



Creative Writing Lesson

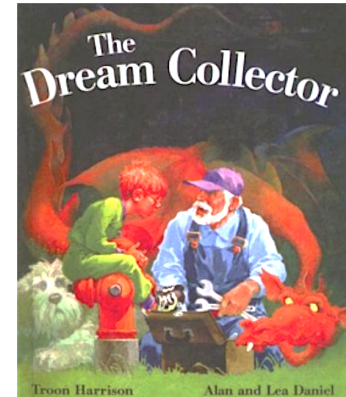
Grade: 5

Subject: English Language Arts

Time: 1 hour

Objective:

- To be able to demonstrate his/her ability to think critically and use creativity through a written response to a picture book.



Description:

I created this lesson for my supervisor evaluation during my second stage. My CT asked me to create an English Language Arts lesson related to a picture book. The book I chose was called “The Dream Collector” by Troon Harrison, which is about a boy named Zachary who encounters a man whose job it is to collect everybody’s dreams before dawn. Zachary must help this man because his truck broke down and he is not able to collect the dreams on his own. Before reading the story, I asked the class what they thought it would be about based on the title and cover page. I then read the book but stopped a few pages before the end, where we discussed the five W’s. The students were given a worksheet with two questions they could choose from to answer (an example of a question is: *Where do you think the dreams go? Describe what this place looks like and where it is. Is it magical or can people visit? Does someone take care of the dreams during the day?*). Once everyone was finished, the students were able to share their responses. We then read the end of the story and compared alternative endings. This story was perfect because it encouraged the students to be creative in their responses.

Reflection:

What worked well:	The students were motivated to write and loved that they were able to choose the question to answer. My CT mentioned that remarkably some of the students had never written so much before in a response. I was very impressed by the creativity amongst the answers I had received. Another thing that worked well was that I read the story aloud to the class. The reason this worked is because the students normally take turns reading aloud but some students struggle and then don’t pay attention to the story, but rather the individual words that they are reading. This way, the students could relax and use their listening skills to really pay attention to the details.
What didn’t work well:	I sometimes read a bit too quickly, and even though it was a grade 5 class, I need to remember to slow down because all the students have different learning styles and some students may need more time to process what they are hearing.
Ways to improve:	I can practice reading aloud at home so that I can pay attention to my speed and pace myself better.