

Theme: Stories and Songs of Bill Harley

Suggested Age Level: Preschool (3-5 years old)

Activity: "Listen to Me" peer mediation

Subject Areas Addressed: social studies, listening, music, speaking, leadership, peer mediation

Objectives:

1. Children will listen to and discuss the Bill Harley song "Listen to Me".
2. Children will talk about how parents and teachers help them solve problems, possibly problems similar to those in the song.
3. Children will relate how they can solve the problems on their own.
4. Children will use tactics discussed in solving mock problems presented by teachers.

Materials: Bill Harley tape or CD "Big Big World", tape or CD player

Procedure:

1. Share the Bill Harley song "Listen to Me" with the children.
2. Lead a discussion with the children about what happens in the song. Sample questions include: What happened to the boy? How did he feel when he was talking to the ants? How did he feel when his Dad talked to him? Why did he feel this way? How did the boy feel after the aliens came? What changed?
3. Ask the children if anything like this has ever happened to them. Encourage them to share stories about problem solving, both on their own and with the help of parents and teachers.
4. Explain to the children that the teachers are now going to pretend to argue and the children can take turns helping the teachers solve their problem.
5. Teachers will pretend to argue different situations. Examples: One teacher has taken the toy out of another teacher's hand. One teacher can ignore the other teacher. One teacher can run by the other, knocking them over.
6. Children will take turns playing the "teacher" role and helping the teachers work out their problem. Every child that wishes to participate should get a turn.
7. Congratulate children on a job well done and encourage them to use their ideas with their classmates throughout the day.
8. Teachers will be sure to comment when they see children using peer mediation skills.