



LESSON PLAN: A Friend in Hope

Topic: Pediatric Brain Tumour Diagnosis, Friendship, and Empathy

Subjects| Stream:

Comprehension

Language

Memory

Reading

Vocabulary

Grade Level:

Primary (K-3)

Junior (4-6)

Objective(s)

- To develop vocabulary and comprehension of new words
- To practice recall skills
- To learn about brain tumours and treatment
- To learn about friendship and empathy

Brief Summary

After students have read the story, or had the story read to them, the teacher can lead the class in a discussion about various parts of the book, a discussion of the characters and their feelings, and go over new vocabulary words. Teachers can encourage students to share their own experiences with illness and treatments.

Background Information

A Friend in Hope is a story about a little girl named Hope who has a brain tumour, and her friend, Danny. The book discusses Hope's experience with her treatments and her supportive friendship as she prepares to return to school. A Friend in Hope was created by the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada to raise awareness of brain tumours and their impact.

Resources | Materials Required per Pair:

- A Friend in Hope Storybook: Order your FREE hard copy of the storybook (you are welcome to order enough for your entire class) and / or you can order the storybook in an electronic format:



205 Horton St. E,
Suite 203,
London, ON
N6B 1K7

519-642-7755
1-800-265-5106
www.braintumour.ca
www.tumeurscerebrales.ca



- Visit www.BrainTumour.ca
- Click “Helpful Information” at the top of the page
- Click “Order Information”

Activity Instructions:

Step 1: Read the book “A Friend in Hope” with the class.

Step 2: After students have read the book, engage the class in a discussion about the story.

Suggested questions:

- Who are the characters in the story?
- What is Hope’s secret? Why do you think that Hope has kept her news a secret?
- How was Hope feeling?
- What kinds of things do the doctors do to help Hope in the hospital?
- Have you ever been to the hospital for these kinds of treatments?
- Do you know someone who has had these kinds of treatments?
- What was it like? How did you feel?
- How did Hope make herself feel better when she was afraid?
- What are some of the things that she imagined?
- How did Danny help Hope to feel better?

Step 3: After the discussion, A Friend in Hope can be made available to the students along with the regularly offered books.

Lesson Extension Ideas:

1. Students may be interested in drawing pictures, making puppets, and performing a puppet show, building an MRI machine with loose parts or blocks, or playing in a hospital themed dramatic play center.
2. Vocabulary words may be added to spelling lists (i.e. “seizure”, “medicine”, “tumour”, “radiation”, “treatment”, “surgery”).
3. Other Extension Options: loose parts and blocks, craft materials, paper and drawing / writing materials that could be used to continue elements of the story through construction / dramatic / art play.

