

Lesson 4: “Buzzing” About Books

Supplies Needed:

- Buzzing About Books Anchor Chart
- Student-Led Discussions Anchor Chart (if there are small book clubs taking place during independent reading).
- Markers
- Digital sound or video with the sound of bees buzzing in a hive (from your computer or Smartboard)
- Individual student book bags or baskets

Procedure:

- Display the video and/or play the sound of bees buzzing in a hive. Give the students a few minutes to just watch/listen. Then ask them what they notice about the sound.
- After they give some observations (something along the line of how together they create a buzzing sound) ask them if they can hear any ONE bee over top of all the rest.
- Next ask them how they would classify the noise. Is it extremely loud, a medium sound or a low more quiet sound? (Hopefully they will say that they hear a medium or softer sound, but make sure the volume on your buzzing sound isn't too loud, just to be sure.)
- Next tell them that talking about books that they are reading in the classroom should sound very similar to the bees buzzing. It should be a constant “buzz” of excitement and interest, but not one person's voice should really be able to be heard above the rest.
- Discuss some ideas for class rules for “buzzing” about books in the classroom. Let students know that you will typically give them a specific topic that they will be sharing about (favorite part, main character, summary), but that the guidelines on the “Buzzing about Books” anchor chart will be what the class is expected to follow.

- As you send students to their independent reading time, tell them that you would like to practice their “buzzing” skills. Assign a short, but specific thing that you would like to them to share with a partner. As they begin to “buzz” circulate the room letting them know how they are doing. After a few minutes, they should begin their independent reading time.
- Display the anchor chart in the classroom and refer to it each time the students are getting ready to share information about their books with partners or small groups.
- **If you have some students participating in book clubs or other types of more self-directed groups (perhaps during Literacy Centers even) you may wish to spend some time sharing our Student-Led Discussions anchor chart. You can either do this with your entire class, or you may want to pull small groups aside and talk with them about these guidelines.

Notes: _____

