

“Dandelion” Summary and Connections to the Ontario Curriculum Document

Levelling Information:

Fountas and Pinnell: level I

Reading Recovery: level 15/16

Font: mixed - upper/lower, not plain, large

Interesting Vocabulary: absolutely, field, spread, glorious, describe, uproot, proud, neither, precious

Use: Read Aloud/ Shared/ Guided/ Independent

Schools may purchase a pack of 6 books for the reduced price of \$72.00 plus tax.

About Dandelion :

“Dandelion” is based on anti-bullying. In this story a dandelion takes on human characteristics and wonders why many degrade and devalue her. She realizes her own worth and proclaims it, telling all children to become aware of their own beauty and potential! Its message is one of empowering yourself. Children learn to look for inner beauty in themselves and others. Children also discover that “outside” beauty is in the eyes of the beholder. Appreciating other people’s differences is awesome! These are objectives in the Ontario Curriculum Document, The Kindergarten Program 2016, 2.1, “Supporting children’s sense of belonging and contributing through collaboration, empathy and inclusiveness”. -“ understand that all people share similar needs, feelings, and aspirations” -“ develop the self confidence to stand up for themselves and others when they encounter biased ideas and discrimination” -“ increase their awareness of others and foster respect for individual difference” -“ develop an appreciation of diversity and an understanding of the concept of equity, equality, fairness, tolerance, respect, and justice” Teachers can lead the children to discover how we and our environment are interdependent.

Dandelions provide valuable food for bees and other pollinators. Pollinators are a necessary part of our food production. Are pesticides destroying our environment and if so how? Refer to the Ontario curriculum document 2.1, “Laying The foundations for citizenship and environmental stewardship” and 3.1 “Environmental education”. Children of various nationalities and gender are having fun together in the story. It contains an important message of inclusivity. Refer to 3.1 “Considerations for program planning”, “Equity and inclusive education in kindergarten”.



Scientific Facts: Did you know?

The scientific name for Dandelion is *Taraxacum*.

Dandelions are filled with nectar and pollen.

Bumblebees, solitary bees and honeybees all visit dandelions for food along with hoverflies, beetles and butterflies.

House sparrows and goldfinches also feed on dandelions.

The peak flowering time for dandelions is from late March to May when many bees and pollinators emerge from hibernation.

You can always research more about dandelions on the internet and learn other interesting facts.



Do you know how many bees are in this book? Go back and count them!



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