

YOUNG ★ ★ HEROES

READERS ARE LEADERS

LESSON PLAN

FOR 5-8 YEAR OLDS





Young Heroes Lesson – ages 5–8

Props and Materials:

- Activity 2: Books that the children like, which they were asked in advance to bring to the lesson. Your own book.
- Activity 3: Pictures to hang around the room with children holding colourful books with various images on them ([downloads](#))
- Activity 4: Memory game ([download](#))
- Activity 5: Colourful construction paper cut into squares, googly eyes, scissors, glue
- Activity 6: The little booklet with images of actions in it ([download](#))
- Activity 7: images for putting a story together ([downloads](#))
- Activity 8: Five dice with images for creating a story ([downloads](#))
- Activity 9: A ball
- Activity 10: A few pages stapled together (at least as many as there are children in the group) to form a little hand-made book.
- Activity 11: Existing props or costumes and/or construction paper to make some.

Activities:

1. Greet the children and ask how they are.
2. Let each student show the book he/she has brought to the lesson. Help them to describe very simply what the book is about, who the main character and what they like about it. Show them your chosen book as well.
3. **Stand up.** Ask the children to run and find a picture with a red book in it and bring it to you. When you receive the picture, show it to all the children and ask: Who is reading the book? a girl or a boy? Elicit an answer. Then ask what the book is about. The children should answer based on the image on the cover: e.g.: **The book is about a dragon. The book is about a troll.** Etc. Repeat this with the other downloaded book images.
4. **Sit down.** Play the downloaded memory game. The students should try to find two cards with the same book image on them and say, e.g.: **This is a story about a fish in a pond. This is a story about a princess.** Etc.



5. Create monster bookmarks. Show the children how to fold the squares to form the shape of the bookmark. If the children are young you can have some folded papers ready for them. Use the instructions at the end of the lesson plan. Let the children glue googly eyes and other bits of construction paper to create monsters or animals (see examples at the end of the lesson plan).
6. **Stand up.** Play Follow the Leader. Have the children stand in a row behind you. Show them the little downloaded booklet. Say: ***I have a book. I will read the book.*** Open the book on the first page and name the action that appears there: ***Jump! Everybody jump!*** Jump and encourage all the children to jump after you. Say: ***I am the leader! Follow me!*** Continue jumping and chant: ***I am the reader. I am the leader.*** Then let the children take turns “reading” from the book and leading the group. Keep chanting, e.g.: ***Laurie is the reader, Laurie is the leader,*** etc.
7. **Sit down.** Show the children the downloaded images and help them to put the story together with the children by attaching the images to a board in order. This is a story about giving others the gift of books and reading. Once you’ve put the story together, talk to the children about the fact that some children don’t have books, or can’t read, and the fact that we can help them learn to read and give them books we don’t need. Show them the last picture and say: ***Now the boy is a reader and he is teaching the other children how to read. Readers are leaders.***
8. Play with the five dice with images to create little ‘stories’. Help the children form the sentences. E.g.: Six happy magicians fly to the castle. The images on the dice are:
 - Dice 1: numbers 1-6
 - Dice 2: emotions/sensations: happy, sad, angry, frightened, hungry, sleepy
 - Dice 3: a princess, a prince, a magician, an elephant, a rabbit, a fish
 - Dice 4: running, jumping, flying, driving a car, swimming, riding a bicycle
 - Dice 5: a park, a lake, a castle, a city, a mountain, a meadow
9. **Stand up.** Once the children have had some practice with the dice, you can create a story together by throwing a ball in a circle, each student adding a few words. Help the children express their ideas. You can make funny, outrageous stories.
10. **Sit down.** Take a few pages stapled together. Start drawing an image for a story that the children will put together. You can use the story you created while playing with the ball. Tell the story as you draw. Then let each child add a drawing and continue the story. When you are done, write: ‘Our Story’ on the cover.
11. If time allows, you can act out your story using various existing or hand-made, paper props.
12. Say goodbye to the children.



Monster Bookmarks - Folding instructions and samples

