

The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot! - Honesty

EXPLANATION:

Teaching children about honesty and trustworthiness involves more than just teaching them not to lie. The picture book, *The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot* by Scott Magoon demonstrates the value of telling the truth and the importance of establishing trust.

YEAR LEVELS: Years 1 - 3

STUDENT GROUPING: Whole group discussion and individual letter writing

ACTIVITY LENGTH: 45 mins approx.

LINK TO CURRICULUM:

English: Sequence of content F-6

- **Strand: Literacy Listening and speaking interactions** (Purposes and contexts through which students engage in listening and speaking interactions)
- **Strand: Literacy Listening and speaking interactions** (Skills students use when engaging in listening and speaking interactions)
- **Strand: Language Purpose audience and structures of different types of texts** (How texts serve different purposes and how the structures of types of texts vary according to the text purpose)

See also Personal and Social Capability learning continuum sub elements:

- Appreciate diverse perspectives
- Communicate effectively
- Work collaboratively
- Recognise emotions

SCOPE OF TASK:

1. Determine students' prior knowledge by asking them what is truth and what is a lie? Questions to probe understanding include:
 - What is a lie?
 - Is it OK to tell lies?
 - What is trust?
 - Why do you think people lie?
2. Establish a class definition? Ask students to help create a definitions or examples of lies that can be displayed on the whiteboard
3. Introduce the book, *The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot* and tell the students that today we are going to pay attention to what Ben says and does.
4. Read aloud *The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot* or find a version of the story narrated on the internet.
5. Ask children to recount what happened in the story:
 - Who were the characters in the book?
 - What was Ben saying?
 - Was Ben being honest?
 - Why might he have been telling untrue stories?
6. Question the students and refer to the story book:
 - Why do you think people lie? Examples might include – getting into trouble, wanting attention, to embellish a story
 - What lies have you told and why?
 - What happens when you lie?
 - How do people feel when they are lied to?
7. Ask the students what Ben could do after he lied and how should he behave with the people that he lied to?
8. At the completion of the discussion tell the students about their task:
 - Pretend you are Ben and write an apology letter to his Mum and Dad.
 - Remind students of letter writing conventions (as age appropriate)
 - Ask the student to give an apology and provide an explanation for why Ben behaved the way he did.
9. At the completion of the task students can share the letters they wrote.

RESOURCES:

Magoon, S. (2013). *The Boy Who Cried Bigfoot!* Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books

