

Why Frog & Snake Never Play | Lesson Plan

How can understanding and accepting differences help us build stronger friendships and communities?

Students will understand the importance of accepting differences in others and the impact of societal pressures on personal relationships.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify what a folktale is and understand its purpose.
- Recount the folktale "Why Frog and Snake Never Play."
- Explain the concept of accepting differences.
- Interpret the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover."
- Identify the moral of the story.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Prejudice:** Preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience.
- **Differences:** The ways in which people or things are not the same.
- **Friendship:** The emotions or conduct of friends; the state of being friends.
- **Influence:** The capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something.
- **Acceptance:** The action of consenting to receive or undertake something offered.

Educational Standards: CCRA.R.1, CCRA.R.2, CCRA.R.3, CCRA.R.5, CCRA.R.7, CCCRA.R.10, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.3, CCRA.W.9

Academic Topics: Life Lessons, American Values, Character Development

What You'll Need

- Video: *Otto's Tales: Why Frog & Snake Never Play* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Otto's Tales: Why Frog & Snake Never Play* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Begin by explaining what a folktale is, emphasizing that it is a story passed down through generations, often with a moral or lesson.
2. Ask students if they have heard any folktales before and share some titles if they have.
3. Introduce and explain the key vocabulary: prejudice, differences, friendship, influence, and acceptance.
4. Ask students to think about a time when they made a friend who was different from them and discuss how they became friends despite those differences.



5. Explain that "Don't judge a book by its cover" means we should not make judgments about people or things based on how they look on the outside. Ask students if they have ever changed their mind about someone after getting to know them better.

Watch and Discuss: (15 mins.)

1. Prediction Activity: Introduce the folktale and ask students to predict what might happen when Frog and Snake meet again after hearing from their families.
2. Play the video *Otto's Tales: Why Frog and Snake Never Play*.
3. Pause at important to ask questions and check for understanding of key vocabulary words and important elements of the story:
 - Why did Frog and Snake like playing together at first?
 - What did their families say about their new friend?
 - How did Frog and Snake feel after their families warned them?
 - What lesson can we learn from Frog and Snake's friendship?

Wrap-Up: (20 mins.)

1. Explain that the next activity will help students understand the sequence of events in "Why Frog and Snake Never Play."
2. Distribute the worksheet and explain how to fill it out. Show students where they will write the sequence of events, which are numbered from 1 to 4.
3. Discuss the completed worksheets as a class, ensuring everyone has captured the sequential events correctly.
4. Evaluate students based on their ability to:
 - Retell the folktale in their own words.
 - Explain the lesson of the folktale.
 - Define the key vocabulary terms.
 - Provide examples of accepting differences from their own lives.
5. Encourage students to think about how they can be more accepting of others who are different from them. Reinforce the message that friendships can thrive when we look beyond our differences and focus on what we have in common.

Optional Activity: Friendship Web

Have students sit in a circle. Start with a ball of yarn, holding one end and tossing the ball to another student while saying something they like about that student. Continue until everyone is holding part of the yarn, creating a web. Discuss how the web represents friendship and how everyone is connected, even if they are different.

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

After watching the video, distribute the story sequencing worksheet and have the students complete it on their own or in groups. Collect as a formative assessment.