimes feel that you are trying something but that it's just never working?

Activities:

1. Maths - Card Difference
2. What I am Great at worksheet
3. Invisible Paintings
4. Color Games

WHAT I AM GREAT AT WORKSHEET

Lesson Focus and Goals

Today you will introduce the emotional skill of self perception and the importance of accepting our strengths and weaknesses. Then the children will each fill in the worksheet with something they are good at.

Materials Needed

- Worksheet
- Pencil Crayons
- Pencils

Do an Introduction

In the book Red spends a long time trying to be good at something he is not.

Ask the children: How do you think that made him feel?

Show the children the poster that says: The hardest battle you ever going to fight is the battle to just be you.

Ask them why do you think that this is difficult?

Even adults battle to understand who they are but we are each made differently and every single one of us has something special to bring to this world. The greatest job we have in our lives is trying to figure out what we can bring to the world. Although we may need to learn new things and keep on trying the things we are bad at, we also need to learn about ourselves.

What have we got to offer the community? What are we good at? When someone looks at our lives what can they learn from us?

This can be practical talents we have like sports or art or being good at school work. But it can also be things in our natural character like someone who is naturally very kind or someone that really knows how to keep trying or someone that is naturally brave even when it scary. Sometimes those gifts can make an even greater story than any physical talents and encourage people to learn these things too.

As much as we need to know our strengths we should also be aware of our weaknesses. Some of these we will never be able to change but others we will need to work on.

What do you think are weaknesses you can't change about yourself?

What are weaknesses you can change?

Things like how good we are at sport or school work are things we may be able to work on and get better at. But we also might struggle and maybe we will never be a sports star or the best in our class. That's okay, it teaches us the valuable lesson of perseverance. Other things that we struggle with like getting angry or being disrespectful we can work on and change.

Activity

Hand out the worksheets and crayons. Tell the children to draw something that they are really great at, and write it at the bottom.

After they have finished let them all share what they are great with with the rest of the group.

Encourage them to learn from each other and encourage each other in what they are good at.



INVISIBLE PAINTINGS

Lesson Focus and Goals

Sometimes it takes the right situation to show us what we are truly capable of. In all of us there are beautiful things that may be hidden but can be brought out by a situation. Today we going to do a painting with white crayons and watercolour.

Materials Needed

- A4 paper
- White crayons
- Watercolor Paints
- Paint brushes
- Water bottles

Activity

Step 1: Explain the concept

Sometimes we don't know we are good at something until we get a chance to try or something happens that shows us we are good at it. For instance we won't know we are a really brave person unless something scary happens when everyone else is really struggling to be brave and we just are brave! Or maybe you have never surfed before and you try it and you are really good.

Life is a journey of discovering all the things we could be good at. Things that may not be visible at first.

Today we going to do a craft that shows us this.

Step 2: Draw in white pencil

Using the white crayon make a picture or pattern

Step 3: Paint in watercolor

Use the watercolor to paint over and let the pattern emerge

Step 4: Do another painting

If there is time the children can do another painting



COLOUR GAMES

Lesson Focus and Goals

Today we will be playing some fun games themed around colours.

Materials Needed

- Envelopes with letters
- Bags with crayon wrappers
- Bags with crayons
- Container with pom-poms
- Tongs
- Color cups

Activity 1 - Unscramble the Letters

The children need to unscramble the letters to form a colour. Split the group into four teams. There should be 5 envelopes for each team. Each envelope has the letters to spell a colour.

Give the teams each new envelope at the same time and the team that does it the fastest wins that round. Let them play all 5 rounds and see which team wins overall.

Please let the children put the letters back in the correct envelopes!

Activity 2 - Match the crayons

Give each team a box of crayons with the crayon wrappers in a separate bag. The children need to use the prestick to stick the wrappers on the right crayons. The first team to do this correctly, wins. Please let the children put the crayons back in their correct boxes.

Activity 2 - Sort the colors

Give each team a container full of pom-poms and the cups with a colour tag. Taking turns the team needs to sort the pom-poms using the tongs into their different colours. The first team to finish this correctly, wins.