

Length of Lesson: 45 minutes
(can be adjusted by eliminating *
items to 15-30 minutes)



Check out SC's Learning
and Literacy Profile of
the ready kindergartner

Objective/Brief Description:

Students will explore kindness
and community as a young boy
searches for the Paletero Man.
Along the way he greets his
neighbors. When the boy finally
finds the Paletero Man and is
about to buy a paleta, he
discovers he has lost all of his
money - until a surprising act of
kindness helps him.



Materials Provided: Pretend money, Wooden
Popsicles, coloring sheets (laminated copy to
make additional copies),
Music: Scan this QR code



Materials Needed: Crayons, Speaker for music

Before Reading: Materials - pretend money
Hide the pretend money in three spots for the
Story in Motion Activity.



INTRODUCTION *Materials - toy paletas*

Students sit in their own areas, facing the reader.

Show students the cover of the book and ask them what they see.

Guided Discussion

- What is on the cover? In Spanish these are paletas.
- Show off toy paletas - guess the flavors of each and pass them around the room
- What is a Paletero Man?

To introduce the setting. You can say something like...

- *This story takes place in Los Angeles, California, during summer, on a very hot day.
What do you like to enjoy on the hottest day in the hottest month? When is that?"*
- *"Jose, the paletero man likes dancing to mariachi music with his paleta cart.*

*Dance to Mariachi Music

- You can play music and have students listen for a few moments.
 - They can start dancing in their own areas
 - They can dance around the room
 - Focus on letting the music guide how they dance

Return to seated. Discuss how that felt. Perhaps you could ask something like, "Have you ever heard this kind of music before? It is called Mariachi music."



*Guided Imagery if music isn't available...

You can have them imagine it is the hottest day of the year. They can close their eyes and when they open them they are outside on the hottest hour of the hottest day of the year. They can walk around the room in the summer heat.

"Imagine you are outside and the hot sun is blazing. How do you feel? How do you move around when it is really hot outside?"

You can add questions or give them a setting like a playground or a park. After they move around for a bit, you can have them close their eyes, and when they open them they return to the classroom.

READ THE STORY

Read the book, *The Paletero Man* by Lucky Diaz, Illustrated by Micah Player

There are repeated phrases in the book. Students can repeat the phrases

- "Ring, Ring, Ring, Paletas, Paletas"
- "Paletas for one, paletas for all!"

IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM

- He lost his money. How can he buy his paleta?
- Who shows up with his money?
 - Tio Ernesto, Ms. Lee, and Frank

STORY IN MOTION

After the story and discussion, split the students into four groups and have them search for the missing money. (*This can change depending on the size of the group. I've chosen three because three characters return the child's money in the book.*)

Once they find the money they can return to their seats. As the facilitator, you become the kid in the story. The group that does not find the money can be Jose the Paletero Man. The other groups represent Tio Ernesto, Ms. Lee, and Frank.

You can try to buy the paleta but discover you do not have any money. Ask the class where it could have gone.

Prompt the kids to say something like, "I've found your money."



The First Group - Tio Ernesto who sells Tamales

- They can stand up as a group and decide to return the money to you.
- You can prompt them to say something like, "you dropped it as you walked past."
- Thank them for returning the money and they can return to their seats.

The Second Group - Ms. Lee from Ms. Lee's Korean BBQ restaurant

- Follow the same structure

The Third Group - Frank from the Bike Shop

- Follow the same structure

Jose the Paletero Man

- They can stand up as a group.
- Prompt the students to say something like, "Because of your kindness paletas are free!"

The whole class

- "Paletas for one, paletas for all!"

Discussion

- Why do the neighbors give him back his money instead of keeping it?
- Because of the neighbors' kindness, what does Paletero Jose decide to do?

***ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY**

Students can color their own paletas by using the coloring sheet provided. There is a laminated copy included in the kit if you need more copies.

CLOSING

What is the one thing you want most on a hot summer day? The child in the story wanted a paleta but he lost his money on the way to buy one. Who returns his money? If you found something that belonged to your friend would you return it to them? Why?



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