Kinder Story time

Thinking Classrooms leson



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

This lesson uses the book "We're Going on a Bear Hunt".

It is an interactive lesson that breaks up the story for thinking, practicing writing and numbers.

It could easily be adapted to another book, or another grade.





Launch

Start in a circle, everyone is sitting, you are holding the book, and showing them the cover.

Tell them how this book is extra special because it has a "call and repeat" song. So they will have to repeat every line you say. Practice with the title - *We're going on a bearhunt!*

Get them standing for the actions

This book works so well as your first interactive lesson because it lends itself naturally to acting out parts of the story. As you move through the tall, wavy, grass, students need to make swishy, swashy movements.



Groups go to the whiteboards

When your bear hunt gets to the forest, it is time to put them in random groups of two, and sent them to their groups whiteboards.

For the first activity, tell them that to get through the forest - they need to draw a forest.

This first time at the boards is getting them to practice collaborating, sharing, turn taking, and listening. It is a good time to check fine motor skills, and encouraing creativity.

When groups start to finish their forests - extend the activity by having them draw animals in the forest, while you wait for all the groups to finish.

Another possible extension: connect to what you're learning in class, have them draw the forest in the



Bring them back to your reading area before continuing the story.

Keep with the call and repeat and actions, until you get to the snowstorm.

Now, and this is my favourite part, bring them close to tell them the secret - whisper - they will need to write their names to get through the snowstorm. Send them back to their boards to write their names.



When you get to the bear in the cave, send them write the numbers in the story: 1, 2, 2. (ONE shiny wet nose, ...)



After the story

When the adventurers have made it back home, have students draw their favourite part of the book on their boards (the forest, the snowstorm...).

Then bring them into a circle to share what they drew, and why they picked that part of the adventure.



Try, try again

The first time you try a lesson like this, might not go exactly as imagined (what lesson does?)

Hopefully, like when I have done it, it leaves you smiling, leaves the students with a sense of accomplishment, and leaves you with some ideas for what to try next time.

Maybe you noticed something that makes you want to spend time practicing sharing, or maybe you saw a lot of great work writing numbers, and you want to have them use some bigger numbers tomorrow!

