

PAIGE SAVES THE DAY

LESSON PLAN DEVELOPED BY
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Paige is a happy kid with a unique fashion sense and creative imagination. Despite being bullied because of the things that make her different, she enjoys using her creativity to entertain her family and friends with stories in which she and her dog, Peppermint, are Superheroes who always save the day! However, when her bullies plot to destroy her group's big project, Paige is left alone, standing in front of her classmates, speechless. With her group depending on her, will Paige be able to find the superhero inside herself to save the day?

OBJECTIVES

1. To **acknowledge** the negative effects that bullying can have on children, including stress and a loss of desire for kids to go to school.
2. To **empower** children to be their unique selves.
3. To **stimulate** children to explore their own creative imagination.

FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. Why is it imperative to be your creative self?
2. Why is it significant not to bully your peers?

ACTIVITY (VOCABULARY)

Vocabulary review. Allow students to work together to explore important vocabulary words central to the theme of the lesson. In 5 - 10 minutes, students should engage in their "team talk" groups and discuss what these words mean to them and how understanding these words can allow them to consciously create and encourage positivity for themselves and others.

1. Creativity – The use of imagination or unique designs, especially in the production of artistic work.
2. Bully – a person who uses strength or power to continuously harm or intimidate those who are weaker.



METHOD

Teachers will facilitate a discussion surrounding the book, *“Paige Saves the Day.”* The teacher will begin by reviewing the key terms - “bully” and “creativity” - explored by the workgroups, while also emphasizing the importance of these terms. Next, the teachers will create a dialogue with the students about what makes them and their peers feel safe in their school environment as well as what things make them feel unsafe and uncomfortable being their authentic selves at school. Then, the authors Nalani and Leila Butler will read *“Paige Saves the Day”* aloud and reinforce the important takeaways from the lesson to create further understanding within the students.

IMPLEMENTATION

The book should be read from beginning to end with brief pauses for questions and short discussions. After the read-aloud, students should be presented with questions that keep them engaged with the topics of bullying and creativity. Questions should ask students to provide examples of when the main character, Paige, was bullied and other examples of when she demonstrated creativity and stayed true to her character. Other questions should encourage kids to compare themselves to Paige and see if they exhibit some of the same characteristics and shared experiences. Ask the students how they felt when Paige was being bullied, and include a discussion about their feelings towards Brooklyn stealing her team’s story idea. Throughout this post-discussion, the importance of creativity and staying true to character, as well as the acknowledgment of bullying and aiming to prevent it, should be reinforced.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Following the reading and discussion, the students will engage in a fun activity tailored towards comprehension and application -- in other words, applying what they have learned or read. The activity choices are laid out below. Teachers can choose what activity is appropriate for their students. We also encourage teachers to be flexible in making the necessary changes to fit their classroom curriculum and specific learning goals they have for their students.

ACTIVITY 1 | POSTER BOARD (TEAM PROJECT)

Allow students to work as a team to create a board that shows and discusses what they predict will happen in the next book. *“Focus Question”: Now that Paige and the blue team have won, what do you think will happen to Paige and her classmates in the next part of the story? Do you think the entire class will come together to create a collaborative performance for the Spring Fling, or do you think the class will remain divided and maybe even follow Brooklyn instead?* Allow students to be creative, including pictures and details in their predictions, as they present as a group what they think will happen next.



ACTIVITY 2 | STORY CREATOR (TEAM PROJECT)

Allow students to work together and “think like Paige” as they channel their creativity into a collaborative and detailed story of their own. Encourage them to be creative and think outside the box while also thinking about some of the positive themes in the story including friendship, teamwork, kindness, and staying true to oneself.

MATERIALS

- “Paige Saves the Day” Book
- Anchor Chart (for writing down information for visuals)
- poster boards
- crayons and markers
- glue sticks
- sticky notes

CONCEPTS

Understanding and respecting other's feelings and opinions. Teaching students that it is okay to be different while being creative. Recognizing that bullying exists while finding different strategies to implement to make everyone feel safe in their space or environment.

