

Teaching Portfolio-Sample

Lesson Plans

Theatre In a Box: Best friends rock when they stick together!

Theme: Friendship & Feelings

Book: *Stick and Stone* – Beth Ferry

Grade Level: K-2

Estimated Time: 50-60 minutes

Learning Objectives

- **ELA:** Students will identify story elements: characters, setting, problem, and solution.
- **SEL:** Students will practice friendship-building skills and resilience.
- **Theatre:** Students will explore movement and expression through dramatic play.

Standards

- **ELA:** RL.K.3 / RL.1.3 – Describe a story's characters, settings, and major events.
- **SEL:** Social Awareness – Understanding and empathizing with others, recognizing and respecting diversity, understanding social cues, developing positive relationships
- **Theatre:** TH:Re7.1.K– Role-play emotions, character motivation

Lesson Plan Overview

Activity	Time	Description
1. Welcome & Warm-up	5-10 min	Greet students, introduce the theme. Play "magic rock." Have students spread out around the room. Call out "magic rock!" The students should then sit and curl up like a rock. Magic rocks are silent. Next, command the magic rocks to turn into a creature or animal of your choosing. For example, "magic rock, turn into a zebra!" At that command, the students should stand up and pretend to be that animal or creature and move around the room while doing so. Call "magic rock!" to have students return to their position on the floor. Encourage students to think of their own animals. Add in the "magic stick!" command when students are ready. For "magic stick," students are silent but frozen in a stick position.
2. Book Reading	10 min	Read <i>Stick and Stone</i> . Ask guiding questions (Eg, "How does it look like stick and rock are feeling?" "Where are they?" "Is pinecone being a good friend?" "Where is stick?")
3. Discussion: Characters, setting,	10 min	Use visuals from the book to identify the main characters, setting, problem, and solution. After discussing the theme of resilience and friendship, focus on identifying how the setting

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problem, and solution		shifts throughout the story. Create a setting chart using the provided setting cards.
4. Creative Play	15 min	As a class, retell the story using finger puppets. Create three groups of students to represent each character; some students within each group may represent a different emotion of that character. For example, in the rock group, a few students might be rock when rock is happy, while some students might be rock when rock is sad. Re-read the book and take pauses as students step forward and act out their parts with the puppets and sound effects.
5. Movement Exploration	5-10 min	Utilize the setting chart to create movement cues for the students. Some examples from the book include wandering through a grassy field, exploring a dark cave, lazing by the shore, getting caught in a hurricane, or being stuck in a mud puddle.
6. Reflection and Wrap-up	5 min	Discuss the importance of standing up for your friends and having resilience in friendship. Use SEL prompts.

Materials List

In the Box:

- Copy of *Stick and Stone*
- Reflection cards with SEL prompts
- Finger puppets PDF
- Setting cards

Needed from Site:

- Open space for acting and movement exercises
- Access to a whiteboard or chart paper (optional for the setting cards)
- Tape for finger puppets and scissors

Teacher Tips

- Encourage full-body expression and imaginative choices.
- During reenactment, model how to share space and take turns.
- Use character voices to make the read-aloud more dynamic.
- Have students support each other during art or performance tasks