

Resource Guide for *Operation Field Trip* by Dawn Renee Young

Overview

Operation Field Trip follows Millie and her friends on a school field trip to the zoo. Through jokes, friendship, and animal adventures, students learn about empathy, teamwork, and animal facts, all while enjoying Millie's sense of humor.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify story elements (characters, setting, plot, problem, solution)
2. Practice reading comprehension and recall
3. Explore themes of friendship, empathy, and humor
4. Learn animal facts and vocabulary
5. Engage in creative writing and oral storytelling



Lesson Plan

Pre-Reading Activities

Activate Prior Knowledge

1. Ask: "Have you ever been on a field trip? Where did you go? What did you do?"
2. Discuss zoo animals that students know and share favorite animal jokes.
3. Vocabulary Introduction: Review words such as: exhibit, pride (of lions), zookeeper, chaperone, empathy, joke, and field trip.

During Reading

Chapter 1-2

1. Why does Millie love telling jokes? How do her jokes make her friends feel?
2. What are Millie and her friends most excited about for the field trip?
3. How does Millie prepare for the big day?

Chapter 3-5


1. How does Millie help Ming when she forgets her snack?
2. What animal facts do you learn from the zookeepers?
3. How do the characters react to seeing new animals?

Chapter 6-8

1. How does Millie use humor to help her friends feel better?
2. What are some animal jokes Millie tells? Which one is your favorite?
3. What is special about the giraffe exhibit?

Chapter 9-10

1. How do the friends support each other during the trip?
2. What does Millie discover about making people laugh?
3. How does the story end? How do the characters feel about the end of the school year?



Post Reading Activities

1. Comprehension Check

- Sequence the events of the field trip (students can draw or write).
- Character map: Describe Millie, Ming, and Kera with evidence from the text.

2. Creative Extension

- Joke Booklet: Have students write and illustrate their own animal jokes.
- Field Trip Journal: Write a diary entry as if they were on the field trip.
- Animal Fact Posters: Research one animal from the book and create a fact poster.

3. Social-Emotional Learning

- Discuss how Millie helps her friends using humor. When can jokes be helpful? When might they not be?
- Role-play: Practice telling jokes or comforting a friend who feels sad.

4. STEM Connection

- Research an animal from the story (giraffe, elephant, lion, etc.). Present 3 new facts to the class.
- Math: Estimate how long it would take a giraffe to run a certain distance at 60 mph.

Extension Ideas

Author Study: Learn more about Dawn Renee Young and her other books.

Classroom Zoo: Create a classroom display with student-made animal drawings and facts.

Family Connection: Encourage students to share a favorite joke or animal fact at home.

Assessment

- Participation in discussions and activities
- Completion of creative assignments (joke booklet, journal entry, poster)
- Ability to recall and sequence story events
- Demonstration of empathy and teamwork in group activities

Additional Resources

- MrsGoodChoice.com
- Follow the author on social media for updates and classroom ideas

Reflective Question for Students:

- How can you use humor to make someone's day better, just like Millie?

Connect with the Author

Author's Website:

<https://www.mrsgoodchoice.com>

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