

CRITICAL LITERACY ANTI-RACIST READ ALOUD PLAN

Name: Nancy Boes

Grade Level: K- second

Title of Book: *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia*

Author: Miranda Paul Illustrator: Elizabeth Zunon

Objective: Students will be able to explain the problem Isatou saw and how and why she solved it

Purpose: I want the students to consider the root of the problem in the story. I also want them to understand that the end of the story is misleading. The problem wasn't solved by Isatou. It is an ongoing problem all over the world. Solving the plastic bag problem will require education, the cooperation of the people, and maybe government intervention.

Before Reading	During Reading	After Reading
● <u>Opening Book Introduction:</u> <i>This book is about...</i> a woman who noticed a problem in her community and found a way to help solve the problem. ● <u>Draw on personal experience & activate prior knowledge:</u> Attentional Prompt: Show a plastic grocery bag. When you go to the store, do you carry your purchases in a plastic bag? Do you have a lot of these plastic bags at home? Show an overflowing container of plastic grocery bags. I know I do! I have so many they are spilling out of the container I keep them in! What do you use when you go to the store? Do you use bags like these? Alternative: What are some ways to carry your food home from the store? What are the advantages/disadvantages of each way? ● <u>Continue book intro:</u> Today, we are going to read a book about a woman who notices a problem in her community and finds a way to help solve the problem. (Show the book cover.) The title of the book is <i>One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia</i> written by Miranda Paul and illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon. I'm	● <u>Prompts for encouraging children's thinking about the story:</u> 1.(p.3) How does the grandmother feel about the plastic bag Isatou shows her? How can you tell? 2.(p.11) What is the problem? ...until the ugliness finds its way to her. What does this mean? 3.(p.12) What does Isatou do? ● <u>List specific pages to draw children's attention to an aspect of the story</u> p.12 ...until the ugliness finds its way to her. What does this mean? p. p.14 How does this page make you feel? Why would some people laugh and call the women "dirty"?	● <u>List your prompts/questions to encouraging thinking and/or checking predictions</u> What was the problem in the story? Why was this a problem? Who is to blame for the problem? Do you think the people in the story understood the implications of throwing their bags on the ground? What makes you say this? (Try and get them to notice that the basket Isatou used at the beginning of the story rotted into the soil.) So, who is to blame for the problem? Was there a problem when woven baskets were thrown on the ground? - Discussion Questions: - Why did the people start using plastic bags instead of woven baskets? - Is it Isatou's responsibility to clean up the town? -Did Isatou really solve the problem? Did they all live "happily ever after"?

predicting that this woman is Isatou Ceesay since she is on the cover and her name is in the title.

- **Prompts to encourage predictions:**

It also says, "and the recycling women of Gambia."

What do you think that means? Have a globe handy so you can show them where Gambia is when this comes up. Or use the map in the back of the book. What is she doing on the cover? What do you think this book will be about?

- **Set a purpose for reading:**

.Let's read to find out about the problem in Isatou's community and what she does to help solve it.

Reread this line: "The torn bag is useless. She drops it to the dirt, as everyone does. There is nowhere else to put it."

What do you do with something that is broken or you can't use?

Think Aloud: This makes it sound like they don't have recycling bins or even trash cans.(Making inference) I wonder if she is just not near one, or if where she lives they don't have them.

Why don't they have trash cans? (Asking questions.)

- **List the ways to invite children's personal response or focus discussions about the story.**

Are plastic bags a problem here? Show some pictures of plastic bag pollution in the USA. Discuss California's ban on plastic bags. Compare pros and cons of banning bags.

Activity to extend the meaning of the story:

Create purses or other items out of recycled plastic bags.

Call to Action:

Learn more about Isatou and the ongoing struggle with pollution in Gambia. Are there people trying to make your community better? How can you get involved?

--	--	--