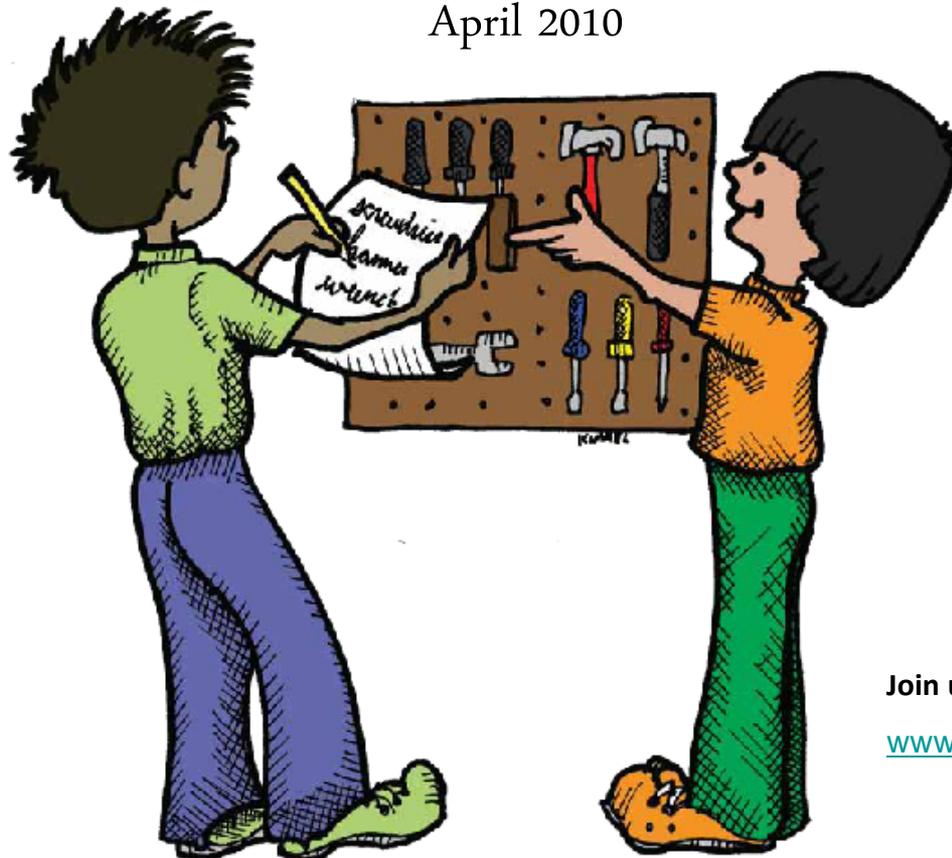




E-TOOLS

April 2010



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“Live today. Not yesterday. Not tomorrow. Just today. Inhabit your moments. Don’t rent them out to tomorrow.”

-- Jerry Spinelli

Welcome to the April E-Tools. Almost any book we pick-up to share with students can be a chance to teach students about how to “Do the Right Thing” and “Treat People Right”. The Lifelines help us define those phrases for students. By incorporating the Lifelines into our instruction, we help to educate to the whole child. By teaching them the traits and characteristics a person needs, we create a culture in the school where there is an expectation for every student to “Do the Right Thing” and “Treat People Right!”

On the pages that follow we’ve picked some of the Lifelines and have provided some books and activities you can try to incorporate these Lifelines in your classroom. These ideas are just the beginning. Take some time the next time you choose a read aloud to find some Lifelines traits in the book. You’ll be amazed how many connections you can make.

This is our third installment of resources to support teaching the C.L.A.S.S. Lifelines. You can check out the first two installments in the November 2009 and March 2010 E-Tools which are archived at <joyofclass.pbworks.com>.



For more information or to register for workshops & events go to:
www.joyofclass.org or call us at the C.L.A.S.S. office: phone (317) 572-1576.

Special Events

Model Teaching Days

Seeing is Believing! Experience a C.L.A.S.S. intermediate elementary classroom in action, facilitated by Jim McMillan. A great day to see best practices in action.

April 15 **Noblesville, IN**
North Elementary

Attend a C.L.A.S.S. Summer Event for Free by entering the C.L.A.S.S. 2010 Summer Events Scholarship Contest!

You will need to complete and submit a *C.L.A.S.S. Scholarship Contest Entry Form* and a video (no longer than 2 minutes in length and 10MB in size) answering the question: *What impact will be made on my students' academic, character and social development by participating in the C.L.A.S.S. Summer Event?* Be as creative as you can!
READ ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY LOCATED IN THE RULES AND REGULATIONS DOCUMENT found at www.joyofclass.org.

Entry Deadline – April 30, 2010

2010 Summer Events

Early registration price break ends
April 20, 2010

Summer Institute

Travel with us to the C.L.A.S.S. Islands! Save the dates and register early. We'll see you there!

June 22 – 25, 2010
Pike Freshman Center
Indianapolis, IN

Best Practices Conference

Join us for three strategy packed days dealing with gender differences, literacy, differentiation, brain research, behavior, leadership and cultural diversity.

3 Locations
June 8-10 / Kansas City, MO
July 20-22 / Downtown Indianapolis, IN
July 27-29 / Davenport, IA



Download Event Registration Forms or Register On-Line for Summer Events:
www.joyofclass.org

5975 Castle Creek Parkway N Dr
Castle Creek VI – Suite 475
Indianapolis, IN 46250
Phone: 317-572-1576 Fax: 317-579-9358
Email: class@joyofclass.org Web: www.joyofclass.org

Find additional event details on the C.L.A.S.S. website:
www.joyofclass.org

COMMON SENSE

Definition

COMMON SENSE means to make good choices. You use good judgment when making decisions.

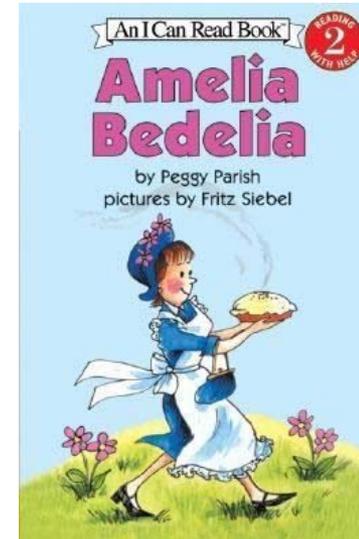
Connections:

A classic character in children's literature, Amelia Bedelia is the perfect example to talk to students about COMMON SENSE. While her heart is always in the right place, she doesn't always make the best choice. Amelia takes everything very literally! She does everything exactly as she is told and doesn't think any of them are strange.

There are many books in the series started by Peggy Parish and continued by her nephew Herman. Pull a collection and give one to each learning club to read and discuss.

Talk in community circle or ask students to write about how they could help Amelia Bedelia use a little COMMON SENSE.

Make an apron just like Amelia wears. Ask students to write examples of how they have used COMMON SENSE!



Title: Amelia Bedelia

Author/Illustrator: Peggy Parish / Fritz Siebel

Publisher: HarperCollins

Description A literal-minded housekeeper causes a ruckus in the household when she attempts to make sense of some instructions.

COURAGE

Definition

COURAGE means to be brave and act according to one's beliefs.

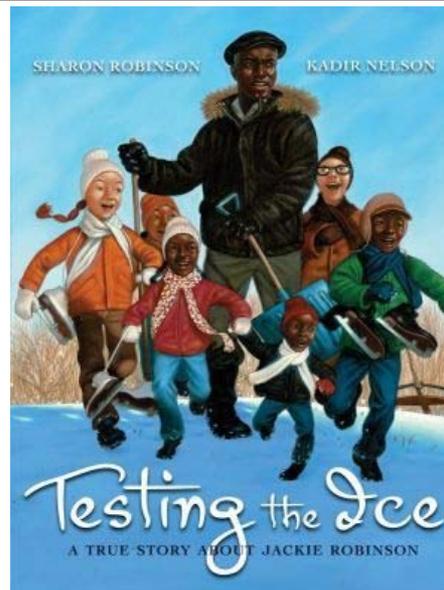
Connections:

This book talks about COURAGE on a multitude of levels. Written by Jackie Robinson's daughter, *Testing the Ice* shows how Jackie Robinson used COURAGE to break the color barrier in Major League Baseball as well as the COURAGE to test the ice on the pond – even though he couldn't swim.

Ask students to make the connection between the two stories. Create a chart to match up the similarities.

Collect a variety of biographies about famous people who have used COURAGE – civil rights leaders, women's rights leaders, Presidents, sports figures, etc. Give one to each learning club and ask them to read it and decide how their famous person used COURAGE.

In community circle or in their writing journal, ask students to share their own stories about using COURAGE.



Author/Illustrator: Sharon Robinson / Kadir Nelson

Publisher: Scholastic Press

Description: As a testament to his courage, Jackie Robinson's daughter shares memories of him, from his baseball career to the day he tests the ice for her, her brothers, and their friends.

FLEXIBILITY

Definition

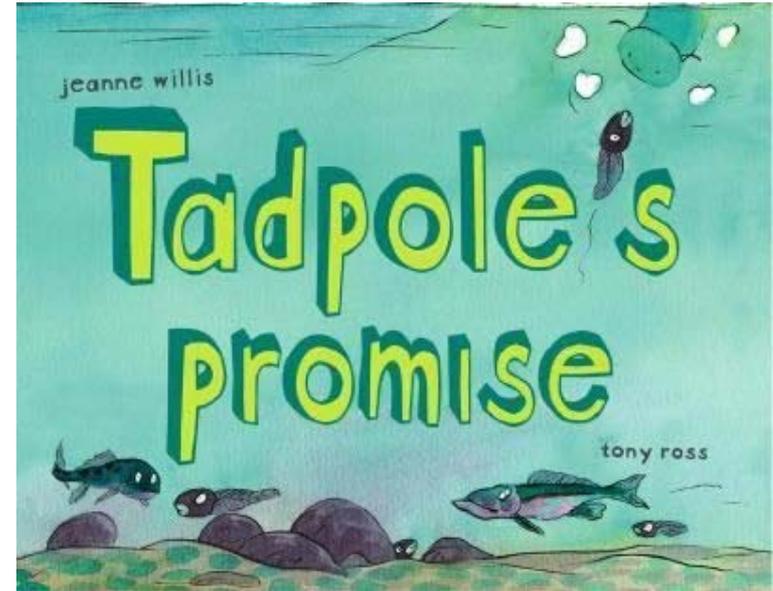
FLEXIBILITY means to change plans and to be willing to alter plans when necessary.

Connections:

In this story the caterpillar is not very receptive to change. She does NOT use the Lifeline of FLEXIBILITY. Read the story through to enjoy the surprise ending, then go back and read it again. Each time the caterpillar gets upset, think about how the caterpillar could be flexible.

Change is never easy. But, if we use the Lifeline of FLEXIBILITY we can make change a little smoother. What are some ways we can use FLEXIBILITY in the classroom? Ask students to share their ideas.

Consider putting a slinky or a piece of silly putty at each learning club. When changes come along or you need a visual representation to remind students to be flexible, ask them to get that slinky or silly putty out and stretch it for being flexible.



Author/Illustrator: Jeanne Willis / Tony Ross

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers

Description: When a caterpillar meets her perfect love, a tadpole, she begs him never to change, but their relationship is doomed.

FORGIVENESS

Definition:

FORGIVENESS means to cease to feel resentments towards someone and to say that it is OK.

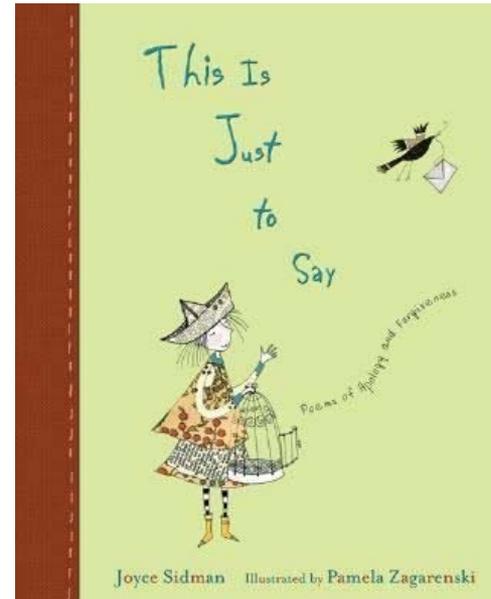
Connections:

Some of the poems in this book are better than others, but the concept is one that could be a useful pattern. Some of them are also geared for older students, too. The beginning of the book are a variety of poems asking for FORGIVENESS. The second part of the poem is a reply back.

Use one of the FORGIVENESS poems as a welcome message and ask students to compose a reply back.

Ask each learning club to write a poem asking for FORGIVENESS. Then trade them around and now ask each learning club to write a response to another learning club's poem.

Make a chart about all the different words you could use to say I forgive you or I'm sorry.



Author/Illustrator: Joyce Sidman / Pamela Zagarenski

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin

Description: This innovative title invites readers to imagine living without sight through remarkable illustrations done with raised lines and descriptions of colors based on imagery.

FRIENDSHIP

Definition

FRIENDSHIP means to care about another person and to make and keep a friend through mutual trust and caring.

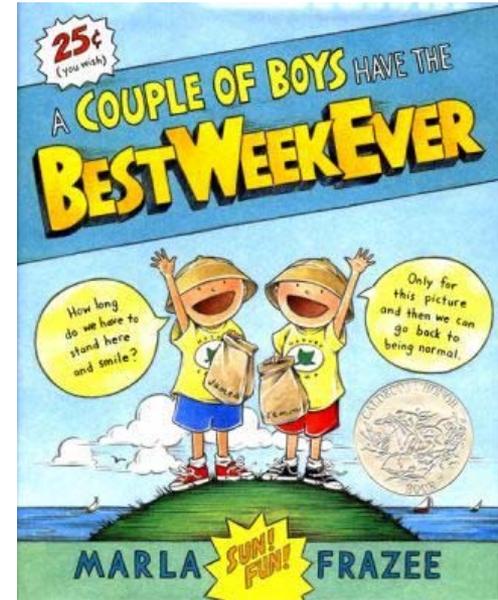
Connections:

These two boys have a great time together. After reading this story, make a list of all the ways these boys show they are good friends.

Ask students to write a time they spent with a good friend. Maybe it was just an afternoon and not a whole week, but make sure to include lots of details showing how they were good friends.

There are countless stories that talk about FRIENDSHIP. Check with your school librarian for ideas of other books you could read and share with students.

Make FRIENDSHIP the Lifeline of the week. Keep a poster and ask students to contribute to it every time they see an example of someone using FRIENDSHIP in your classroom.



Author/Illustrator: Marla Frazee

Publisher: Harcourt

Description: Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon's grandparents during summer vacation.

GENEROSITY

Definition:

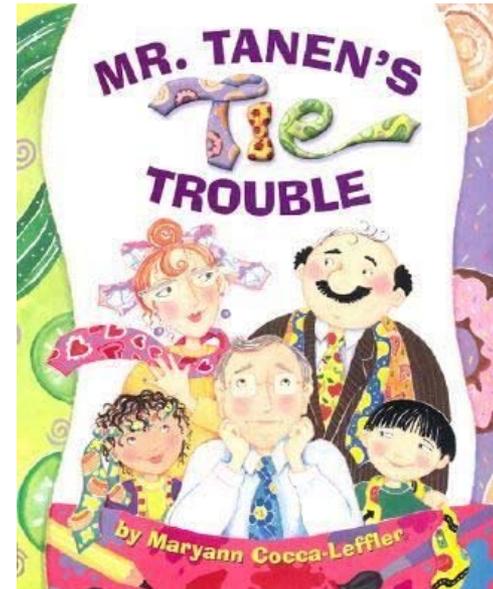
GENEROSITY means to share with others and to be giving and willing to share.

Connections:

Mr. Tanen uses GENEROSITY when he gives away his ties to raise money for the new playground. Why did Mr. Tanen do it? Was it a big sacrifice?

Locate enough neckties for your whole class or have them make one out of paper. Throughout the day ask them to give their tie to a classmate or teacher or another student who is using the Lifeline of GENEROSITY. Watch the ties move throughout the school.

Set up a fundraiser for a charity in your room. What could your class sell? What kind of incentive could you offer to collect money? This would be a perfect math connection to talk about money, supply/demand, etc.



Author/Illustrator: Maryann Cocca-Leffler

Publisher: Whitman

Description: Mr. Tanen loves his ties, but when his school runs out of money to build a new playground, he decides to sell his ties in order to raise the needed money.

OPTIMISM

Definition

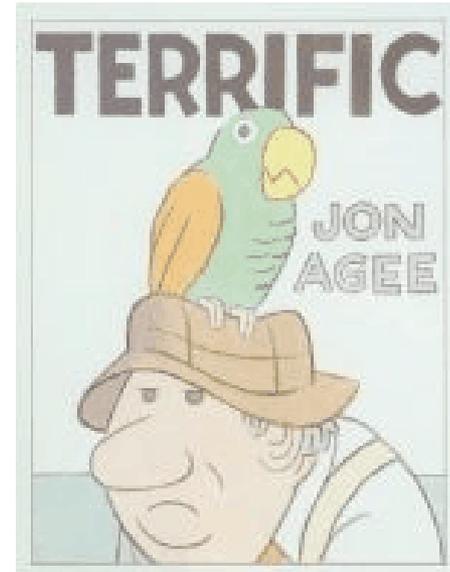
OPTIMISM means to expect the best and to believe that all things work for good.

Connections:

This book is a perfect example of the opposite of OPTIMISM. Eugene just can't see the bright side in anything. He takes the word terrific and his inflection shows he isn't impressed. But, notice what happens when you say the word excitedly. It changes the whole tone of the book.

Use the word TERRIFIC throughout the day/week/year as a connection to be OPTIMISTIC. We're going to be Terrific today!

Use this book as a connection during a welcome message. Ask students one way they are going to be Terrific today. Have them share with their learning club.



Author/Illustrator: Jon Agee

Publisher: Hyperion

Description: Eugene wins a trip to Bermuda, but when his ship sinks, and he ends up stranded on a tiny island with only a parrot, he wonders how he will ever get back home.

PATIENCE

Definition

PATIENCE means to wait without complaining.

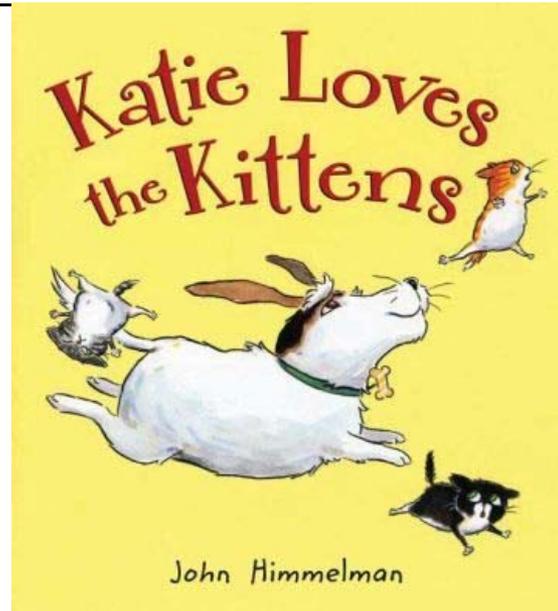
Connections:

It is often very hard to have PATIENCE when we want something badly. She tried, but sometimes she just couldn't wait. What might have been some better choices for her to make?

We all get excited and have a hard time waiting for things to happen. Write a story about an experience you had when you had to use the Lifeline of PATIENCE.

As we near the end of the school year, students begin to get excited about summer (as do the teachers). How can we help everyone use the Lifeline of PATIENCE to keep us on track and finishing our job. Make a poster of ideas and refer to it for the last few weeks of school.

For a welcome message (or hallway greeting) write the phrase "All good things comes to those who wait." Ask students what that means.



Author/Illustrator: John Himmelman

Publisher: Holt

Description: Sara Ann brings home three little kittens, but Katie the dog's enthusiasm scares the kittens, until she learns that being more patient brings about friendship.