

After the End ...

Purpose

Students will practice creating different endings to stories and recognize the impact a different ending would have on the story.

Materials

For the teacher: The Giant Jam Sandwich by John Vernon Lord
For the students: paper or response journals, pencils

Activity

A. Pre-Activity Preparation

Make little jam sandwiches to share during the final discussion of *The Giant Jam Sandwich*.

B. Pre-Activity Discussion

1. Ask students: "Have any of you looked ahead at the book you are reading to see how the story ends?" "Have you ever seen an adult do that?"
2. Ask students why they think sometimes people read the ending before they read the rest of the book.
3. Tell students that you are going to read aloud a book titled *The Giant Jam Sandwich*. Tell them that it is about a little town that has a big problem and the people of the town join together and solve this problem very creatively.
4. Tell students that while you are reading the story aloud you want them to think about how else the people of this little town might have solved their problem.

C. Activity

1. Read *The Giant Jam Sandwich* aloud to your students.
2. Stop prior to the ending of the story and clarify with students what problem this little town had. Take a vote among your students to see how many of them think the wasp problem will be solved.
3. After completing the story, review how the people of the town actually solved their problem.

(continued)

EXTENDING
THE



ACTIVITY

Use the list students have created in their response journals as a pre-write for a writing piece.

MEETING
INDIVIDUAL



NEEDS

Students having difficulty coming up with ideas on their own may be provided with prompts to help them think about what else could happen in this story (e.g., what if the people got stuck in the sandwich? What if the wasps were not tricked and did not eat the sandwich?).

Standards Link
2.2.6

Activity (continued)

4. Have students list their ideas in their response journals or on paper, naming different ways that this little town could have solved its problem.
5. Have students share their ideas with the whole group.
6. Repeat this activity telling students to imagine that the town does not catch all of the wasps with the giant jam sandwich.
7. Ask students to list their ideas again about how the story might end.
8. Have students share their ideas with the whole group.


D. Close the Activity


Discuss with students the impact a different ending has on a book while they eat their own jam sandwiches.

Questions for Review

Basic Concepts and Processes

While students are working independently, ask the following questions:

 What kind of impact does a different ending have on a story?

 How can you create a different ending to a story?
