
UNIT: Decisions That Affect Children

LESSON: Setting the Stage for Learning--Reading

TIME: 4-5 days

COMPETENCIES:

1. Discuss the importance of reading to children and how to select appropriate books for various ages. (Options 2 and 3)
 2. Practice effective reading and storytelling techniques. (Option 4)
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OVERVIEW/SUMMARY: The ability to read is one of the most important skills a person can possess. It is important to begin when children are young to teach them to love reading. Reading to children will greatly enhance their reading readiness.

TEACHER NOTE: This lesson would work well as an introduction to children's books. If you are going to have students compile the list during the year, you may want to present this lesson first.

MOTIVATOR:

Assign students ahead of time to bring their favorite book to class for this presentation. You do not need to stipulate what type of book they should bring. For the motivator, have the students give a one-line summary of why they chose the book they did. Explain that there is a wide variety of books because every person has a different personality. The books we read reflect the type of person we are, and the books we read influence the type of person we will become.

LESSON OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1

BOOK: I Hate to Read!

OPTION 2--Competency 1

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: Have students spend time in the children's section of the library and complete the assignment, "CHILDRENS' LITERATURE." (You may wish to have the students bring books from home or use classroom books as a reference.)

OPTION 3--Competency 1

CHILDREN'S BOOK EVALUATION: Have students work in pairs to complete the "Children's Book Evaluation."

OPTION 4--Competency 2

TECHNIQUES FOR READING ALOUD TO CHILDREN: Assign each student to present a story to the class, using the information and sheet "TECHNIQUES FOR READING ALOUD TO CHILDREN." Explain to students that a Caldecot award is for best illustrations. A Newberry award is an award for the best story. Stories will be graded using the "READING ALOUD EVALUATION" form.