

LESSON: Reading for Responsibility in the Garden

GRADE: 2

OBJECTIVES:

Employability Skills-

- **21.K-2.ES.3 Demonstrate integrity and ethical behavior, and social responsibility**
 - Accept ownership for actions
 - Demonstrate trustworthiness and honesty
 - Make decisions based on important core values

MATERIALS & RESOURCES:

- Books:
 - *If You Find a Rock*, Christian
 - *A Seed is Sleepy*, Aston
 - *Compost! Growing Gardens from Your Garbage*, Glaser
 - *The Good Garden*, Milway
 - *The Pumpkin Circle*, Levenson
 - Definition of “environment” on board or flipchart

PRESENTATION:

Review the definition for “Environment – the area in which we exist or live”, with the students. Show students the books they will be reading. Explain that each book has a message for us about nature and our environment. If the environment is not healthy, our garden will not thrive, and neither will we.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Do as much of this lesson outside/in the garden as possible.
2. Divide the class into 5 groups, assigning one book to each.
3. Give groups some time to read the books.
4. Explain that we’ll be playing a game called “jigsaw” to share what we’ve learned from our book with the other groups.
5. Have one student from each group move to a new group, (i.e. one from group 1 goes to group 2; one from group 2 goes to group 3, etc.)
6. Now the new person in each group shares what his or her group read.
7. Allow time for discussion about the theme of each book.

8. Continue rotating until each group has heard about all 5 books.
9. As a follow-up, the teacher can write a few ideas from students on what they've learned next to the name of each book.

TIME:

60-80 min

PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:

WHAT:

- What was the message each book had about the environment?

SO WHAT:

- Do we have rules at school, which help make the environment a better place?
- Do we have rules in nature, which make our outdoor environment a better place?
- Who makes the rules?
- Who follows the rules?

NOW WHAT:

- What could happen to our environment if someone does not follow the rules? What happens to the garden? What happens to us?
- Can you think of ways in which our City government keeps the community clean and beautiful?