Jamaica's Find

Juanita Havill 1986 Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company

HONESTY

CONCEPTS

Honesty Truthfulness SUMMARY

Jamaica finds a hat and a stuffed dog at a playground. She returns the hat to the park office, but keeps the dog for herself. After talking with her family and thinking about her decision, she decides to return the dog to the park office, an action that results in finding a new friend. Vibrant watercolor illustrations enhance the text.

OBJECTIVE

Children will be aware of honesty in actions and words.

Circle Time (in the Heartwood Circle)

Jamaica's Find

PREVIEW

- Show the cover of the book and explain that the young girl, Jamaica, has found a stuffed dog at the park. Ask children if they have any ideas about what Jamaica should do.
- 2. Together find HONESTY on the Heartwood attribute poster.
- Show contents of the Prop Box, such as a stuffed dog, hat, and dress-up clothes or a dollhouse with furniture, playground equipment, family figures, and a copy of lamaica's Find.

READING

- Read interactively, allowing children to respond to the text.
- Read the story as a play. Have children choose parts such as Jamaica, Mother, Father, Brother, young man, and Kristen. Read as the narrator, stopping for children to say dialogue in their own words.
- Make emotion face cards for children to hold while reading the story.* Have them turn the cards around, changing faces from happy to sad or vice versa to reflect Jamaica's emotions.

After the Story

DISCUSSION

Ask children to talk about and explain how Jamaica might be feeling in the illustration on page 21. What does she decide to do that changes this? How is Jamaica honest? Share an example of a time when you were honest.

After the Story (cont,)

ACTIVITIES

- 1. Together make a "Lost and Found" box in your classroom. With markers or crayons decorate the box and use it for lost items.
- 2. Post an "I Tell the Truth" chart. Compile a list of anecdotes about children that describe honesty in your classroom. Take photographs to illustrate these examples and display around the chart.

WRAP-UP

- In My Heartwood Journal have children draw pictures of times they were honest. Record children's thoughts about what they drew.
- Make a class "Honesty Book." Copy each child's journal page, compile the pages, make a cover, and read the book together.

EXTENSION

Children complete the Home Connection Page and teachers record their responses. Send these pages home to children's families.

Expressive Arts

DRAMA/LANGUAGE

- 1. Prop Box: Use items in the box for retelling and acting out the story or for small group creative play.
- 2. Mini-Manners Plays*: With finger puppets, model telling the truth. For example:

Puppet 1: I lost my quarter! Did you see it?

Puppet 2: No, Let's look for it. Here it is!

Puppet 1: Thank you for finding it and giving it to me.

Puppet 2: You're welcome!.

- 3. Have children bring favorite stuffed animals to class. Allow time for sharing about their animals, telling names, history, and why they are special.
- 4. Teach children to sign the word "honesty."

ART

- Together make sponge print pictures. On heavy brown grocery bags, color dog outlines with crayon, dip sponges into paint, and make "fur." Children may add details to make each dog unique.
- 2. Go on a nature walk to collect stones, leaves, pinecones, and small sticks. Give children paper bags for their collections. Glue items onto cardboard to make nature collages.

MUSIC/MOVEMENT

- 1. Together sing the song "Give a Little Whistle" from "Pinocchio," music and lyrics by Leigh Harline and Ned Washington. (Keyword: lyrics, "Give a Little Whistle")
- 2. Sing songs while swinging on the swings.
- 3. Listen to Globalullabies by Freyda during rest time.

^{*}Visit www.heartwoodethics.org and choose Resources, Pre-K/K for additional vignettes, downloadables, and other activities.