

Lesson A
Jasmine Can-Creating Self-Confidence by Bena Hartman, Ed.D.
Illustrated by Mary Gregg Byrne

The students will be able to:

1. Predict what the story Jasmine Can is about
2. Analyze three character descriptions from story and decide which one is Jasmine
3. Listen to the story read by the teacher and answer questions about story
4. Confirm initial predictions about topic of story
5. Determine which description best describes Jasmine

Before Reading

- Show children the cover of the story and ask them to predict what they think the story is going to be about. (Let them guess which character is Jasmine.) Listen to or list their responses.
 - Ask what clues helped them make their predictions?
 - Who would like to respond to what _____ said?
 - That's a good guess/prediction etc.
- Show them three (3) character descriptions from the story. One description should describe Jasmine, the other two (2) should not.
- Select students to read all three descriptions.
- Now ask students to predict which of the three descriptions they think will describe Jasmine and explain their response.

During Reading

- After your discussion read the story with expression.
 - Check for understanding
 - Have you ever felt like Jasmine? Why or why not? (Invite response)
 - What images came to your mind when I read this page?
 - What do you think about the illustrations?
 - Can someone explain what's going on so far?
 - Summarize or paraphrase their responses (these are sample questions, feel free to ask more)

After Reading

- Ask students if their predictions about the topic of the story were correct.
- Ask students to search for clues in the story that support their predictions about topic of story. Did they revise their predictions?
- Ask children which description best describes Jasmine, support with clues from story.

Extension Exercise

- Ask students to describe some ways when they've felt self conscious about performing a task (e.g., learning how to swim). What did they do to overcome their fears? (This can be an oral or written assignment.)

Additional Suggestions for After Reading

- Compare & Contrast Jasmine to Chloe Brown using a Venn Diagram.
- Discuss the topic/themes of the book (e.g., growing up and finding oneself, learning how to read, peer, teacher, family relationships).
- Draw a picture of yourself in the story and describe where you fit in.
- Compare *Jasmine Can* to other stories you've read with a similar theme.
- Describe what's happening **between** the pages of *Jasmine Can*. Explain some plausible events. (Sipe & Brightman, 2009).
- Write a story with dialogue between characters from *Jasmine Can* and characters from another story. What would the characters talk about?
- Make two columns on language paper or the smart-board. Write Physical Appearance (or outside) on one side, and Inward Appearance (or inside) on the other. Ask children to describe Jasmine's outward appearance (e.g., small, young, African American, girl) and inward appearance, or feelings (e.g., sad, happy). Discuss all traits.
- Give students any one of the many graphic organizers that are available, or have students design their own organizer then give it to a classmate to fill in. Check out **webspiration.com** for more information.
- Draw pictures, make a collage or a class mural of favorite part of story.

Note: For younger students take a picture walk through the pages and discuss the illustrations before you read the story. Build interest by talking about what the characters look like, discuss the setting, compare it with their own experiences.

Sipe, L., & Brightman, A. (2009). Young Children's Interpretations of Page Breaks in Contemporary Picture Storybooks. Journal of Literacy Research (41) 1, 68-103.