

WHEN ANT AND GRASSHOPPER EXCHANGED THEIR SHOES

A negotiation education activity created by

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Summary

Based on Aesop's fable, "The Ant and the Grasshopper", pupils have to make a pair of paper shoes, act out the moment in which Ant decides to show empathy and share its food and home with Grasshopper after both of them have listened to their respective points of view with true curiosity and exchanged their self-made shoes as a symbol of walking on the other's shoes. (5th & 6th grades)

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Listen to a story in a comprehensive way.
- Understand and use vocabulary both related to this specific story, to showing empathy towards others and to the ability of listening attentively.
- Make, decorate and exchange a pair of paper shoes.
- Act out the conversation that takes place between Ant and Grasshopper in which they express their feelings and different points of view and, after exchanging their shoes, Ant shares its food and home with the Grasshopper who apologizes for his disrespectful behavior.
- Participate in a class conversation about what has been learnt.
- Make a banner with a slogan related to showing empathy.

Lead-in / Preparation

Materials:

- A Quizlet set with the vocabulary required for understanding the fable, plus several words related to the skill of listening attentively and showing empathy.
- An audio file of the fable "The Ant and the Grasshopper", by Aesop.
- Color paper and/or felt sheets, glue, scissors, small ornaments.
- Cardboard, markers, scissors, stickers.



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Estimated Class-Time Required

4 – 5 lessons, depending on the number of pupils in the classroom.

Description of Activities

LESSON PLAN

Topic: The Ant and the Grasshopper – Understanding each other.

Objectives:

1. Pupils will learn new words about the story, about empathy and will review vocabulary items related to feelings.
2. Pupils will listen to the fable “The Ant and the Grasshopper” and will answer comprehension questions.
3. Pupils will make and decorate paper shoes for themselves.
4. Pupils will prepare and act out a dialogue between the Ant and the Grasshopper.
5. Pupils will exchange their shoes with a partner and try to understand the other's point of view.
6. Pupils will participate in a class conversation on what has been learnt.
7. Pupils will make a banner with a slogan related to showing empathy.

Visual / audio aids:

- A Quizlet set on the story and empathy: <https://quizlet.com/6xwtjp>
- A YouTube tutorial on how to make paper shoes: examples:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/KtbxLvHkRzGzdvxGsHMIgBqlqwFkPSLqV?projector=1>

https://youtu.be/DiY_xWEWNwg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdVGKxD4XzE&feature=youtu.be>

- An audio file (do not show the video, use only the audio):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XbMrw3cwVUc>



Step One: Greetings.

1. Good morning and date.
2. Small talk.

Step Two: Teaching new vocabulary items.

1. Using the Quizlet set, the teacher will screen flashcards on the board and the pupils will repeat the words out loud.
2. Optional: play one of the games in the Quizlet set.

Step Three: Listening to a story: "The Ant and the Grasshopper"

1. The teacher will open a short conversation about the importance of listening to understand each other.
2. While listening, the teacher will ask questions in order to check pupils' comprehension of the story and make them predict what is going to happen next.

Step Four: Making and decorating a pair of paper shoes.

1. Pupils will see one or more of the tutorials on making a pair of paper shoes.
2. Each pupil will make and decorate a pair of paper shoes for themselves.
3. Pupils will wear their self-made paper shoes.

Step Five: Preparing and acting out a dialogue about "The Ant and the Grasshopper."

1. Using the learnt vocabulary about empathy and working in pairs, the pupils will prepare and present a dialogue about the final part of the story in which they describe the characters' feelings towards the other.
2. Pupils will exchange their paper shoes as a symbol of a true attempt to understand the other's point of view.
3. Ant accepts to share its food and home with Grasshopper and Grasshopper learns to value Ant's hard work and apologizes.

Step Six: A class conversation.

Pupils will participate in a conversation about what has been learnt.



Step Seven: Pupils will make a banner with slogans about showing empathy.

The banners will be exhibited on the English Wall. (If needed, use a Power Point Presentation to provide ideas. An example is attached)

Key Vocabulary / Phrases

[https://quizlet.com/ 6xwtjp](https://quizlet.com/6xwtjp)

Assessment

Pupils will participate in a conversation about what has been learnt.

Reflection

Pupils will make a banner with slogans about showing empathy.

