

STORIES TO CELEBRATE

Celebrate Thanksgiving Day with Beto and Gaby

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

- How did the children feel when they found out that their relatives could not come? Why did they feel that way?
- How did they feel when their grandmother arrived? Why?
- Where did the families who arrived in El Paso come from? Why did they celebrate Thanksgiving?
- Who were the English pilgrims? Why did they celebrate?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

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

- Families get together to celebrate different things, like birthdays, Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Day. For what special things does your family get together?
- Does your family have a celebration to give thanks? How do they do it?
- There are many things that we can give thanks for every day. What are some of the things that you can give thanks for every day?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Many children in the world don't have a house to sleep in, or clean clothes, or clean water, or enough food to eat. You have all these things and much more. How do you feel knowing that you have everything you need?
- Many children cannot go to school. You can. Do you realize how important it is to feel happy about school and learning?

Creative/Transformative Phase

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

- What are some of the most important things in life? Make a list or drawings of the things in your life for which you can give thanks.
- How are you going to give thanks to your family for everything they do for you?

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Descriptive Phase

Questions to ascertain comprehension of the story and its concepts

- Why couldn't the children's relatives come? How did the children feel upon finding out they could not come? Why did they feel that way?
- How did the children feel when their grandmother arrived? Why?
- Why did the families that arrived in El Paso celebrate Thanksgiving?
- Who were the English pilgrims? Why did they celebrate Thanksgiving?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

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

- On what special occasions does your family get together? Tell us something about those celebrations.
- Does your family have a celebration to give thanks? How do they do it?
- What are some of the things for which you can give thanks every day?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Many children in the world do not have a house to sleep in, or clean clothes, or clean water, or enough food to eat. You have all these things and much more. How do you feel when you think about that?
- Many children can't go to school. You can. How does that make you feel?

Transformative/Creative Phase

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

- What are some of the most important things in life? Try to think about as many things as possible for which you can give thanks. What are some of them?
- Your family does a lot for you. How are you going to thank them?

ADVANCED LEVEL

Descriptive Phase

Questions to ascertain comprehension of the story and its concepts

- What are some of the reasons for which people get together to give thanks?
- What reasons did the families who came to El Paso from Mexico have to celebrate Thanksgiving?
- Why did the English pilgrims celebrate Thanksgiving?

Personal/Interpretive Phase

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

- Are there special occasions on which your family likes to get together? Tell us something about those celebrations.
- Does your family have a celebration to give thanks?
- What are some of the things for which you can give thanks every day?

Critical/Multicultural/Anti-Bias Phase

Questions to promote critical reflection and anti-bias awareness

- Why should every child who has the privilege of going to school feel grateful?
- Many children in the world do not have a safe place to sleep, or clean water, or enough food to eat. How do you feel about having these privileges knowing that other children don't?

Transformative/Creative Phase

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

- In what way can you show your gratitude at home? At school? To your friends?
- Is there something that you can do for those who don't have as much as you?