

GLOBAL EDUCATION LESSON PLAN

Student Name: Abby Martin

Lesson Title: “Nothing Stops Us!”: Reading and Reflecting on *Nothing Stopped Sophie*

Curriculum Area(s): Reading, Writing, and Art

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Time Frame: 2 day lesson

Book Information: Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of the Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain, written by Cheryl Bardoe

Content Standards:

LAFS.K.RL.1.3: With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.

LAFS.K.W.1.2: Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts in which they name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic.

VA.K.H.3.1: Express ideas related to non-art content areas through personal artworks.

“I Can” Performance Outcomes for Students Aged 4-7:

Grade K: Communicate Ideas

I can speak and write to share my ideas with others. This means with help I can look at my audience, speak loudly and clearly, and share my ideas so that my audience can understand them.

Brief overview of the lesson:

This lesson will begin with a read aloud of *Nothing Stopped Sophie*. However, since this is a kindergarten lesson, I will paraphrase the book in order to meet student’s comprehension levels, as this book is written for a higher reading level than kindergarten. During the read aloud, I will prompt students to think about various story elements through questioning. After the read aloud, the class will work together to make an anchor chart depicting the elements of the story. This will include characters, setting, problem, major events in the story, and the message of

the book. I can scaffold to help students to develop any answers they are having trouble gathering.

The following day, we will revisit the anchor chart and use it as a tool to remember the key elements of the story. Then, I will present the students with the following writing prompt: "Think about what you love to do. Nothing stopped Sophie from reaching her dreams. What is something that no one could stop you from doing?" Students will brainstorm with their shoulder partners, share what they plan to write about, and then write on their own. The teacher will provide the sentence starter: "Nothing will stop me to _____. I will do this by_____." Once students have completed their writing prompt, they will draw a picture that matches their writing. Then, students will take turns coming to the front of the class and sharing their ideas with their audience (their classmates).

List of materials:

- *Nothing Stopped Sophie* by Cheryl Bardoe for the read aloud
- Anchor chart paper and a marker to write with
- Student work papers (including writing area and space for their illustration)

Brief summary of selected book (Americas Award Winning Text):

Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain is a true story about a woman who grew up in France during the French Revolution. Women were not allowed to go to school or have careers during this time period, but Sophie dreamed of becoming a mathematician, for she loved working with numbers and equations. Many obstacles stood in her way throughout her lifetime journey to be recognized as a true mathematician, but Sophie prevailed. Sophie eventually became the first woman to win a grand prize from the Royal Academy of Sciences in 1816. Because of Sophie's determination and perseverance, she was able to earn the recognition she deserved for her hard work in math and scientific discovery.

Essential Questions:

- Who was the main character in this story?
- What was the setting of this story?
- What was the problem that Sophie faced?
- How did Sophie accomplish her goal?
- What is a goal that you are determined to reach?

Procedures:

Day 1:

Note: I will give students a brief overview on the late 1700/early 1800's and where France is located in the World before beginning the lesson.

Step 1: Conduct a read aloud of *Nothing Stopped Sophie* (using paraphrasing to read the story in simpler terms). Tell the students that this book is a true story, which means it is non-fiction. While reading, prompt students to think about the characters, setting, and major events of the story and discuss them with their shoulder partner.

Step 2: Fill out an anchor chart about "Nothing Stopped Sophie" with student assistance. To do so, call on students to answer your questions about the main character, setting, problem, main events, and overall message of the story.

Step 3: Have a short class discussion in which the teacher talks to students further about how they should be like Sophie and never let anything come in the way of their dreams. Prompt students to think about the dream that they would never want to be stopped from reaching.

Day 2:

Step 1: Ask students to recall on the read aloud from the day before, using the anchor chart as a tool to refresh student memories.

Step 2: Provide students with the prompt: "Think about what you love to do. Nothing stopped Sophie from reaching her dreams. What is something that no one could stop you from doing?" Have students think for a moment individually and then share their thoughts/ideas with their shoulder partner.

Step 3: Model the way that students should complete their writing task by writing on the board to give students an explicit example. Then, erase the example and write, "Nothing will stop me to _____. I will do this by_____." Make sure students understand that they must fill in the blanks on their own.

Step 4: Have students work individually on their writing prompt. Once students have completed their writing, have them draw a picture to match what they wrote.

Step 5: Once students are completely done their task, have them all bring their finished products to the carpet with them. Model how students should share their ideas with a clear, loud voice and that the audience is to listen quietly and raise their hands to ask questions. Allow students to each stand up and briefly share their work/thoughts on the prompt with the class.

Additional Comments:

Anticipated Difficulties: Something that I feel could be an issue during this lesson is student's ability to follow along with the events in the story. However, if I can

paraphrase the book effectively and continue to remind students of the plot, I think this problem can be avoided.

Differentiation: I will differentiate this lesson not only by reading the book in simpler terms, but I will make sure to scaffold with whatever questions students are seeming to have a difficult time with. Furthermore, students will likely need the most differentiation during the writing portion of the lesson. This can be differentiated by the teacher circulating around the room to scaffold and assist students who are struggling with either the prompt or sounding out words to write them.

Additional Resources: N/A

Reflection:

Overall, I really wished I could have implemented this lesson plan in an actual kindergarten classroom this year! I feel as though it would have been really cute to have students not only work on their reading elements comprehension skills and have writing practice, but to have them reflect on their dreams! *Nothing Stopped Sophie* is all about perseverance, which is a fantastic trait for students to learn about at a young age. This lesson would help students to creatively think about what they want to accomplish and how they will not allow anyone to stop them from reaching their goal! Although many of the student's goals would probably be quite silly, the concept is what matters. It would have been really cute to see some of the creative and funny things that students would come up with as their dreams/goals.

I honestly feel like this is a great lesson that spans across curriculum areas and gives students the opportunity to practice sharing their ideas out loud with the class. Even though this lesson is for kindergarteners, I don't see any reason why kinder kids can't begin to learn about presenting their information to an audience, especially in a creative setting. I have recently accepted a kindergarten teaching position for next year, which is why I decided to create a lesson plan that I can actually use next year! While the book may be a bit advanced for this age group, I think that paraphrasing it in simpler times is an easy way to make the book accommodate young readers. While I can't reflect upon how the lesson went when I implemented it, I do want you to know that this is a lesson I truly cannot wait to have my students do next year. When I eventually teach it (probably in the second half of the school year), you can definitely expect an email with pictures/artifacts and a description of how it went!

The challenges I came across when creating this lesson plan was not deciding how to approach teaching the comprehension skill or the writing aspect, but it was determining the appropriate way to teach the "I can" statement to students. I believe that by allowing students to creatively come up with their own dream/goal, having students write and draw about it, and then learn how to proudly share with the class, they will have achieved being

able to write and speak to share their ideas with others. It also occurred to me while creating this lesson plan that the finished product of this lesson will be an amazing keepsake for families! I know that my mom has kept a lot of work from when I was young and it will be really cool for families to hopefully hang onto their statement and drawing of their goal to reflect on when they are older!

Reference

Bardoe, C. (2018). *Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain*. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers: New York. NY.