

Wonder
R.J. Palacio

Part Eight (August) Activity

Students will create a short drama and film it to show a connection to Wonder.

Materials Needed:

- Wonder by RJ Palacio
- A way to film a short drama in partners
- If needed: brainstorming sheet for award

TEKS:

7.Fig19C - Reflect on understanding to monitor comprehension (e.g., summarizing and synthesizing; making textual, personal, and world connections; creating sensory images).

7.13C - Evaluate various ways media influences and informs audiences.

Objectives:

Students will monitor their own comprehension and make connections by presenting an award to a classmate with a speech similar to how Mr. Tushman presented an award to August.

Students will create a short movie clip to share with their peers as an audience.

Vocabulary to know:

Drama - a story in an “acted-out” version as intended to be shown in front of an audience

Hook:

-Activate prior knowledge by reviewing parts one-seven of Wonder

-Explain that part eight is the final part of Wonder, and allow students to make inferences and/or predictions about the characters as they prepare to conclude the novel

-Ask the question(s):

- So far, what do you think about __ (character) __?
- How do you think the story will end for __ (character) __? Why?
- Do you think the author will be able to solve August's challenges?
- What do you think the author could do to help Jack Will or Julian?

Introduction:

-Allow students to read part eight of the novel (guided reading, shared reading, or independent reading as is applicable to students).

-When students are completed with their part eight reading, do a basic comprehension check to ensure they understand the events of the last part especially in conjunction with parts one-seven.

Activity:

-Ask students to share their experiences when either they received an award or someone they know received an award. This could be at school, at home, in a public place, etc..

-Discuss Auggie's award:

- What did August do to deserve his award?
- How do you think Mr. Tushman's speech impact Auggie?
- Do you think receiving an award in a public place with a standing ovation is better than in a private place? Why or why not?

-Using a filming device, have each student create a short video clip giving an award to a fellow classmate. Make sure students give a short and appropriate speech as to why the student is getting an award.

-It would likely be beneficial for students to practice their speech and jot down some notes (a brainstorming sheet is available if needed):

- Who is the award for?
- Why is the student getting an award?
- What makes this student more deserving than everyone else for this award?
- What kind things could you say about this student?

In closing:

-Have students share their short films with the rest of the class and allow for thoughts and/or feedback

Extension Activities:

-Have students write out their speech and/or write a letter to the student they would like to give an award to.

-Have students use other texts, similar to Mr. Tushman, to find quotes to help justify the significance of the award presented.