



Art Room and Classroom Activities

Make your own *Forsythia Fits In* Book

Materials Needed: *Forsythia Fits In* book(s), construction paper, computer paper, colored pencils or crayons, stapler (for teacher to bind book), download sheets provided on site.

Goals: To talk about overcoming challenges at school.

Skills: To teach brainstorming (on one's own), brainstorming as group, creative thinking, planning, goal setting, illustrating, how books are created, and writing skills.

Execution:

1. Read *Forsythia Fits In* books in class and discuss fitting in. Purchase books OR use RadishLane.com for free interactive book access.
2. Guided activity: Brainstorm where there are challenges at school. What is hard? Where can it be tricky to fit in? What are challenges that everyone has to go through?. Invite any student to share a small story. It is also recommended for the teacher to share a story to prompt the discussion. Create a poster and let them come up with areas. Ex. On the bus, on the playground, at soccer practice, on my first day of school, at lunch, with my brother's friends, during reading time.
Incidents: Bullying, forgetting your lunch, bad sportsmanship, forgetting your homework, etc.
3. Every student picks one place and one incident. This acts as their story line.
4. Manuscript Creation: after your brainstorm session, now it is time to write the book. Download the Manuscript Creation Worksheet.
5. Once you've written your book, now it is time to Illustrate. Every book has a cover and an interior. Download the Illustrator's Book Planning Sheet for each student to plan their book!
6. Now you've done all your planning and it is time to start the final product!
7. Use 8.5x11 white paper for the interior and a piece of construction paper for the front cover.
8. Feel free to email the author (rachel@studioradish.com) to show final products!