

Resourcefulness

RESOURCEFULNESS means to act effectively or imaginatively, especially in difficult situations.

LESSON 1

Read the definition of **RESOURCEFULNESS**. Read the following:

Pretend you are a zookeeper at a zoo and one of the animals escaped. You don't know, though, which one it is. There are clues that have been left behind that will help you to find the animal and put it back in its cage. Listen to the clues and try to figure out who escaped. 1) The cage has a pond in it. 2) There are four wet footprints leading from the cage. 3) The hole in the cage is not very high. 4) Whatever animal broke through the cage has very sharp teeth. 5) A long, reptile-like tail was spotted by one of the visitors over by the chip machine. (Answer: an alligator) **Congratulate students for thinking resourcefully.**

School/Home Link Ask students to ask a family member what resourcefulness means to them.

LESSON 2

Review the definition of **RESOURCEFULNESS**. Draw a code on the board for students to decipher. (Example: An eye + a heart + a music symbol = I love music.) Ask students if they can guess what you wrote. Tell students that long ago cavemen used pictures on the walls of caves to communicate. If they went hunting or went to war they would have been unable to leave a message on the telephone or computer for others, so they used a common set of pictures and symbols to leave their messages. As time allows, ask students to think of pictures they could draw to create their own message. Lead the class to create a picture message on the board.

School/Home Link Ask students to test a family member on whether or not they can decipher their message.

LESSON 3

Review the definition of **RESOURCEFULNESS**. Ask students if they've ever met someone who couldn't talk or was mute. Ask them to imagine if they were unable to speak. How would they communicate with others? As time allows, have students volunteer to play charades to try and get the class to guess what they are trying to say. (Examples include: I'm hungry, I'm tired, I'm hot, I'm cold, I'm hurt, etc.)

School/Home Link Ask students to practice this activity at home with a family member.

LESSON 4

Review the definition of **RESOURCEFULNESS**. Tell students that birds are very resourceful creatures. Ask students if they have ever seen a bird's nest. Ask what materials the bird used to build its home. Tell students that birds use twigs, mud, grass, straw, hair, string, feathers, and even trash to build their nests. Tell students that a bird adapts to its surroundings and makes its home with the materials available. As time allows, ask students to draw a bird's nest using any of these materials.

School/Home Link Ask students to keep an eye out to see a bird's nest today and notice what materials are used.

LESSON 5

Review the definition of **RESOURCEFULNESS**. On the board draw a triangle, square, circle, and rectangle. Ask students to take out a sheet of paper. Tell them to draw the following things using only the shapes on the board. (Examples: a tree, a house, a person, etc.) Encourage students to think creatively to make the objects. Students may repeat a shape more than once.

School/Home Link Ask students to show their drawing to a family member.