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After School Storytime with Cody 📚

Instructions:

Check out this sample lesson plan and activity ideas for inspiration, ideas, and more. Feel free to edit, delete, or highlight to make it your own! These notes are yours to customize. They will not be published anywhere such that you're held to teaching exactly what's here.

Topics

vocabulary builder, language skills, listening, cultural appreciation, mindfulness, time away from screens

Lesson Ideas

Lesson Title

After School Storytime

Duration

1 Hour

Lesson Plan

1. **Welcome and Introduction** (5 minutes)
   - Greet students warmly and explain the objectives of After School Storytime.

2. **Vocabulary Builder** (10 minutes)
   - Introduce a list of 5 to 7 new words from the story to be read.
   - Discuss each word's meaning and use it in a sentence.

3. **Read-Aloud and Listening Activity** (15 minutes)
   - Read a culturally diverse story to the students.

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- Encourage students to listen attentively as you read.

4. **Discussion and Language Skills** (10 minutes)
   - Ask questions about the story to promote language skills.
   - Discuss the characters, setting, and main events.
   - Encourage students to share their thoughts and opinions.

5. **Cultural Appreciation Activity** (10 minutes)
   - Highlight an aspect of the culture represented in the story.
   - Show pictures or artifacts related to the culture for a visual understanding.

6. **Mindfulness Exercise** (5 minutes)
   - Guide students through a short mindfulness exercise (e.g., deep breathing or visualization related to the story).

7. **Reflective Journaling** (5 minutes)
   - Provide time for students to write or draw their favorite part of the story in a journal.

Materials List

- Storybook featuring a culturally diverse story
- Vocabulary cards or list
- Pictures or artifacts related to the story's culture
- Journals or paper for reflective journaling
- Pens or crayons

Adaptations for Different Ages

- **Younger Kids:** Read a simpler story with engaging illustrations. Use more visual aids and shorter mindfulness exercises.
- **Older Kids:** Choose a more complex story with deeper themes. Encourage deeper discussion and longer journaling time.

Movement Break

- Five minutes of gentle stretching and movement related to the story's theme. For example, if the story is about a journey, mimic walking or marching movements.

Bonus Activities

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- **Cultural Craft:** Make a simple craft related to the culture in the story, such as creating a paper lantern or drawing traditional clothing.
- **Story Creation:** Collaboratively create a short story using the new vocabulary words introduced. Have students illustrate their story collectively.

Series Outline

1. **Week 1: Vocabulary Builder**
   - Introduce a "Word of the Week" and create a story together using the new word.
   - Organize a fun word scavenger hunt where kids find objects representing specific vocabulary.
   - Play a vocabulary charades game to encourage active use of new words.

2. **Week 2: Language Skills**
   - Conduct a storytelling relay where each child adds a sentence in sequence.
   - Use wordless picture books and have kids narrate their version of the story.
   - Create language-based puzzles and games like crosswords or fill-in-the-blanks.

3. **Week 3: Listening Skills**
   - Read a story aloud and follow up with comprehension questions.
   - Play “Telephone” using complex sentences and see how the message changes.
   - Organize a "Sound Detectives" game where kids identify sounds from the story.

4. **Week 4: Cultural Appreciation**
   - Explore stories and folktales from around the world and discuss different cultures.
   - Craft cultural symbols or artifacts related to the stories read.
   - Invite a guest speaker to share traditional stories from their culture.

5. **Week 5: Creative Writing**
   - Have kids write their own short stories, starting with a predetermined sentence.
   - Create a "Story Dice" activity where dice rolled determine story elements.
   - Host a mini writing workshop focusing on character and plot development.

6. **Week 6: Mindfulness through Stories**
   - Read a calming story and lead a guided meditation session based on its themes.
   - Introduce breathing exercises using story elements to guide visualization.

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- Write and share gratitude letters or journals inspired by story events.

7. **Week 7: Time Away from Screens**
   - Encourage kids to illustrate a scene they've imagined from a story.
   - Organize outdoor storytelling sessions (weather permitting).
   - Engage in a group storytelling by the campfire (real or digital).

8. **Week 8: Storytelling through Art**
   - Have children create comic strips from their favorite story.
   - Introduce clay modeling to recreate story characters or scenes.
   - Design story character masks and have a role-playing session.

9. **Week 9: Story Elements & Structure**
   - Break down a story into its elements (beginning, middle, end) and discuss.
   - Play a "Plot Twist" game where kids change a story's ending.
   - Create a storyboard or mind map of a story structure.

10. **Week 10: Story Celebration & Sharing**
    - Organize an "Author's Corner" where kids share their written or drawn stories.
    - Compile a class book of short stories created during the series.
    - Have a story-themed party with costumes and snacks inspired by the stories read.

For additional support, reference this experience outline template which includes tips and prompts to help you develop and lead an excellent Grasshopper Kids experience.

Note: This lesson plan outline was drafted by Hopper. If you would like to see different results, you can submit another idea, or text us with feedback so we can work to make the algorithm better. We built this tool to help save you time in bringing more kids enrichment experience ideas to life!

