The Princes of Serendip

INTERACTIVE READ ALOUD GUIDE

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READ ALOUDS WORK!

It is such a relief when we learn that something we already love doing is an effective instructional practice. According to Michigan's GELN Essential Practices in Early Literacy, research has shown that reading aloud to students while modeling fluency and including higher-level thinking can have a significant impact on student reading achievement. Through read alouds, students can experience reading opportunities that they cannot experience independently. When you add in explicit vocabulary instruction in child-friendly language, your read alouds become a literacy instruction powerhouse.

FOR ALL AGES

Like many picture books, The Princes of Serendip is designed to appeal to many levels of learners. Middle schoolers will get different things from the text and that is okay. This is a fantastic book to teach the value of hard work, kindness, gratitude, and (of course!) serendipity.

Don't be afraid to read the same story multiple times, deepening the thinking each time.

EXPLICIT VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION

Choose 4-5 vocabulary words to teach during the read aloud, choosing the words that are just right for your learners. Mark the words in the book using sticky notes. As you come to them in the story, define them in student-friendly terms. Then, use them together frequently to help students begin to use them in their own writing. Repetition is key!

Delicacies/lavish.....page 3
Ventured.....page 7
Bountiful.....page 9
Callus.....page 10

Labor.....page 11
Pride.....page 13
Kindness...page 16
Miraculously.....page 22

Fleeting.....page 22
Gratitude.....page 23
Hazards.....page 25
Serendipity.....page 26

BEFORE READING

- Introduce focus skill
- Do a picture walk
- Make predictions
- Connect to other literature

DURING READING

- Teach vocabulary
- Stoke curiousity...ask questions tied to focus skill
- Help students infer, citing evidence

AFTER READING

- Apply vocabulary to self
- Discuss author's purpose
- Dive into evolution of characters
- So many SEL applications!