

THE DREAM CATCHER

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 Genre - Recount
Set 11 - 183 Words

Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Talk about dreams. Ask if anyone can anyone remember a dream they had recently. Talk about the difference between good dreams and bad dreams. Introduce the word *nightmare*.



Introduction

Tell the children: *This is a story about a boy named James and his mom making a dream catcher.*

Can anyone tell what a dream catcher is? Tell the children that long ago, Ojibway people used to make dream catchers to hang over their children's beds to catch the bad dreams.

Take a picture walk through the first few pages to identify the materials James needs for the dream catcher. Note the vocabulary word *willow* and ask the children to find the high frequency word *please* which first occurred in set 6.

Ask the children to read the rest of the story to find out how James and his mother make a dream catcher.

Discussion – Book Talk

Retell the story.

Ask the children what strategies they used when they were reading this story. This is a good time to recap strategies and point out some strategies you saw students using.

Ask: *Do you think a dream catcher can catch dreams? Why or why not? What are some things you can do when you have a bad dream?*

Shared and modeled writing. Working cooperatively with the children, write the procedure for making a dream catcher.

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Children can:

- make dream catchers. (Duplicate the instructions provided on the reproducible master for the children.)

Read Aloud Connections

Grandmother's Dreamcatcher by Becky Ray McCain, A. Whitman, 1998.

How to Get Rid of Bad Dreams by Nancy Hasbry, Scholastic, 1983.

One Night at a Time by Susan Hill, Hamish Hamilton, 1984.

The Dream Collector by Troon Harrison, Kids Can Press, 1999.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching		
High Frequency Words	from, put, over, what, under	Clap, chant and cheer the words. Find them on the word wall and in books.
Word Families and Letter Clusters	<i>atch</i> family - catch, patch, latch, batch, match, hatch	Make word family cards.
Structural Features of Words	Prepositional opposites: <i>over - under</i> <i>in - out</i> <i>er</i> - catcher, teacher	Complete prepositional opposites. <i>up</i> - _____ <i>above</i> - _____ <i>inside</i> - _____ Make a picture dictionary of <i>er</i> words.
Text Features	<i>over, under</i> - words following a movement path to show their meaning.	Write other movement words in an appropriate shape.

Make a Dream Catcher

You will need:

- A thin twig
- Some string
- Beads with holes in them
- Two feathers
- Some thread

How to make a dream catcher:

1. Bend the willow twig into a circle.
2. Put the string around the willow branch.
3. Tie the string in two places on the willow branch.
4. Put the string over and under the loop, then into and out.
5. Do this again. Over and under, then into and out.
6. Do it again and again. Over and under, then into and out.
7. Then put a bead on the string.
8. Put two feathers on the string.

