



ARTS + ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS

GRADES 1-2: LITERACY/THEATER

Dig Deep: Finding the Virtues in All of Us

DESCRIPTION: In this episode, kids will learn a Native American folktale that explains the rich virtues that reside in all of us. They will learn to pull out the key details and central message in a story and practice retelling a fable or folktale to someone in their household. (Note: the first Artspllosion mentions your “bum or tushy.”)

CONNECTED OBJECTIVE: Students will use theatrical storytelling as a tool to pull out key details and the central message of a story.

MATERIALS NEEDED DURING EPISODE: None.



Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.9 Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.



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TH:Re7.1.2a Recognize when artistic choices are made in a guided drama experience (e.g., process drama, story drama, creative drama).

ARTS EXTENSIONS:

Virtual hashtag: Discuss the elements of story (character, setting, problem, resolution) The game of hashtag in the episode describes settings and characters. Play a game of hashtag. Give students a setting. Ask students to become characters in the setting. Call on each student to say their character and strike a frozen pose one at a time. Then say you're going to take a picture and yell "freeze" while everyone makes their pose simultaneously. (Is it possible to screenshot and share this?) Call on students to hashtag the screen, either from screenshot or from memory.

Animal Kingdom: discuss the story in the episode and the fact that the characters are animals. Name an animal. What would their face look like? How would he move? What might they say?

Virtues roll call: Start with a discussion of virtues in each of us. (Teacher can choose to unmute everyone or just one kid at a time) Do a call and response virtue roll call:

Kid: My name is _____

All: Yeah!

Kid: And I have virtues

All: Yeah!

Kid: I have (virtue here)

All: Yeah!

Kid: Inside of me

Teacher: Now give me a movement that symbolizes the virtue.

Make a virtues shield: Take a paper and list the virtue you think is your strongest in the middle. Around it, draw pictures or write words that show how you demonstrate the virtue.

Challenge: Write other virtues you think connect with it.

ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS:

Somebody, Wanted, So, But, Then

- Model the "art" of summarizing by doing a think aloud of a familiar fable or folktale -- three little pigs is a great option. Then, watch the short video of the tortoise and the hare ([HERE](#)) Support students in summarizing the story by identifying the key ideas and details. Review with students the formula for creating a summary. **Somebody:** character, **Wanted:** The action **So:** an event **But:** problem. **Then:** solution. Students should be able to write or share aloud their summaries of the story.



ARTS + ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS

Virtues booklet

- Students can identify two-three virtues that they would like to bring into their spaces/homes/rooms. These should be virtues that they want to remember that they have access to-- Love, Intelligence, Mindfulness, etc. Teachers may want to discuss what these virtues look like in action. Students can write out a few of the virtues and then create a booklet with a picture that demonstrates each virtue OR they can brainstorm an animal that represents each virtue. (In folktales, we often see animals representative of human behaviors or even values).

Create your own folktale

- Offer students the ability to choose between two central messages such as “there’s no place like home” or “be happy with what you have.” Then work together to create a unique story. The teacher could create sentence frames and ask students to fill in (or the teacher could fill in for the student) sections of the story in order to create a group fable/folktale.

At-home challenge

- Create an original fable or folktale where you and your friends or family all become the characters. Create characters whose names are similar to your family members and let your friends and family pick the animal that they would like to be. Choose one of the central themes from the episode to base your folktale around or create your own!