

Stars in the Sky | Lesson Plan

How does perseverance help us achieve our goals?

Students will learn about the importance of perseverance to reach a goal through an English folktale in *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky*.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the importance of persevering to reach a goal.
- Discuss and understand that folktales often teach an important lesson.
- Recognize the sequence of events in the story.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Perseverance:** The quality of continuing to work towards a goal even when faced with obstacles or difficulties.
- **Mill Wheel:** A large wheel, typically made of wood or metal, with paddles or blades around its circumference.
- **Determination:** A firm decision to do something and not give up, even when faced with challenges.
- **Obstacle:** Something that blocks or hinders progress or achievement.
- **Achievement:** Something accomplished successfully, often after effort and perseverance.
- **Goal:** A desired result or outcome that a person works towards.

Educational Standards: CCRA.R.1, CCRA.R.2, CCRA.R.3, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2,

Academic Subject Areas: Life Lessons, Perseverance, Character Development

What You'll Need

- Video: *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky* (Click [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky* (Click [Here](#))
- Building blocks

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Begin by explaining to the students that they will work together to build the tallest tower possible using the building blocks provided. Instruct them to see if their towers can reach the "stars in the sky."
2. Divide the students into small groups and distribute the building blocks evenly among them.
3. Set a timer for a short amount of time (e.g., 3-5 minutes) and tell the students that they have that amount of time to build their towers. Start the timer and let the students begin building.



4. As the students build, walk around the room and observe their progress. Encourage them to communicate and collaborate with each other.
5. After the time is up, stop the timer and have each group stand next to their tower. Measure and compare the height of each tower, celebrating the tallest ones.
6. Ask the students how they felt while building their towers. Prompt them to share any challenges they encountered during the activity. Emphasize the importance of perseverance in overcoming challenges.
7. Introduce the concept of perseverance and explain that it means not giving up, even when things are difficult. Conclude by highlighting that, like building towers, sometimes we encounter obstacles in life, but if we persevere and work together, we can overcome them.
8. Introduce the folktale "Stars in the Sky" as a story about a girl who perseveres to reach her goal. Ask students to look for times when the little girl in the story demonstrates perseverance. Also, explain that folktales often teach the reader a lesson. Ask them to see if they can determine what lesson the story is trying to teach at the end. Remind students that good readers pay attention when they read and remember events in a story chronologically.

Watch and Complete: (25 mins.)

1. Show the video *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky* to the students, pausing at key points to discuss what's happening and encouraging students to predict what might happen next.
2. Lead a discussion about the story. Ask questions such as:
 - What was the problem at the beginning of the story
 - How did the girl show perseverance?
 - Who helped her along the way?
 - How did the story end? Was the girl successful?
3. Distribute the *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky* worksheet. Have students number the events of the story in the correct order. Complete it as a whole class or have the students complete it independently. These can be collected as a formative assessment.

Wrap-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Review the story's main points and the importance of perseverance to reach a goal.
2. Emphasize that just like the girl in the story, students can achieve their goals if they keep trying, even when things are hard.
3. Encourage students to keep reaching for their own "stars" in whatever they do.

Don't have time for the complete lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 mins.)

After watching the video, distribute and complete the *Otto's Tales: Stars in the Sky* worksheet. Have students discuss their favorite character or part of the story.