

Learning possibilities

Text: Lionni, L 1989, *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse*, Scholastic Paperbacks, London.

Engage

Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the Resources box and watch the story together.

Step 2. Encourage children to predict what the story is about from the cover, for example: 'I wonder what this story might be about?' Share the name of the story and explain that the author writes the words and the illustrator draws the pictures.

Step 3. Read/watch the story.

Step 4. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.

1. Show me where Alexander lives.
2. How are Alexander and Willy different?
3. How do you think Alexander felt when Willy told him he was the favourite toy?
4. Tell us how Alexander used the purple stone. What did he wish for?

Respond

Retell the story using small props including mice figurines, a magic lizard and a purple stone (these can be made with play dough or cardboard and felt pens). Create a storytelling tray with the characters and the book for your child/children to use.

Extend

- Talk about the moral of the story which is about accepting yourself just the way that you are. Enjoy a cuddle on the lounge as you talk about the strengths of your child/children and what makes them special. Send your child a letter or post it note with a heart or a smile. Remember to celebrate their special qualities.
- Invite your child/children to think about one thing that they might wish for and to paint a picture of their wish. Discuss the concept of making a wish but for someone else, for example: 'If you could make a wish for nanny, what would it be?'
- Help your child to make an 'I am special page' (see attached resource).

RESOURCES

Poem

'Mice' by Rose Fyleman

https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Rose_Fyleman

Rhyme

'Five little mice'

Five little mice (*wiggle five fingers*)

Asleep in their nest, (*make a fist on the palm of your other hand*)

Wake, one, wake two, (*unfurl fingers one and two and then all*)

Wake all the rest.

Video

Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse w/ Words, EFX & Music
(YouTube, Mrs. Clark's Reading Corner)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQZ-apcJQJw>



I am special



My family

I'm special

I love to play



I do not like

My friends

My favourite foods