

Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 2nd Grade

Lesson #7

“Caps for Sale and the Mindful Monkeys” - Send a Helper Monkey

Standards Met

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1

Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8

Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1

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

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.2

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

Notes

The key to this lesson lies in students understanding that the monkeys' observations and close attention to Pezzo helped them understand him. In addition, Essie's helpfulness to Pezzo should be noted, as she listens carefully to him and advises him to try and see things from another perspective. When creating their monkeys, students should be able to explain why that person needs help and how their monkey helper can solve the problem. Activities 2 and 3 can be completed in any order.

Learning Target

- I can describe how to be helpful when I know someone has a problem to solve.
- I'll show this by coloring a monkey, writing a note, and sending them to someone who needs help.

Materials Needed

Copy of "Caps for Sale and the Mindful Monkeys"
Printable monkey and graphic organizer

Do Now

The teacher asks the students to think of a time when they needed help.

- What did it feel like?
- Did you ask for help?
- Did anyone support you?
- What did they do to help you?
- How did they know what you needed?
- How did you feel after the problem was solved?

Activity 1

The teacher and students discuss "Caps for Sale and the Mindful Monkeys," focusing on Pezzo's problem and how the monkeys helped him solve it. Students can do this as a turn-pair-share or small group activity.

Activity 2

The teacher prompts students to think about someone in their life who might need some help. This can be a friend, family member, someone they don't know very well, or even a pet. The teacher can encourage students to imagine they are in that person's place and revisit the questions from the Do Now:

- What is that person struggling with?
- What do you think that person is feeling?
- What can you do to find out what they might need?
- What can you do to support them?
- How did you think they will feel after their problem is solved?

Activity 3

The students return to their tables and color/decorate a monkey. This monkey can be designed to appeal to the person to whom they are sending it. Students can also give their monkey a name and a personality.

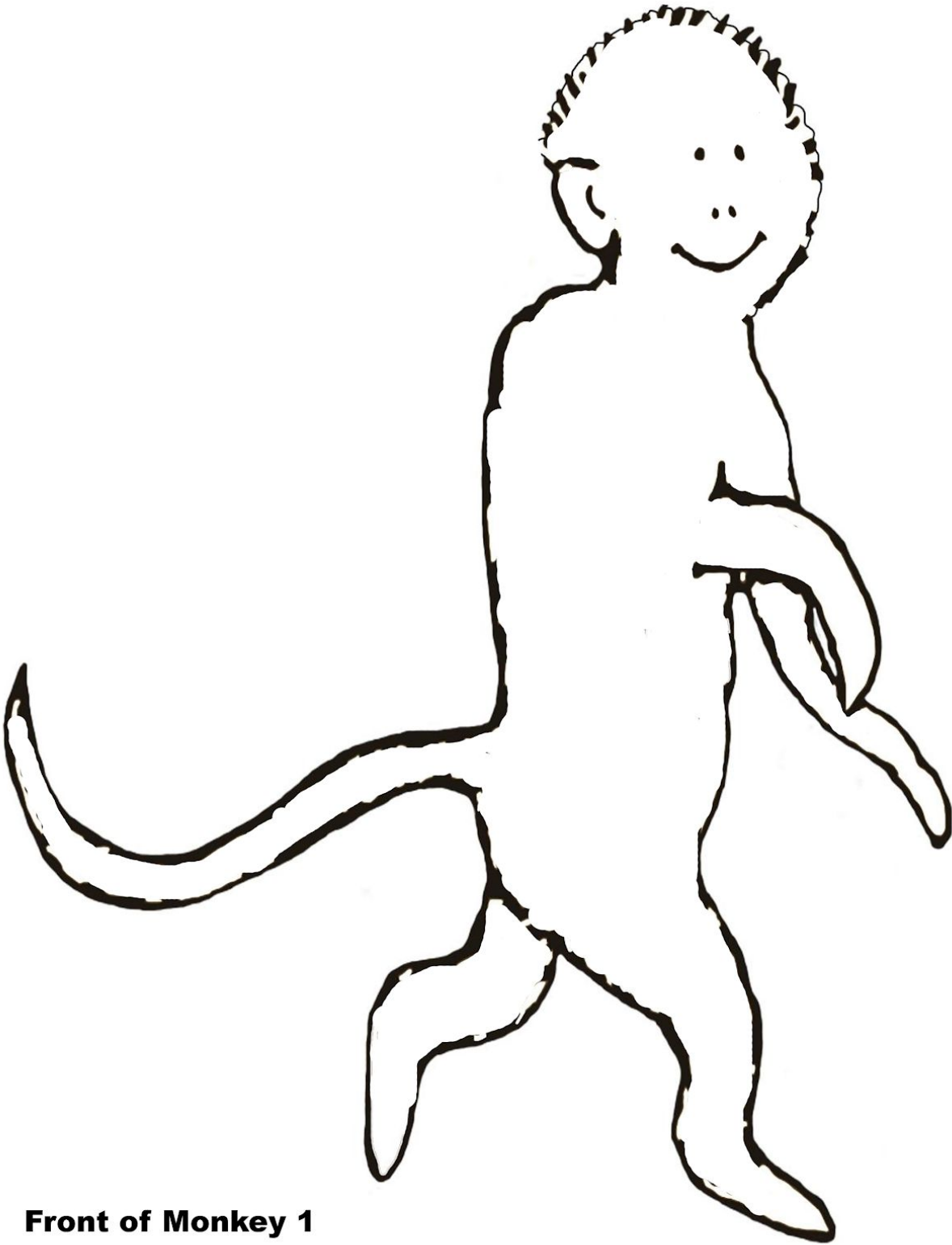
Students write a letter to that person explaining what the helper monkey will do for them. They should be specific and detailed, using words such as “because” and “also” when writing their letter in order to expand their ideas. This is then glued or taped to the top half of the decorated monkey.

Closure

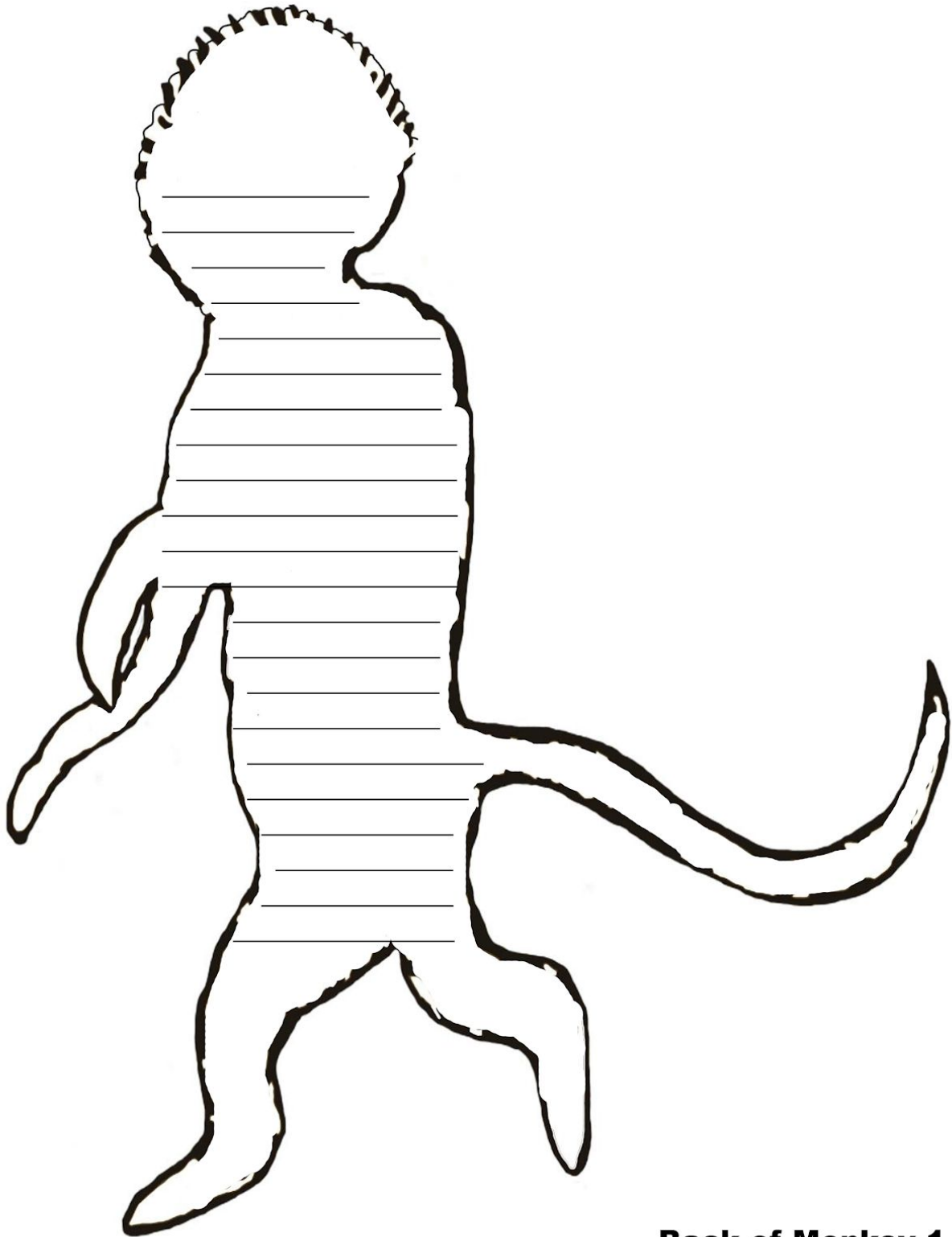
The teacher asks students how they feel knowing they’re going to help someone who needs it. Students can share out their thoughts on this with their peers.

Printable Materials

Helper Monkey Templates x3 (front and back)



Front of Monkey 1



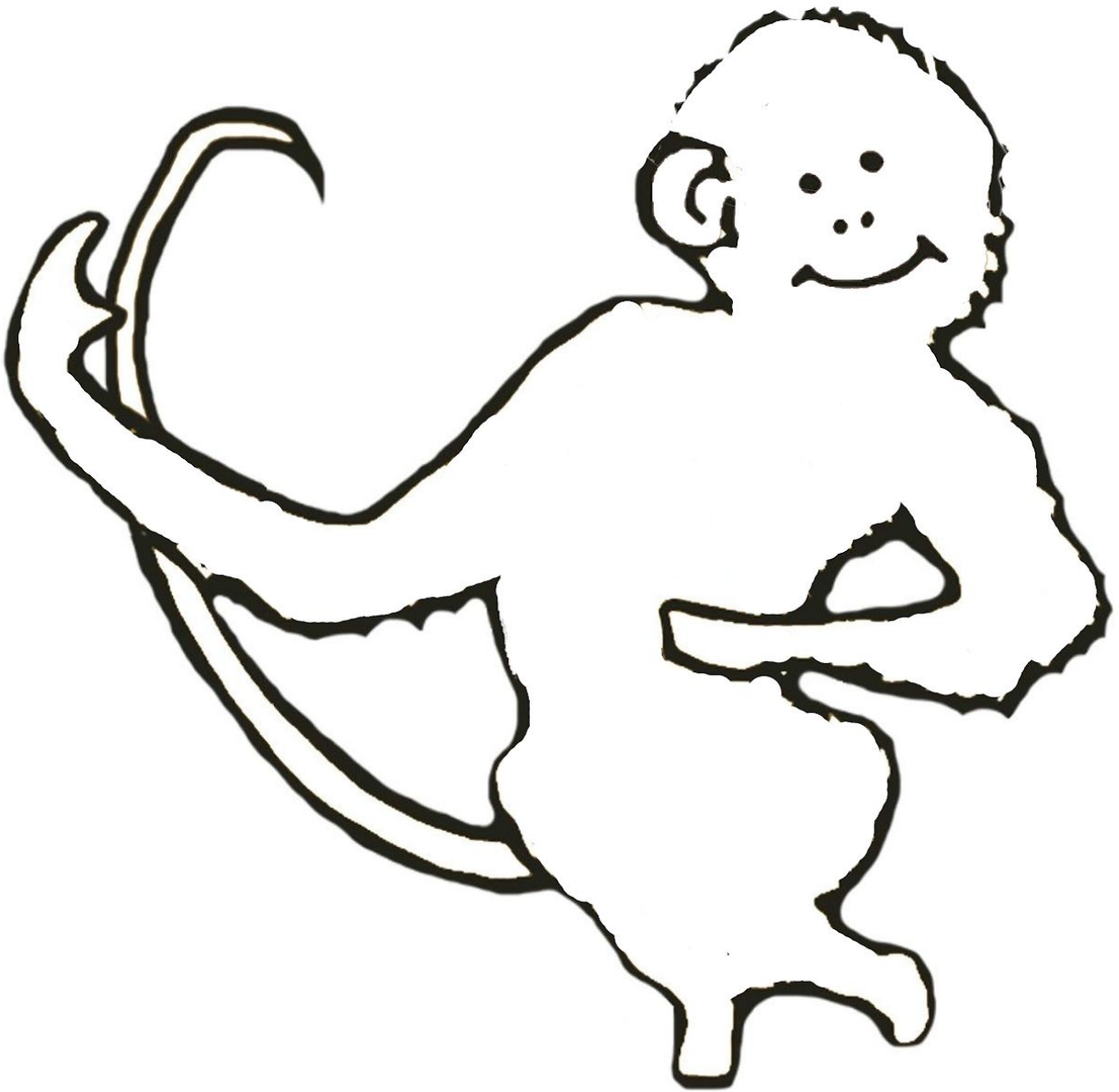
Back of Monkey 1



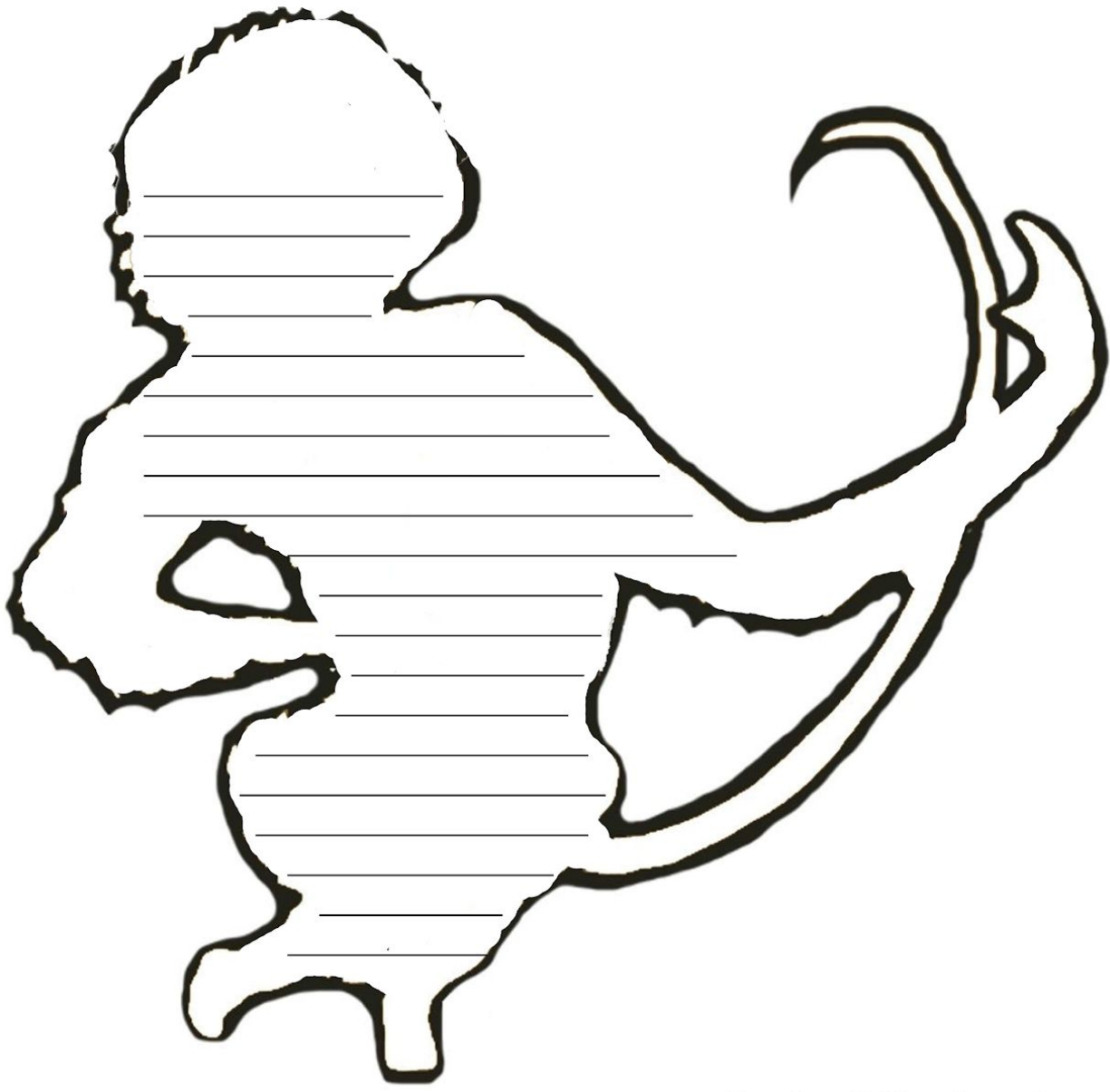
Front of Monkey 2



Back of Monkey 2



Front of Monkey 3



Back of Monkey 3