

LEO'S GIFT Treasure Lesson Plan

Objectives

- Students will be able to identify their gifts or treasure.
- Students will be able to discuss and appreciate the different gifts among classmates.
- Students will be able to compare characters in a story.

Materials

You will need:

- *Leo's Gift* by Susan Blackaby and Joellyn Cicciarelli
- Brown construction paper for treasure chest
- Dictionary
- Color construction paper for gems
- Paper
- Pencil
- Crayons

Procedure

1. Discuss the terms *treasure*, *memory*, *talents*, *diversity*, and *gifts*. Write the words, definitions, and student answers on the board.
2. Read the book, *Leo's Gift*.
3. Review the terms. Ask the students if there is anything they'd like to add now that they have heard the story.
4. After reviewing *diversity*, compare Leo's and Meredith's gifts. Draw a Venn diagram on the board and have the children fill in the sections. Did they have the same gifts to share?
5. Discuss memory. Ask: *What songs do we know?* (Examples: "Happy Birthday," lullabies, etc.) *Why do we know them? What do they remind us of?*
6. Discuss what treasures we have to share with others. Have students create their own treasure boxes. Use brown construction paper to make the treasure boxes. Have students create gems (circles using color construction paper). On their gems have students write or draw their talents that they can share with others.
7. Have each student share their treasure box with the class. Discuss diversity in the class. *Is everyone's treasure box filled with the same treasures? Diversity makes us all unique.*

Extension Activity

Writing Prompt

Write from the perspective of the piano. What is the piano hearing? Seeing? What changes does he see Leo experience throughout the story?

