

Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 1st Grade

Lesson Plan #8: "Circus Caps for Sale" - There's nobody else like you!

Standards Met

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2

Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9

Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.2

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Notes

The book "Circus Caps" can be read independently by students or as a large group. Students who struggle with writing can share their thinking verbally with the teacher or classmates or can stick to a visual representation of their unique traits.

Learning Target

- I can distinguish how character traits can make one character different from others.
- I'll show this by explaining what makes Pezzo special and writing about how I am unique.

Materials Needed

- Copy of "Circus Caps for Sale"
- Graphic Organizer: "There's nobody else like me!"

Do Now

The teacher reads "Circus Caps for Sale" to the class, stopping at various points to clarify meaning or highlight certain pages.

Activity 1

The teacher asks students to think back on the Caps for Sale stories read so far. Students are asked to identify the main character, Pezzo, and explain how he was different from other peddlers.

Once students can explain that Pezzo carries his wares on his head instead of his back, the teacher redirects the students back to the performers in "Circus Caps." Students are asked to list some of the tricks and feats the entertainers do for the audience. The teacher can ask the students what makes those performers different from other people.

The teacher then redirects students to the part of the story where the circus performers try to stack the caps on their heads. Students will recall that the circus performers are not able to stack the caps on their heads, even though they are talented.

Activity 2

Now that students have established the differences between the characters, the teacher directs the students to do a turn-pair-share in which they discuss what makes Pezzo different from the other performers. Some possible discussion questions include:

- Why is everyone impressed with Pezzo?
- What do the circus performers do to show the reader that they believe Pezzo is unique?
- Why do you think Pezzo can stack the caps on his head, but the other characters can't?
- Why does the Big Boss tell Pezzo, "There's nobody else like you"?

Activity 3

Students sit at their tables and brainstorm what makes them *unique* (the teacher may need to spend time on this vocabulary word). The students will then complete the graphic organizer “There’s nobody else like you!” on which they write a few sentences describing something in particular that makes them unique. This can be a personality trait, a physical trait, a special talent, etc. Students also create an illustration to accompany their writing.

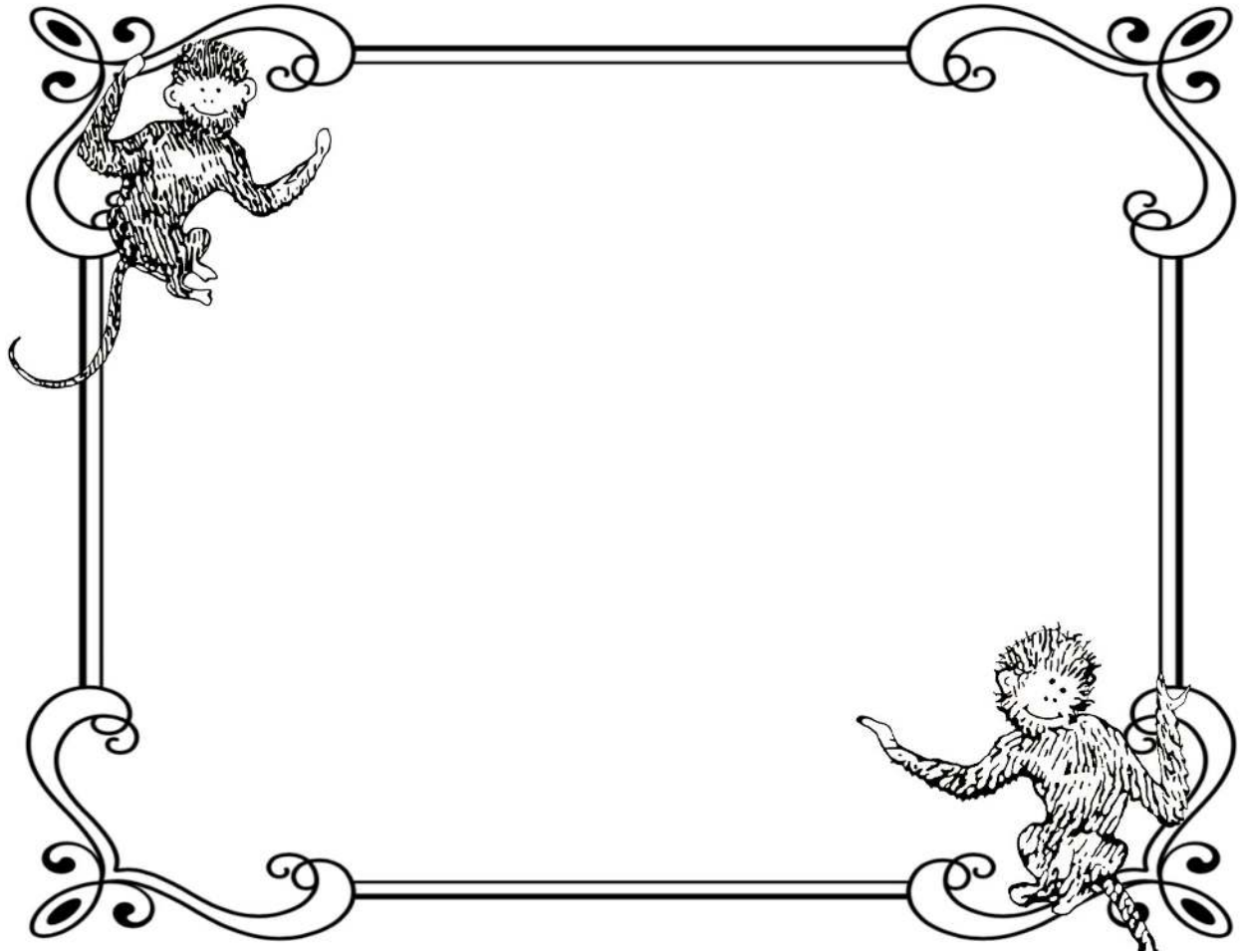
Closure

Students can do a gallery walk or choose partners to share what makes them unique.

Printable Materials

Graphic organizer: “There’s nobody else like me!”

There's nobody else like me!



I am unique because...
