

Seeing Things Differently

Companion Text: If You See the Moon, by Zia Wells

Subject Area & Grade Level: Social Studies, 2nd Grade

Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Define a “right”
- Identify an example of freedom in their own life
- Compare and contrast their opinions and the opinions of others

Introduction

Read the story once through without stopping. Ask students if they have ever tried finding shapes of objects in the clouds. Then, open up to page 25, and ask for students’ opinions about what shapes the clouds are making on that page. (If cumulus clouds are visible outside your classroom window, point this out and use those clouds to field your question.) Allow for disagreement.

Procedure

Point out that we all know that people agree and disagree about many things. Tell students that in our country they have a right to have opinions about things, and the right to express those opinions. Ask students to define a “right.” Offer “something that all of us are allowed to do” as a definition. Point out that in some other countries, people can be fined, jailed, or hurt if they disagree with the government about certain issues, but that one of the freedoms we enjoy in our country is the right to openly agree or disagree with each other, and even with our government, as long as we do it respectfully.

Pass out the worksheet, and have students complete the fill-in-the-blank sentences on their own.

Discussion

Allow students to wander freely around the room so that they can find two classmates whose answers can complete the bottom of their worksheet. When everyone has completed their worksheet, allow time for sharing answers to the last question, and emphasize the importance of disagreeing respectfully.



I think that...

The best food is _____ .

The best movie is _____ .

The best time to get up in the morning is _____ .

The best season is _____ .

The best holiday is _____ .

The best sport to play is _____ .

The best animal to see at the zoo is _____ .

Who agrees with you, and about what do you agree?

Who sees things differently than you, and about what do you respectfully disagree?
Explain both perspectives.

