

Learning and Living the 7 Habits With Children's Books

Receiving this grant allowed me the funds to purchase many good books to expand my 7 Habits Classroom Library. I use these books daily to help teach the 7 Habits to my students. These books teach leadership skills, student empowerment, positive attitudes, caring about self and others, and much more. Using a book to help teach a habit helps students visualize and easily understand the habit being taught. Often times, the book includes a story or scenario we can act out in class.

Students are allowed to use these books during Independent Reading if they choose to. Even though they are not reading, they can tell the story by looking at the pictures or just from memory because they have heard it before. We see them act out the story with classmates or read it to a baby doll. When we see the student's role playing with the books we use to teach the 7 Habits, we know they understand what has been taught.

I am seeing students vocabulary change to include words and phrases like "be pro-active, listen before you talk, do your best, and synergize." My students have come a long way, not only naming the 7 Habits, but giving a description of each habit. Even if they don't fully grasp the big picture, they are learning the habits at a very young age. Hopefully they will grow as leaders as they continue to hear the 7 Habits being taught at school day after day, week after week, year after year.

Teaching the 7 Habits is how we begin our day. Our minds are thinking positive thoughts, we are ready to learn, and excited to be the best we can. Thank you for funding this grant and allowing me to purchase books my students learn from and love.