



Interactive Read Aloud

with CLASS® Concepts

Welcome to Teachstone's Interactive Reading Guide with CLASS[®] Concepts

How to use the guide:

This guide is meant to help you enhance the experience of reading with children. The ideas in the guide will help you make the most of story time, supporting children's learning and engaging with them in a meaningful way.

When planning for story time, begin by reading the book. Then, read this guide. Choose the ideas you think will be most helpful based on what you know about the children you are reading to. It is not recommended that you use all of the ideas in the guide at once, as this may disrupt the flow of the story.

What is CLASS[®]?:

CLASS stands for the Classroom Assessment Scoring System. Developed in 2008 at the University of Virginia, it is a research-driven tool used to improve how teachers interact with children every day to cultivate supportive, structured, and engaging classroom experiences.

The CLASS framework is divided into three domains: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. Each domain is subdivided into several dimensions. This guide offers suggestions on using strategies from each of the CLASS dimensions listed below.

Emotional Support:

Positive Climate (PC)
Teacher Sensitivity (TS)
Regard for Student Perspectives (RSP)

Classroom Organization:

Behavior Management (BM)
Productivity (P)
Instructional Learning Formats (ILF)

Instructional Support:

Concept Development (CD)
Quality of Feedback (QF)
Language Modeling (LM)

COVER, TITLE, AND DEDICATION PAGE:

This book title is "Ish". The author and illustrator of this book is Peter H. Reynolds. In this book, we are going to be spending time with Ramon. We're going to see Ramon drawing, painting and having big feelings about his work. We will see if any of the pictures remind you of something you have done.

Let's look at the dedication page. The dedication page tells us whom the author has made the book especially for. It is normally dedicated to someone who helped the author believe in themselves and their talents. The special message that Peter puts in the book is: "Dedicated to Doug Kernfeld, my art teacher, who dared me to draw for myself and find my voice." Let's see what else we find in this book!

DRAWING:

Who can tell me what Ramon is doing in these pictures? How can you tell?

What sort of materials do you see Ramon using? Look at all the places Ramon likes to draw. The word "anywhere" means Ramon likes to draw in all kinds of places. Where is your favorite place to draw? (RSP, ILF, CD)

BIG EMOTIONS:

People see different things when they look at art because everyone has a different interpretation of what art means to them. Interpretation is when you look at the same thing as someone else, but you understand it differently. Will someone share about a time when someone asked you what you were drawing? How did this make you feel? You might feel excited that someone is looking at your drawing, or you might feel confused if they do not understand what you are drawing. This can cause strong feelings. (TS, ILF, LM)

GIVING UP:

Ramon was so upset that he crumpled up his drawing paper and threw it!

What sort of emotion might Ramon be feeling at this moment? Have you felt that emotion before? Do you have a place in your body where you feel these emotions? Why do you think Ramon said he finished? What could this mean?

(RSP)

SIBLINGS, SURPRISES, AND GALLERIES:

Marisol, Ramon's sister, watches Ramon crumble and throw the paper on the floor. Ramon was pretty upset with Marisol because he yelled at her. Marisol ran by Ramon and picked up the crumpled paper. Racing after Marisol, Ramon opens the door to see all of his crumbled art taped to her wall. Marisol had created an art gallery of her brother's work! A gallery is a place where you can go to see different types of art. Galleries are sometimes fancy, but they can also be in your home or bedroom. (PC)

"ISH":

When something is an "ish", it means an object does not appear the way we think it should. Marisol explained that Ramon's drawing looked vase-ish, which means it sort of looks like a vase, but sort of NOT like a vase. There is nothing wrong with art turning out differently than you think it will. Ramon realized that most of his art looked "ish" and he began seeing art in a whole new way. (RSP)

ENERGIZED:

Ramon is energized. This means he is now feeling encouraged and excited about drawing again! All because his sister helped change his perspective.

Perspective is the way we look at events. Ramon now draws ish-ly meaning he is now drawing what he feels. When we draw what we feel, anything is possible! (LM)

JOURNALS, FEELINGS & DREAMS:

Ramon is filling his journals with drawings. A journal is a book where you can keep thoughts that have meaning to you. Drawings, writing, pictures, and poems can all be part of a journal. Share with me what sorts of things you would put in your journal? In the end, Ramon lived “ishfully” ever after and stopped worrying about what other people thought about his work. Let’s say it together, “I want to live “ishfully” ever after!” (RSP, ILF)

Learn more about how CLASS[®] can help your program improve teacher-child interactions at www.teachstone.com or give us a call at 877-401-8007.