

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY LEARNING ACTIVITIES



ODE Library Guideline

Grade Band: 3-5

Guideline: Information Literacy Organizer: Encourage Reading

Reading strategy: Making Inferences based on Evidence

Title

What is Given From the Heart by Patricia McKissack

This final, magnificent picture book from three-time Coretta Scott King Award winner and Newbery Honor author **Patricia McKissack** is a poignant and uplifting celebration of the joy of giving.



This would be a good book to use just before **Valentine's Day** as that's part of the setting of this story. Valentine's are given from the heart.

Themes: giving, compassion, empathy

Resources and Materials

- Book
- Chart Paper
- Marker
- Making Inferences Worksheet (free from TPT)
- Given from the Heart Poetry Sheet

Activity

Reading strategy: Making Inferences.

- An inference is something that is probably true. The author or illustrator doesn't directly tell us everything in a story,but sometimes s/he gives us evidence to help us think about things that are probably true. We make inferences in our daily lives. For example, we can tell how someone is feeling by the tone of a voice or by his/her actions. We know this because it is in our schema or background knowledge.
- Draw a T-chart on your chart paper (2 columns) Label one side: Inference
 and the other side: Evidence. Use this chart to give a couple examples
 before reading the book.

• Inference: Your class is learning today. Evidence: You came to school, you are listening carefully (say, so it's probably true that you are learning today - you are here and listening and that should lead to learning.

Introduce the Book

- Show the cover and discuss title, author, cover illustration. If time, look for other Patricia McKissack books in Destiny maybe after reading the book. Ask students to make an inference about the story from the title and cover illustration. Write it on the chart under "Inference" then ask for their "evidence" and write it in the column beside the inference. It could be as simple as this is a mother and her son (inference) and the evidence would be that the woman is hugging the boy and has her hand on his heart.
- Direct students to listen for and think about the inferences they make as you read the story. Pause during your reading to ask for inference/evidence examples. If students struggle, model you thinking and cite some examples.
- Ask for additional examples when the story is finished. Add to the chart and review the examples of Inference and Evidence.
- Pass out the <u>Making Inference Worksheet</u> and go over the instructions.
 Complete the first one together.

Lesson Extension

- Discuss the act of "Giving from the Heart" and let students share times they have given something from their heart.
 - O How did it make them feel to help others? Must you have money to give a gift from your heart? The story shows us we do not. What can you give to a loved one for Valentine's day, Mother's Day, etc. that might not cost a single cent? Let a couple students share and then ask if they have ever written or drawn something to give as a gift? Share thoughts and experiences.
- Use the <u>Given from the Heart Poetry Sheet</u> creator sheet to provide students an opportunity to make a gift.
- Another idea to extend this story would be to make your own "Love Box" (from the story) using origami. Students could write a poem or letter to put in their love box to gift to a loved one for Valentine's Day. (Makerspace idea)