everywhere, wonder

TELL YOUR OWN STORY

Robbi and Matthew wrote and illustrated Everywhere, Wonder *based on their own experiences and imagination. Now it's your turn to tell a story based on your experiences and imagination. To get things started, Robbi drew you a bicycle. The rest is up to you!*

Teacher Guide

TELL YOUR OWN STORY

This follow-up exercise is meant to reinforce the themes and ideas from Robbi and Matthew's assembly on Everywhere, Wonder.

Objectives

1. To get students to recognize that wonderful things are everywhere
2. To encourage them to observe the world around them
3. To reinforce the idea that their lives and stories are interesting and worth sharing with others

Instructions:

1. **Review the primary theme of the book.** *Here is a suggested script, but feel free to use your own words:*

   We're going to do an exercise based on Robbi and Matthew's presentation on *Everywhere, Wonder*. Remember that wonderful things are everywhere, all around you, all the time! Sometimes they're big and wonderful like a gigantic tree and sometimes they're small and ordinary like a dime on the sidewalk. You just have to stop and look to notice.

2. **Explain that on the worksheet, Robbi has drawn a bicycle that is heading somewhere.** Students will be drawing themselves on the bicycle and will imagine and draw the rest of the story about where they are headed.
3. **Hand out the worksheet and use the following prompts** to walk students through the process of thinking of up a simple story and creating a drawing to go with it.

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Exercise Prompts:

1. **First, draw yourself on the bicycle.** You are the hero of this story!
2. **Next, ask yourself "Where does this story take place?"** Are you traveling through mountains or jungles? Next to a river? Through a neighborhood with lots of houses? Or are you riding on the moon? Add a few details to your drawing to show where this story takes place.
3. **Where are you headed on your bicycle?** To the grocery store to buy some bananas? To a faraway land to find hidden treasure? To deliver hot soup to someone who has a cold? This is the exciting part of the story! Show where the bicycle is going.
4. **Do you have a friend who's traveling with you?** It could be a dog, like the boy in *Everywhere, Wonder* has. Or maybe a bird that's flying in the sky? Or a friend on another bicycle? When you're going on a journey, it can be nice to have some company.

Follow-up

1. **If time allows, invite students to share their stories with other students in the class,** describing where the story takes place, where the bicycle is heading, and who is traveling with them.
2. **Hang each student's "story" up for others to see** to reinforce their pride of authorship and the idea that their story is an opportunity to share experience and connect with others. Consider hanging them in a public space in the school to encourage conversation outside the classroom around the themes of the presentation.