

Lesson: Lifelong Guideline Lesson – Truth

Subject Area: Back to School

Common Core Standards Covered:

Supplies Needed:

- The Wolf Who Cried Boy by Bob Hartman
- Blank Venn diagram (on Smartboard, overhead or butcher paper)
- Chart paper
- Markers
- Two Truths and a Lie page (presented with this lesson)

Procedure:

- Label a piece of chart paper with the title “Telling the TRUTH is...” at the top. Halfway down the chart write the words “What we PROMISE to do!” and then fold the bottom of the chart up so that it covers the last statement.
- Ask the students if they’ve heard of the story of The Boy Who Cried Wolf. If any of your students know the story, have them share what it is about. If not, then you will need to give a brief summary of what happens.
- Read the “fractured” version of the story aloud, then use the Venn diagram to compare the two stories. Have students give similarities and differences as you record them. If some of your students are unfamiliar with a Venn diagram, you may need to briefly explain how it shows comparisons.
- Lead a class discussion about the correlation between telling the truth and trustworthiness. Ask them about how they feel about telling the

truth. Is it always easy? How do they feel when they choose to tell the truth? Record some of their words in bright colors under the title, but still on the top half of the chart paper (above the covered statement). Some possible answers: hard, scary, right, important, fun, easy, tough, helpful, always a good thing, integrity.

- When they are finished giving words to describe what telling the truth is, unfold the chart paper to reveal the promise that you would like for them to make to the class.
- Discuss the promise and then have students sign their names at the bottom of the chart paper as a commitment to try to always tell the truth in the classroom no matter how hard it may be.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- Once everyone has signed the document, make a BIG deal out of telling them that today and ONLY TODAY they are allowed to tell a lie! (The bigger the deal you make of this the louder the gasps from the class! Too funny!)
- On a Smartboard or overhead projector, model how this writing activity works by writing three statements about yourself (two facts and one lie). (Be sure not to write the lie last or it's a giveaway!) Let the class know that two things you wrote are true, but that one is a lie and they will find out which one when everyone shares at the end.
- Pass out the paper titled "Two Truths and a Lie!" and have students get started with their sentences as you circulate the room to help students with their writing strategies. (This is a great way to begin to know the strengths and weaknesses of your students' writing in the very first few days of school!)

- You can choose to take this through a mini writing process if you would like and then have students write a final draft on handwriting paper. These can be cute to display for a Back-to-School night on a bulletin board with a funny saying about telling a lie “just this once!” 😊
- For sharing time, collect all the papers and hold them as students come to our gathering spot. When you come to their paper, the student has the option to stand up and read or you will ask to read their sentences for them. (This helps for your shy students in the first few days of school.) After they share, they can call on classmates to guess the “lie” that they told and then reveal the two truths. (Another GREAT way for you and the students to get to know each other!)

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