

Last Stop on Market Street

By Matt de la Pena



Check out the Learning and Literacy Profile of the Ready Kindergartner

The Lesson

Lesson plan by: Mia Hartley Phillips

Length of Lesson: 45 minutes
*(can be adjusted by eliminating * items to 15-30 minutes, depending on student's needs)*

Objective/Brief Description:
Explore building community, family relationships, and helping others

Materials

Materials Provided: colored paper pieces, crayons, copy of the bus image, plastic glasses, plastic steering wheel

Materials From Home: glue stick, dress up items - hats, scarves, jackets, etc.

INTRODUCTION:

At a location where the students come to you instead of traveling to their classroom:

Begin outside the room and give each student a "Magic Key" (*a crayon*). This is their key to their imagination. At the door, each student is asked the question, "What are some ways we travel or get around?" Then they act it out as they travel into the room and join your group circle. They could pretend to be on a plane, in a car, riding a train, etc.

Offsite where student(s) are already in the classroom or at home:

Have students sit in a circle in their regular "group" space. Ask the question "What are some ways we travel or get around?" Have them act out different ways of traveling.

**Students then take turns going behind a curtain, shelving unit, or whatever is available to create an entrance and exit stage area. The student enters, crosses to the center, says their name, and acts out how they travel to school, the library, etc. Afterwards, the audience applauds and the student bows and exits.*



LET'S GET MOVING:

We are going to play a game called *Bus Rider*. The adult will be the driver and use the steering wheel while each child takes a turn asking for a ride on the bus. The adult always says "yes" and invites the child on the bus. The fun part is that each child gets to act like any kind of character they want (they could be a grumpy person, an old lady/man, an excited teenager, etc.). Every time a new person gets on the bus, everyone on the bus has to act like the new rider. Everyone keeps acting like the new rider, until the next one comes up and holds out their hand to stop the bus and asks for a ride. When a new rider holds out their hand to stop the bus, all riders have to freeze and see what the new rider is doing. Then the others start behaving like the new rider. This improvisational game can be played many times, and children can take turns as the driver, too.

This is also a great chance to talk about different emotions, and how we show them.

TRANSITION:

Let's ride the bus to the library. Have everyone gather together on a carpet or smaller space and pretend to sit on the bus. The "driver" pretends to ride over bumps, and everyone copies the driver riding over bumps, riding around a corner, or stopping to let others on the bus.

READ THE STORY:

We ride the bus to the "library" to read *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Pena. When the story is finished, talk about the different people we met in the story. Ask if they know anyone like any of the characters on the bus.

IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM AND HOW TO SOLVE IT:

Why did CJ not want to ride the bus? What did he discover on his bus ride?

Each student is given a piece of paper with an image of a bus. They can use crayons or torn pieces of paper and glue to create a collage similar to the collage art style of the bus on the cover of the book. Ask each child, "who would you have riding on your bus?" Let each child take a turn showing their bus and describing who they would have riding on their bus.

END OF CLASS:

End with a dance party and invite the children to act like the different people on the bus or in the city. They can show some of the different characters using some of the provided props/costume pieces, or items from home.

At the end of the song, everyone takes a turn clapping as the audience, and then bowing as an actor.



Thank you for taking a few minutes to fill out this survey.