

Tiny T.Rex and the Impossible Hug

Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug

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Ages: 3-5 Grades: PreK-K

Themes: Dinosaurs, Friendship, Determination & Perseverance, Overcoming Obstacles, Kindness

SUMMARY

When Tiny T. Rex's stegosaurus pal Pointy is feeling sad, Tiny knows just what his friend needs-- a good hug! But giving a good hug doesn't come easy for Tiny. With his petite body and short arms, hugging Pointy seems like a near-impossible feat. But Tiny isn't one to shy away from a big challenge. Determined to give his buddy an awesome hug, Tiny seeks the advice of his family and learns an important lesson: effort is everything!

Common Core Connections:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1

With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7

With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear (e.g., what moment in a story an illustration depicts).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1

Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.2

Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will identify key details from the story.
- Students will identify ways in which the illustrations support the story.
- Students will write a brief, illustrated prompt related to one thing that they find challenging (and how they might face that challenge).

MATERIALS

- Board/easel
- Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug movie
- Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug text copy
- Drawing paper
- Paper, pencils, and drawing supplies

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Discuss the idea of being obstacles/challenges with the students.

Guiding questions may include:

- Have you heard the word "challenge" before? What is a challenge?
- Do you think that everybody finds the same exact things challenging?
- What is one thing that might be challenging for a kid, but not an adult?
- What do you do when you find something challenging? Do you give up at it?
- Have you heard the word "effort" before? What is effort?
- How do you think effort can help you face a challenge?

As you discuss these concepts with the students, jot down some of their ideas on the board/easel.

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Reconvene the class to discuss the movie and check for comprehension. Use a hard copy of the book to assist with the discussion. Guiding questions may include:

- How would you describe the movie to a classmate, friend, or family member who didn't see it?
- What was your favorite part of the movie?
- Who was this story mostly about?
- What big challenge did the main character face?
- Why was giving a hug such a big challenge for Tiny?
- Who did Tiny ask to help him?
- Have the other members of Tiny's family faced some challenges? Let's look at some of the illustrations to refresh our memories.
- Why do you think these things were challenging for Tiny's family members?
- What do Tiny's relatives teach him about facing challenges?

After the discussion, students will complete an illustrated writing prompt that addresses the following questions:

- What is one thing that you find challenging?
- How can you improve your abilities to do this thing?

Model this activity on the board/easel using your own example (or an example imagined by the class). Then, distribute writing and drawing supplies to the students. As they work, monitor their progress and provide support.

ENRICHMENT

Students who finish the prompt early will be partnered up to brainstorm answers to the following question: what can we do to make our friends and classmates feel happy?

Students will write a list of their ideas. All of the groups' ideas will be combined into a list of "Classroom Kindnesses"

OTHER TITLES ABOUT FRIENDSHIP AND KINDNESS

Arnie the Doughnut by Laurie Keller

Be Kind by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Jen Hill

Bink & Gollie by Kate DiCamillo & Alison McGhee, illustrated by Tony Fucile

Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners by Laurie Keller

Peanut Butter and Jellyfish by Jarret J. Krosoczka

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