

Lesson Plan that goes with the “Choose your fish attitude” story.

Grade level: VPK blended class
20 students

FL Standards addressed during this lesson:

II. Approaches to Learning:

D.1. demonstrates some planning and learning from experiences

III Social Emotional Development:

C.1 & C.2. Develops positive relationships with adults and peers

C.3. demonstrates increase ability to engage in social problem solving

D. 3. Develops sense of identity and belonging through exploration and persistence

VI. Scientific Inquiry

B.1. demonstrates knowledge related to living things and their environments

VII. Social Studies

A.1. identifies self as a member of a culture

F.1. recognizes and follows rules and expectations in varying settings

F.2. participates in problem solving and decision making

F.3. begins to explore basic principles of democracy

Materials:

Set up a fish tank with a variety of fish in it

Set up a Betta bowl nearby

Introduce the class job “veterinarian” starting the first day of school, rotating jobs allowing students to take turns feeding the fish.

Follow these steps and feel free to add your own style to the lesson:

Read the story “choose your fish attitude” to the class.

Re-read the story and stop to discuss each page.

Lead discussion asking a variety of probing questions.

Let students discuss amongst themselves their thoughts and ideas as you circulate and listen in to their ideas and sharing.

Refer back to the story and “fish” philosophy on a regular basis throughout the first few weeks of school.

We continue with this philosophy all year long, referring back to it when necessary based on student choices and data.

It has been interesting to watch the students take ownership over the years. When we get a new student mid year, we reread the story and introduce our “fish” philosophy to our new friend.

The students frequently take over and start telling the new student that they should choose “school family” because it is much more fun. They also say, “you don’t want to be a Betta, you will miss out on fun things!” Out of the mouths of babes tells me this little introductory lesson goes a long way throughout the school year, touching on a variety of skills across a variety of state standards.

To extend the lesson further:

Take pictures of your class and insert them in the story.

Print out your own class version with their pictures in place of the cartoon ones (pictures of friends sharing and playing together)....they are so motivated to re-read the updated version as the year goes on as they love to see themselves in pictures!!

**Choose
Your
“Fish Attitude!”**

**You can choose your
“fish attitude!”**

**You can choose to be part of our
school family....**



or

You can choose to be like a Betta.



Our Community Fish tank is home to our fish family.

**We are fish that can get along with each other.
We are not all the same, and that is what we like about our community.
We like to share our personal space.
We like to share our food.**



**We are NOT aggressive. We do NOT fight.
Sometimes we play together by chasing each other around for fun!
We like having friends.
We like being part of a community.**

Betta

I am a Betta fish.
I am aggressive.
I live by myself because I fight with other fish.



I do NOT share my personal space. I do NOT share my food.
I do NOT have anyone to play with because I do not know how to get along with the
other fish.

Sometimes I like being alone, but most of the time I am lonely.

You have a choice!

You can choose to be like the Betta.



If you choose to be like the betta, you will NOT be with
your friends.

You will miss out on a lot of fun.

You will be working alone.

Or

You can choose to be like the fish in the community
tank.

You can choose to be part of our school family.

If you do you will have fun with your friends.

You will have fun sharing, cooperating and learning from
each other.



Don't be a Betta.....



Join our "school family!"