

We Share the World

Suggested Grade Level: 1-3

Character: Respect, Responsibility

Relative Subject(s): Language Art, Art

OBJECTIVE

To understand that all of us, people and animals, share this world and we must take good care of it and each other.

MATERIALS

- Book: *Once There Was a Tree*, by Natalia Romanova
- Poster paper for a mural
- Paint, paintbrushes, smocks, bowls of water

ACTIVITY

Preliminary Discussion

- Who are the people and animals that live in your neighborhood? Name the wild animals you have seen, as well as the pets that your neighbors have.
- In what ways do we all share the world we live in? Ask the students for examples.
- How can we take care of our neighborhoods so they are safe and clean for all people and animals?

Procedure

Read the story, *Once There Was a Tree*. Discuss how the animals, people and plants shared the forest together. Is this similar to the way we share our neighborhoods? Next, have the students paint a mural of all the people, animals and plants that share their neighborhoods. Hang the mural in the classroom.

Post-Discussion

- How can we show respect and kindness to all the people, animals and plants in our neighborhoods?
- How can your neighborhood be improved? Are there things that you, your family and neighbors can do together to improve it?
- What do you like the most about your neighborhood?

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Take a walk around the school and/or the neighborhood surrounding the school and decide what types of things you could do to improve the area for people and animals (example: pick up litter).

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