



Listen To The Voice of Earth

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City Green

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DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan



Author: Dyane Disalvo-Ryan

Publisher: HarperCollins

Language: English

PBK: 32 pages

ISBN 978-0-06-290614-4

Reading age: 4 - 8 years

Theme to be associated with: Clean environment, community consciousness, recycling.

Summary:

A book called City Green by DyAnne DiSalvo- Ryan. It is about a girl named Marcy who wants to build a garden in her neighborhood in the spot where the city is tearing down an old building.

Marcy and her neighbor, Miss Rosa, don't want to look at the vacant lot with garbage and mud everywhere.

One spring, Marcy has a wonderful idea: instead of a useless lot, why not a green and growing space for everyone to enjoy?

She and Miss Rosa decide to make a garden and they start to work hard: digging, planting, and most importantly, getting others to help. Soon, the whole city is helping out - except for a grumpy man named Old Man Hammer. He tells them they are wasting their time. They still try to make a garden. At the end, they finish the garden and it looks so pretty!

<https://valuesweliveby.wordpress.com/2019/03/25/city-green/>

Main idea:

Even kids can help out the earth. And even if someone says you can't do something, you can choose to give up or keep trying. You should make your choices, not someone else. This visit to Marcy's city neighborhood will inspire both urban dwellers and their rural counterparts with the positive message that kids can make wonderful things happen and make a difference.

Explanation:

We have chosen this book to show students that even one person, even a child, or small group of people are able to change and improve the lives of communities and wake up hope. Common activities also integrate people and make them a coherent community.

Lesson Plan

Aim(s):

- To show students that the personal effort of each person is of great importance in changing our environment.
- To help students to understand that to be ecological and friendly to the environment, you have to start with yourself.
- To give students the idea that even skeptical people gradually change their attitudes and actions. Big things happen in small steps.

- Strengthen students' confidence in themselves, their strengths and decisions.
- To help students understand other people's feelings and their reasons.

Tools and equipment:

Note: Story books, materials for drawing - paper, plasticine, glue, scissors etc. The audiobook "City Green", simple teaching aid, cards with new vocabulary words, worksheets for reading and understanding activities. A camera to take pictures and "Simurg" tale in local language.

Pre-reading activities:

Pre-reading activities help students to understand the topic of the text they are reading and grasp the main idea, familiarize themselves with relevant vocabulary, and prepare for text comprehension tasks.

- Introducing students to community problems.
- Introducing key vocabulary.
- Talking about community problems in our town, street, block of flats.

Key words:

Vacant lot: an empty piece of land where nothing has been built.

Reading the story:

Before reading - students try to infer key details in the story using illustrations of the book.

- Listening and reading the text together.
- Comprehension check.
- Answering questions, describing characters, their traits, motivations, or feelings, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
- Retell the story in English or native language, including key details and demonstrate understanding of its central message.

Parallel lines activity.

Students stand in 2 parallel lines facing each other. The teacher provides the following prompts for students to discuss. Students step forward to talk with the person immediately in front of him/her. As they finish, they step back into their lines. After all

have finished the teacher directs one line to move such that each student is standing in front of a new partner. The teacher encourages students to borrow language, vocabulary and ideas from their first partner as they now talk to a new partner.

Examples:

I learned that _____ because

If _____ then _____ because in the story _____

- Students are divided into three groups. The groups stand facing each other. The first group portrays the first state of the garden, the second group portrays the time when people worked in the garden, and the third group portrays the final state of the

garden as a photographic frame. The educator takes pictures of the groups and shows them to the students. It is talked about the emotions and emotional changes created

Post-reading and listening activities:

Discussion

Class Discussion students sit in a circle and the teacher provides prompts. Teacher attempts to stay out of the conversation by encouraging students to build off of each others idea by using a sentence stem such as agree/disagree with _____ because _____

"I'd like to add _____, etc.

City Green Cause and effect. The cause is the reason why something happened. The effect is what happened because of the cause. Students find 1 to 3 parts of the story that show cause and effect.

Animation Activities:

Students, based on the story they have read and listened to and understood, with the help of the teacher, using various drawing and handicraft supplies, will create a poster in which they will "plant" various plants trees, flowers, vegetables.

Each student will present his "plant nursery", explain which plants he/she chose and why.

Each student will think about the environment of their personal home, school and express their opinion about whether there are unused, neglected areas that could be renovated through the joint efforts of the communities.

Group work: Groups are formed according to the number of students. The teacher places the big picture papers in the area where the student groups can work comfortably. Groups of students gather around the paper given to them. Groups are asked to transform an empty space of their own into a garden or living space. Material selection is at the discretion of the instructor. Painting, stain or collage techniques can be practiced.

Web 2.0:

Students will play a game on the Kahoot platform using their mobile phones.

<https://create.kahoot.it/discover>

More advanced students will create their own simple Kahoot game based on the facts read in the City Green story.

Magma is an easy web2.0 application for collaborative painting work. It is free. With this app, students can create a common garden or world design at school or at home.

<https://magma.com/d/>

Closure:

Students will present their posters. Photos of the presentation will be shared on the school's Facebook account.

Students will tell how they felt after reading the book, understanding the importance of community and the need to nurture the environment.

At the end of the studies, the educator tells his students about the legend of Simurg. Displays the book, photos or videos, if available. In one of the oldest stories of mankind; it tells the power created by our own integrity and the integrity of other people. Humanity keeps ancient stories in mind and brings them out in another way. Maintaining our own integrity and being whole with others strengthens and heals us.



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