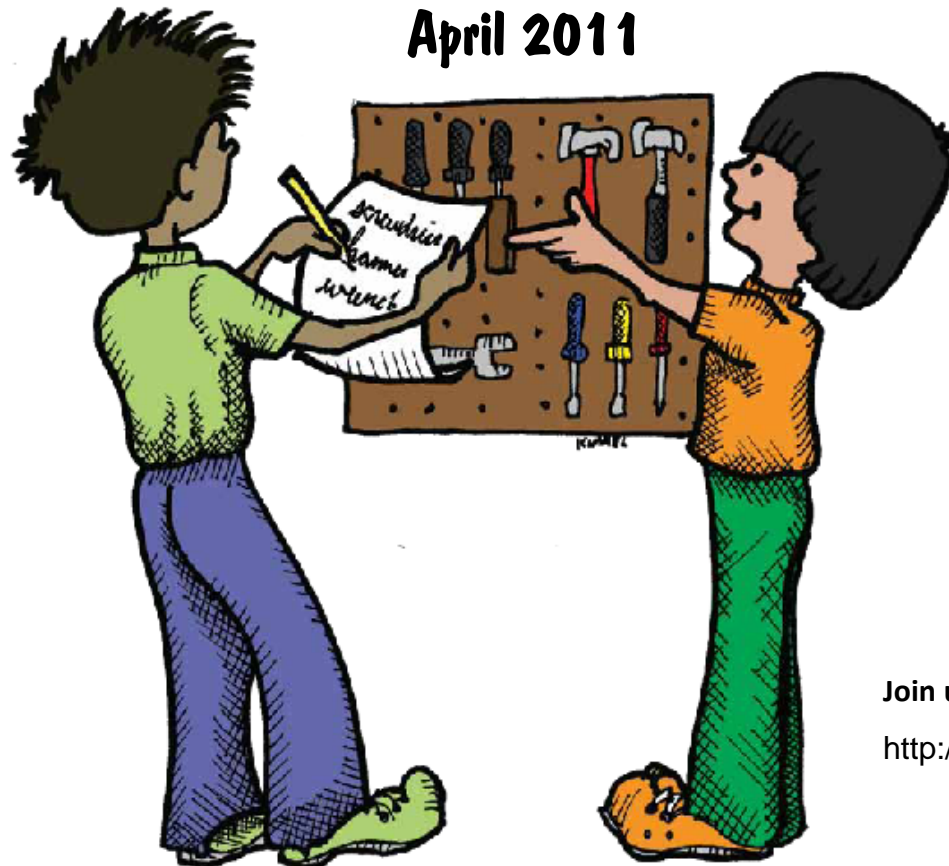




E-TOOLS

April 2011



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UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS

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June 28-30, 2011

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Presented by the C.L.A.S.S. Staff:

Barbara Pedersen Jim McMillan Ruby Butler



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"If opportunity doesn't knock - build a door."

— Milton Berle



Welcome to the April E-Tools. Almost any book we pick-up to share with students can be a chance to teach students about how to “Do the Right Thing” and “Treat People Right”. The Lifelines help us define those phrases for students. By incorporating the Lifelines into our instruction, we help to educate to the whole child. We don’t have to wait for the right opportunity to use the Lifelines. We can weave it into our instruction all day long. By teaching them the traits and characteristics a person needs, we create a culture in the school where there is an expectation for every student to “Do the Right Thing” and “Treat People Right!”

On the pages that follow we’ve picked some of the Lifelines and have provided some books and activities you can try to incorporate these Lifelines in your classroom. These ideas are just the beginning. Take a moment the next time you choose a read aloud to find some Lifelines traits in the book. You’ll be amazed how many connections you can make. After each idea, we’ve tried to give you strategies of where those activities might fit in the C.L.A.S.S. model of Say It , Play, Relay It, Weigh It! (SPRW).

This is our fifth installment of resources to support teaching the C.L.A.S.S. Lifelines.. You can check out the previous installment in the March 2009, November 2009, April 2010, and October 2010 E-Tools which are archived at <joyofclass.pbworks.com> or <joyofclass.org>. You can also find additional books that can help teach the Lifelines here: <classlifelines.wikispaces.com>.

FAIRNESS

Definition

To play by the rules. To be free from self interest, partiality prejudice, or favoritism.

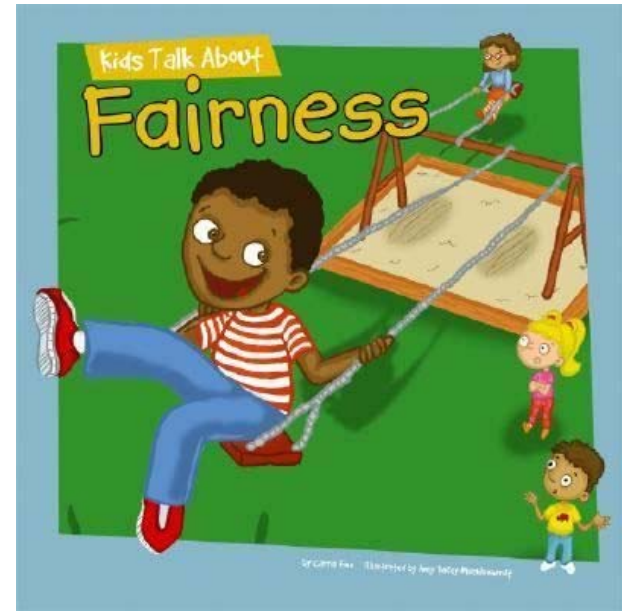
Connections:

After sharing this book with all of Sam's answers, share in community circle ideas of how you have been fair or about a time when you thought someone was unfair to you. (Say It)

Sam wrote in a series of letter responses how different scenarios might be fair or unfair. Using the collaborative structure, Talking Pencils, ask students to write 1.) a question about being fair and then an answer to that questions. Students can write them in a letter format! (Play It)

Students might create a video where they talk about fairness. They might share what they learned from the book and then some of their own ideas. Students could share the video with other classes (or over the morning announcements) to help educate the whole school. (Relay It)

The teacher might focus on fairness for the week after sharing this story. When she/he sees students being fair to each other, she could award them a Fairness Star! (Weigh It)



Title: Kids Talk About Fairness

Author/Illustrator: Carrie Finn / Amy Muehlenhardt

Publisher: Picture Window Books, 2007.

Description: Fifth-grader Sam Strong talks to kids about fairness, offering simple advice on the best ways to be fair in a variety of situations.

HUMILITY

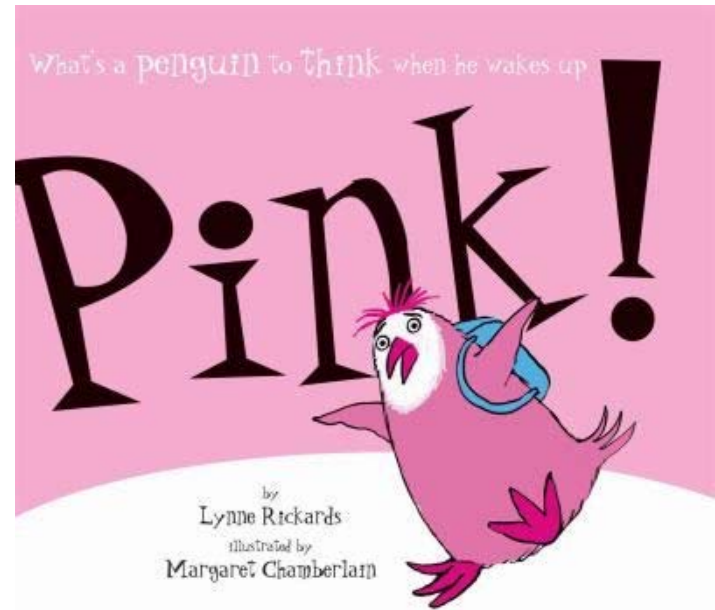
Definition

To not feel better than others. To be modest and respectful.

Connections:

In this book, all the other penguins think they are better than Patrick who awakes one more to find he is pink. Read to that point in the book, and then ask students to use a collaborative structure, Triangle Talk, to process the way the penguins are treating Patrick. What are three ways the penguins were teasing Patrick? What are two things the penguins could have done instead of teasing Patrick? What is one piece of advice the students would give Patrick? (Play It)

Patrick researched that flamingos were the same color pink as he was. Unfortunately he should have done a little more of his homework. He found out he didn't quite fit in very well. Students could use this as a jumping off point for research about penguins and flamingos. Students could compare and contrast them and then decide which group Patrick might be happier. Students could have a debate about which place Patrick might feel the most at home! (Relay It and/or Weigh It).



Title: Pink!

Author/Illustrator: Lynne Rickards / Margaret Chamberlain

Publisher: Chicken House, 2009.

Description: Teased in school for being pink, Patrick the penguin leaves the South Pole to live with the flamingos in Africa.

KINDNESS

Definition

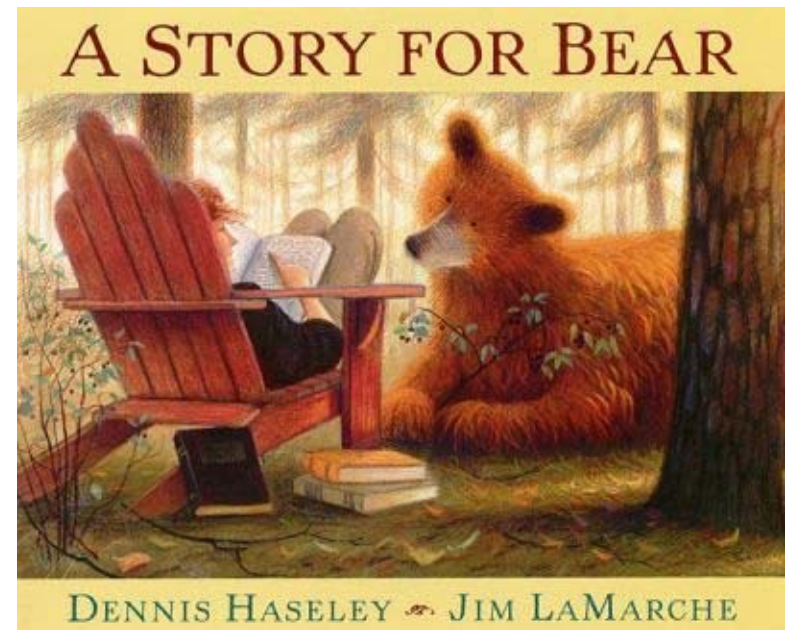
To think of others. To be helpful and caring.

Connections:

The power of reading is so amazing...even to a bear! He loves to listen to the woman read. What about her reading do you think he like? Why? Do you like hearing people read aloud? Why? What about their reading makes it worth listening to? Why is this seen as kindness? (Say It)

What was the act of kindness in this story? Let's keep track of acts of kindness in the classroom this week? Students can make a list of them on a big piece of chart paper and then celebrate them at the end of the week. (Say It or Relay It)

Students can use the Get One; Take One collaborative group structure to make a list of ideas on ways to use kindness at school. Make a list of ideas on their own for a few minutes, and then move around the room building a longer list from their friends. (Play It)



Title: [A Story for Bear](#)

Author/Illustrator: Dennis Haseley / Jim LaMarche

Publisher: Harcourt, 2002.

Description: A young bear who is fascinated by the mysterious marks he sees on paper finds a friend when a kind woman reads to him.

LOYALTY

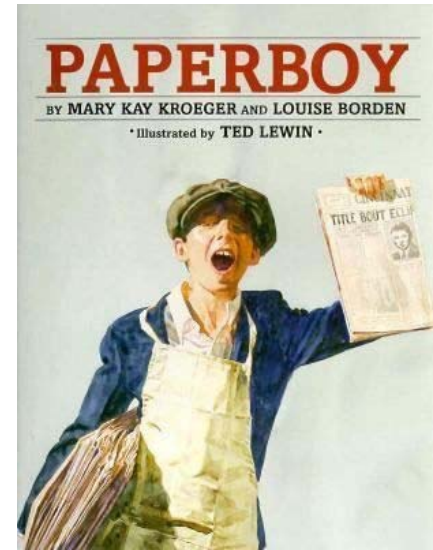
Definition

To be faithful and true. To be true or faithful in allegiance.

Connections:

In this fictional story, Willie showed his loyalty by going out to sell papers even when there was no one to buy them. His reward was a better place to sell papers the next time. So, Willie was rewarded for his loyalty. Use this as a discussion in community circle about how “Doing the Right Thing” and “Treating People Right” can be rewarding! (Say It)

Students could research more into this event in history. It was based on an actual true story. Why do authors create a fictional story around an historical event? Students could write their own story connected to a historical event? Students could integrate the Lifeline of loyalty into their own story. (Relay It and/or Weigh It)



Title: Paperboy

Author/Illustrator: Mary Kay Kroeger and Louise Borden / Ted Lewin

Publisher: Clarion Books, 1996.

Description: In Cincinnati in 1927, paperboy Willie Brinkman tries to sell extras on the Dempsey-Tunney boxing match in his workingman's neighborhood.

ORGANIZATION

Definition

To keep things in order and easy to find. To plan, arrange, and keep things orderly and ready to use.

Connections:

Libraries and librarians love to keep things in order. Libraries are organized by subject or author or even online resources are now organized for easy access by patrons. Why do libraries like to be organized? What are some things we can learn about being organized from the library (or librarians)? Have a community circle to talk about these things! (Say It)

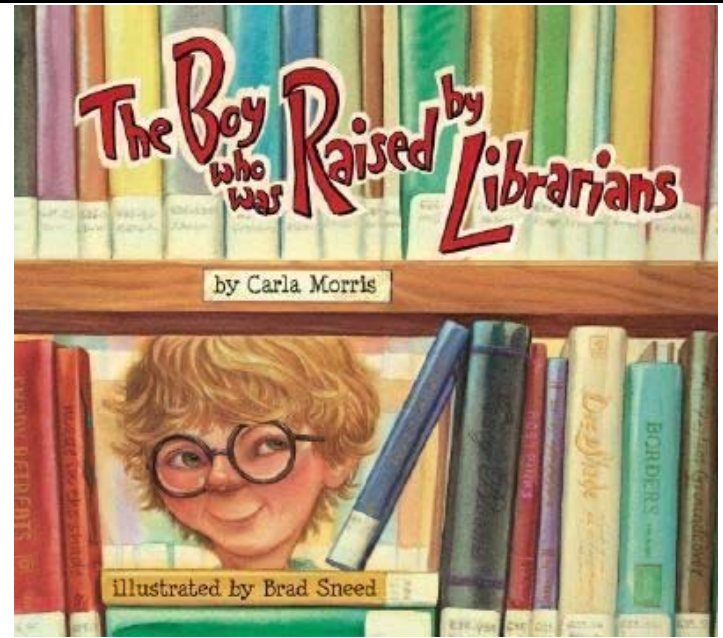
Let's take a week to get organized....

Monday – Organize our Desks!

Tuesday – Organize our Day – Agenda Boards!

Wednesday – Organize our ...

Brainstorm ways that we can get (or stay) organized and focus on adding one of those a day for a whole week. Can we keep it up? The teacher could keep track for the week or better yet the students could track themselves to see if they stay organized. (Weigh It)



Title: The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians

Author/Illustrator: Carla Morris / Brad Sneed

Publisher: PeachTree Publishers, 2007.

Description: Melvin discovers that the public library is the place where he can find just about anything--including three librarians who help in his quest for knowledge.

PRIDE

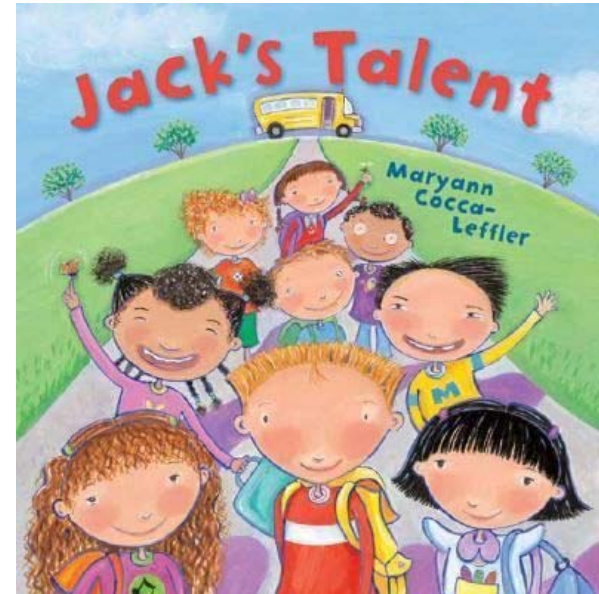
Definition

To feel good about doing your best. To be satisfied by doing you're personal best.

Connections:

This is a great book for sharing on the opening day of school. Use an index card for the nametag and have the students write their name and one thing that is their talent! Then, using the collaborative structure Moving to Music and students can share their card with others in the room to meet their new classmates. (Play It)

In this book, each student has a page highlighting what they are talented out. Using a digital camera, take the picture of each person and the class and have them write their name and one thing they are good at doing. Hang them up on the wall, and then have the students go along and add things to each other pictures. What do they think their friends are good at doing? (Relay It)



Title: Jack's Talent

Author/Illustrator: Maryann Cocca-Leffler

Publisher: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2007

Description: On the first day of school, as the children in Miss Lucinda's class introduce themselves and name their special talent, Jack wonders if he is good at anything.

RESOURCEFUL

Definition

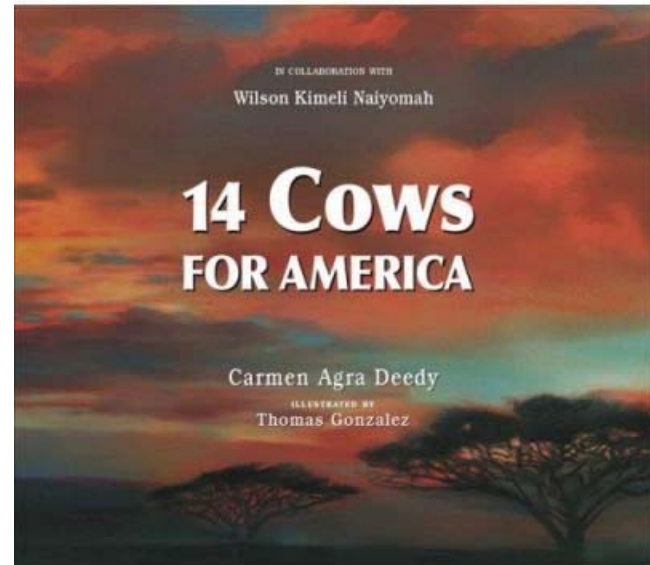
To be able to deal well with new or difficult situations and to find solutions to problems

Connections:

This is such an amazing book on so many levels. The gift of the Maasai was such a thoughtful thing because a small village that had so little could still give away their resources to help a country that had so much. Talk about this with your students. This would be the perfect community circle conversation about resources and how we choose to allocate them? (Say It)

Think about the author of this story. She had to be resourceful, too. She heard the story, but then she had to research it, so that she told it accurately. She had to interview people, she had to make sure to double check on the facts. Talk about the writing process and how authors have to be resourceful (Say It)

This year will be the 10th Anniversary for the event. Depending on the ages of your students, this might be a good book to use to talk about what happened that day! (Say It)



Title: 14 Cows for America

Author/Illustrator: Carmen Agra Deedy / Thomas Gonzalez

Publisher: Peachtree

Description: Presents an illustrated tale of a gift of fourteen cows given by the Maasai people of Kenya to the U.S. as a gesture of comfort and friendship in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001.