

be nice.: Empower: You are Special

Objectives:

1. Students will learn what empower means
2. Students will identify how to find power within

Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7
Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

Materials:

1. *You Are Special* by Max Lucado (with sticky notes pre-placed in the book at notable places)
2. Sticky notes
3. *I Am Special* hand out

Motivation:

Explain that today we are going to be talking about a big word: empower. Share with the students that empower means to give power to others. Have students brainstorm ways that they can give power to each other to feel good: i.e. share, smile, compliment them, stand up for them. Ask students if we can also take power away from our friends and brainstorm ideas how (for example, leave them out, call them names, use mean hands). Tell the students that today we are going to read a story about a boy who needed some power.

Development:

Tell the students that while listening to the book, they should be looking for where people's power is coming from. Have sticky notes ready to mark on certain pages where power is coming from. Use stars (positive power from people), dots (negative power from people), or a heart (power from inside their own heart). Explain this to the students.

Read the story. At certain notable parts stop and ask students where the power is coming from and put a sticky note with the applicable sign on it on that page.

When the story is finished ask students where they want their power to come from? From others giving them stars or dots, or from their own hearts?

Closure:

Pass out *I am special* hand out and have students color in their hearts. They may fill it with things they like, make a creative design, put words that are positive, or any other way they

I am Special!!

_____’s heart has POWER

