



Teacher's Resource Guide for Dot's Spots by Lisa Mueller

Synopsis

"Dot's Spots" is a heartwarming story about a young ladybug named Dot who learns the value of kindness and helping others. Through her good deeds, Dot earns her spots and discovers the joy of making a difference.

Learning Objectives

1. **Social-Emotional Development:** Teach children about kindness, empathy, and helping others.
2. **Cognitive Skills:** Develop problem-solving and critical thinking through story-related activities.
3. **Language Development:** Enhance vocabulary and comprehension through interactive reading.
4. **Creativity:** Encourage self-expression through art and imaginative play.



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Lesson Plan

Materials Needed

- The book "Dot's Spots"
- Craft supplies (paper, crayons, markers, glue, construction paper, etc.)
- Printable activity sheets (e.g., ladybug templates)
- Small mirrors (to discuss Dot's reflection scene)
- Props for role-playing (e.g., toy insects)

1. Pre-Reading Activities

Introduce the book: Show the cover and ask:

- What do you think this story is about?
- What do you notice about Dot on the cover?

Vocabulary Preview: ladybug, spots, good deeds, cocoon, reflection, worm.

2. During Reading Activities

Interactive Reading:

Pause to discuss illustrations and ask questions like:

- Why do you think Dot helped Molly the Spider?
- How do you think Chester felt when he was lost?
- What do you think will happen next?

Body Movement:

- Invite children to fly like Dot or mimic Dot chewing on the spider's web.
- Act out scenes like helping Chester find his home or Josie getting out of her cocoon.



Post-Reading Activities

Discussion Questions:

- What good deeds did Dot do in the story?
- How did Dot feel when she helped her friends?
- What can you do to help others, just like Dot?

Activities and Crafts

1. Good Deeds Chart:

- Create a classroom chart where children can share their own good deeds. Add a sticker or drawing of a ladybug spot for each act of kindness.

2. Ladybug Craft:

- Provide a ladybug template for children to decorate. They can add spots to their ladybug for each good deed they've done or imagine Dot's adventures.

3. Role-Playing:

- Set up a role-playing activity where the children can act out helping others, like Dot helping her friends in the story.

4. Counting Spots:

- Use Dot's spots to practice counting. Ask children to count the spots on Dot in the story or on their crafts.

5. Nature Walk:

- Take the children outside to look for ladybugs or other insects. Discuss how insects help the environment, tying it back to Dot's helpful nature.