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ED669: Reading, Language and Culture

Emergent Literacy Activity

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**Explanation**

Setting: Write on board. What sound/letter does setting start with? Show me the sign for S in sign language. Pretend you’re drawing the setting. Setting means “place.” What does it look like around here in the place we live? Let’s make our action just like the place we live.

We’re going to listen to a story that takes place in a house. Since the house is the place where the story takes place the house is called the “Setting.” (Make action) Show me the action for setting.

The setting is inside a house. What are some places in your house? Brainstorm/Write on board.

As we listen to the story look and see if the boy in the story, Jason, goes to the rooms we have in our houses.

50 Below Zero by Robert Munsch

Where did this story take place? Compare to the list on the board.

Students draw their favorite room in their house adding details.

Write about your picture explaining the setting. What do you see in the room.

With your partner the person who is the oldest gets to be the teacher first. The teacher gets to ask, “What is the setting in your story?” Let’s practice. “What is the setting in your story?”

If you’re are younger than your partner you are the student and you are going to start by explaining, “This is my setting.” And then you’re going to read your paper to your teacher. Students let’s practice. “This is my setting.” Teachers, students.

Tell the person next to you about your setting. I want you to start by saying, “This is my setting.” Let’s practice together,” class, “This is my setting,” then you can read what you wrote to your partner.

Now I want you to tell your teacher something else about your picture that you didn’t write about. Your teacher can help you write another sentence about your setting.

It’s now time to switch.

Who would like to share what you wrote with the class?

The book we read only about the house? What else was in the story?

Characters what sound/letter does characters start with. Show me a c for characters. Characters are people or animals in a story. This is a character a person or animal in a story. What characters were in the story 50 Degrees Below Zero?

Draw a picture of a character in your setting. And write a sentence about your character. Add details.

Whoever is oldest gets to be the teacher first. You’re going to say, “Tell me about your character.” Let’s practice. Students you’re going to start by saying, “This is my character.” Then you can read what you wrote about your character.

Let’s act out our new writing words. Show me the action for setting. What does it mean? Show me the action for character. Tomorrow we will talk more about characters, but when we go to recess I want you to find someone who isn’t in our class and tell them what setting and character means using our new actions. Who thinks you can show the class how to do it?

**Rationale**

This activity exposes student to new concepts and vocabulary that they have not used since the previous school year. It offers support by giving students actions and practice sentences to help them become comfortable with the writing concepts and vocabulary words.

**Conclusion/Discussion**

Discuss the rationale with the class allowing for discussion about the process.