

STORIES TO CELEBRATE

Celebrate a Powwow with Sandy Starbright

Creative Reading Methodology

Questions to Initiate Dialogue

The purpose of these questions is to invite the students to reflect on the book and relate it to their own lives and their future actions. The questions do not have one specific answer, but rather should serve as the starting point for an ongoing dialogue. It is important, however, that at some point *all questions* be posed to the group and to individual students.

BEGINNING LEVEL

Descriptive Phase

Questions to ascertain comprehension of the story and its concepts

- What are some of the presents that Sandy received for her birthday?
- What was Sandy looking for that she could not find?
- What is a powwow?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

Questions to invite sharing of personal experiences, feelings, and emotions

- Do you celebrate your birthday? What was the most fun thing that happened at a birthday party you went to?
- Have you ever found something that you had lost? How did you feel?
- Sandy's family enjoys dancing together at a powwow. What does your family like to do together?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Why are powwows important?
- What are some of the Native Americans' contributions to the history of the United States?

Creative/Transformative Phase

Questions to promote attitudes for social change in support of equity, justice, and peace

- The presents Sandy received were very important, because her relatives had made them for her. What simple gift can you make to tell someone in your family that you love him or her?
- Powwows are celebrations. They are used to celebrate very different things. What does life give you each day and how do you celebrate it?

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Descriptive Phase

Questions to ascertain comprehension of the story and its concepts

- Why were the presents Sandy received very valuable to her?
- How did she feel when she received the lost moccasins?
- What is a powwow? What about them seems the most interesting to you?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

Questions to invite sharing of personal experiences, feelings, and emotions

- What is the nicest thing that ever happened to you on your birthday? How would you like your next birthday to be?
- Have you ever seen a powwow? Live? On television?
- What are the main celebrations in your culture? How are they similar to and different from a powwow?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Why are powwows very important for Native Americans?
- Why is it important to know the celebrations of other cultures?

Transformative/Creative Phase

Questions to promote attitudes for social change in support of equity, justice, and peace

- What can you do to make one of your relatives or friends happy on his or her birthday?
- How can you learn more about Native Americans?

ADVANCED LEVEL

Descriptive Phase

Questions to ascertain comprehension of the story and its concepts

- How would you describe Sandy's relatives?
- What is a powwow? Why are powwows important?
- How can you find out if there is going to be a powwow in your area?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

Questions to invite sharing of personal experiences, feelings, and emotions

- Do you remember a special birthday? What made it special?
- Have you ever attended a powwow? Have you seen one on television?
- What are the main celebrations in your culture?
- How are they similar to and different from a powwow?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Native Americans have suffered great injustices. What do you know about it?
- Why are powwows very important for Native Americans today?

Transformative/Creative Phase

Questions to promote attitudes for social change in support of equity, justice, and peace

- What do you think is necessary to do to demonstrate our recognition of the Native Americans as the first inhabitants of this country?
- What should we do to be sure that no more injustices will be committed?