

"Freddy Learns to Fly"

Classroom Discussion Questions

A free printable companion for classroom read-alouds and library storytimes

Before You Read

- Have you ever felt like you were different from your friends? How did that feel?
- What does it mean to be brave? Do you think being brave means not being scared at all?

While You Read

- What is Freddy afraid of at the beginning of the story?
- How does Freddy's dad help him when he's struggling?
- What happens when Freddy tries and doesn't succeed right away? How does he feel?
- What do Freddy's friends do to support him?

After You Read

- Freddy fails before he succeeds; why does the story show his failures instead of skipping past them?
- The story says being different doesn't mean being less. What do you think that means?
- Can you think of a time you felt scared to try something new? What happened?
- Who is someone in your life - like Freddy's dad - who helps you when things feel hard?
- If you could tell Freddy something before he tries again, what would you say?

A Few Words to Write or Draw

- Draw a picture of something you were once afraid to try. Did it turn out the way you expected?
- Write about one thing that makes you different from your friends - and why that's a good thing.
- Use the coloring sheets as a follow-on activity

Note for teachers: These questions are sequenced to move from personal connection → story comprehension → reflection, which tends to work well for both morning meeting discussions and longer SEL unit lessons. Feel free to select just a few rather than using them all in one sitting.