

Lesson Plan 2

Best Friend Poetry

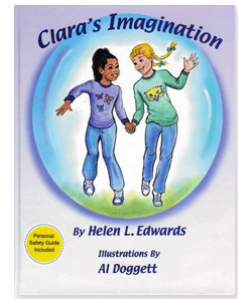
GRADE LEVELS: 3-6

BASED ON THE BOOK:

Clara's Imagination by *Helen L. Edwards*

&

Poem "**Best Friend**" by Clara and Safina



PURPOSE:

- Students will reflect on what qualities are important to them in a friend.
- Next they will identify one friend that they have chosen as their best friend.
- Students will construct a comprehensive poem about the friendship, the relationship; they share with their best friend.

OBJECTIVES:

- Students will take a detailed account of what it means to be and have a friend in general.
- Afterwards they will take a personal look at the relationship, the friendship they share with their best friend.
- Students will focus on the behavior, character traits, and the deeds of themselves, and their best friend, including the positive, and negative aspects of their personalities.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- The book **Clara's Imagination** by *Helen L. Edwards*
- "**Best Friend**" (Poem) By Clara and Safina (included In this lesson plan)
- Previous character traits chart from lesson 1
- Paper or journal
- Pencil or pen

PRE-READING: You have already read the book to the class in lesson 1. Teachers read aloud the poem "**Best Friend**" by Clara and Safina. Each student should have a copy of the poem so that they may read along silently as you read. They can also reference the poem during whole class discussion.

TEACHER'S NOTE:

1. Once you have read the poem to the class ask the students:
 - ❖ ***After hearing the story does the poem describe Clara and Safina's friendship? If so how?***
2. Tell the students:
 - ❖ ***I want you to read aloud a sentence or verse from the poem that supports your statement; you can also refer back to the book using retell.***

3. Continue this process of class discussion and passage selections as students use them to support their points. Until the whole class discussion has concluded.
4. Summarize based on the class discussion and make the point of the honest portrayal of the characters relationship, their friendship in the poem. It includes the good aspects of their relationship as well as the struggles they have. Yet, they are still able to work through their conflicts and remain best friends.
5. You can talk about communication between the two friends and seeking adults help when you need to, in cases where you are frightened and or when you need guidance from an adult like Safina. An example of that in the story is when Clara had gone home after her sleepover at Safina’s house. That night Safina was too frightened to go to sleep after thinking about the story Clara had told her about Ones. So she knew it was time to tell an adult, her mother.
6. Using a idea web draw a circle, put the word “friend” in the middle of the circle, draw lines like sunshine rays around the circle and write the students responses on the lines around the circle. List the responses some might be – loyal, caring, encouraging, understanding, funny, helpful, fun, good listener, shares, thoughtful, respectful, positive, and honest.
7. Once you have listed class generated ideas of the character traits they believe a friend should have. Now say to the students:
 - ❖ ***I want you to start thinking about yourselves and what qualities and character traits you look for in a best friend. (Draw two circles, in the middle of the first circle write the word “self” draw lines like rays of sunshine around the circle. In the middle of the second circle write the words “best friend” draw rays of sunshine around the circle. Illustrate the character traits web on the board for the students).***
8. **Say:**
 - ❖ ***Write as many descriptive words or phrases that describe you on the rays of sunshine surrounding the “self” circle. Repeat this process with descriptive words or phrases that describe your “best friend” on the rays of sunshine surrounding the “best friend” circle. Remember to include on your rays of sunshine both positive and negative character traits as we see them in our self and in our best friend. Your assignment is to write a best friend poem that describes your relationship, your friendship with your best friend. (List the following questions on the board).***
9. **Say:**
 - ❖ ***The following questions are for you to use as a guide in creating the content for your best friend poem.***
 - 1) What kinds of activities do you enjoy doing with your best friend?
 - 2) Is your best friend quiet, shy, outgoing, funny, fun, serious, or loud?
 - 3) How would you describe your best friend?
 - 4) Where did you meet your best friend?
 - 5) How are you like your best friend?
 - 6) How are you different from your best friend?
 - 7) How would your best friend describe you?
 - 8) Why is this person your best friend?

- 9) What are some of your struggles with your best friend? What might you frequently disagree about?
- 10) How do you work out misunderstandings with your best friend?
- 11) How does your best friend go about solving a problem with you?

ASSESSMENT:

- Observe whole class discussion and participation. Was the student able to reference the poem and or retell facts of the story to support their statements?
- Read paper or journal did the poem that was constructed align with the student's character traits chart. Was the student able to construct a poem that portrayed a sense of objective self-awareness and recognize both positive and negative aspects of their best friend as well?
- Does the student understand how they problem solve within their friendship?

Best Friends Poem by Clara & Safina

Best Friends

We're a pair.
We have fun playing together but sometimes tempers flare when we don't always play fair.

Best Friends.

Oh no, we have a gripe, we want to snipe.
Our friendship has caught a snare.

Best Friends

Feeling despair and you know you still care.
Good times, bad times, spare time, you feel best when you're spending it with your...

Best Friend

Sometimes I'm right, sometimes I'm wrong but I won't feel right until I do my part to bring back balance and make things right.

Best Friends

It's like a dance.
Sometimes I lead.
Sometimes I follow.

Best Friends

We have our ups and downs.
What's best is no matter what, we always want each other around.

Best Friends

Being one is a big responsibility.
To have a Best Friend you have to be a good friend.

Best Friends
No one's perfect.

Best Friends

You know you are Best Friends when your differences stretch you, and help you to grow as a person.

Best Friends
That's what we are.
Clara & Safina Forever!

