

The X-tails Lesson Plans cover the following Learning Standards from the New BC Curriculum

Social Responsibility Competency Profiles

1: Contributing to community and caring for the environment

*a,b,c,d,e

2: Solving problems in peaceful ways

*a,b,c,d

3: Valuing diversity

*a,b,c,d

4: Building relationships

*a,b,c,d,e

AOL's: Social Studies

Big Ideas: 1. (Our communities are diverse and made of individuals who have a lot in common), 2. (Stories and traditions about ourselves and our families reflect who we are and where we are from), 3. (Rights, roles, and responsibilities shape our identity and help us build healthy relationships with others).

Kindergarten – 1,2,3

Grade 1 – 1,2,3

Grade 2 – 1,2,3

Grade 3 – 1,2,

Physical and Health Education Competency Profiles

4. Mental Well Being

*a,b,c

AOL's: Physical and Health Education

Big Ideas: 1. (Daily physical activity helps us develop movement skills and physical literacy, and is an important part of healthy living), 2. (Learning about ourselves and others helps us develop a positive attitude and caring behaviours, which helps us build healthy relationships), 3. (Knowing about our bodies and making healthy choices helps us look after ourselves), 4. (Good health comprises physical, mental, and emotional well-being), 5. (Our physical, emotional, and mental health are interconnected).

Kindergarten – 1,2,3,4

Grade 1 – 1,2,3,4

Grade 2 – 1,2,3,4,5

Grade 3 – 1,2,3,4,5

Grade 4 – 1,2,3,4,5

Grade 5 – 1,2,3,4,5

Title: The X-tails Snowboard at Shred Park

In this thrilling story, the X-tails can't get enough of the high-flying snowboard tricks and never-ending board slides at Shred Park. They are busy spinning and soaring on their snowboards when something unexpected happens. They meet Pride—a mysterious elephant who believes he doesn't fit in as a snowboarder because of his size. How will Wisdom and the rest of the X-tails convince Pride that there is something special in everyone, especially when one of the X-tails is not so eager to make a new friend?

Themes: 1) We're all special in our own way, and 2) Believe in yourself.

LESSON

Pre-reading questions:

- What are some winter sports that you can name or that you have participated in?
- Show the cover. What winter sport are the X-tails dressed for? How do you know?
- Has anyone ever snowboarded before? What was it like?
- Does anyone know the names of some snowboard tricks?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- How did Pride feel in the story?
- Have you ever felt like you don't quite "fit in." Tell me about a time when you felt that way.
- What is special about you?
- Ask the students to pick one person in the room and tell the group what is special about that person.
- What equipment do snowboarders wear? Why?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- What was your favourite part of the story?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children demonstrate what the snowboard tricks might look like?
- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children think of a different ending. What if Pride hadn't met the X-tails at Shred Park? How might his day have been different? How might the story have ended instead?
- Have the children create their own sequel.

Title: The X-tails Skateboard at Monster Ramp

In this action-packed story, the X-tails enter the Monster Ramp contest, which brings them face to face with the best skateboarders in the world. Winning is a long shot, especially with Mischief the Wolf up to his usual mischievous ways. To make matters even tougher for the X-tails, the reigning skateboard champ is there—Streak the Panther.

Will the contest be a classic showdown of amazing tricks and spectacular wipe outs or will things get turned upside down?

Theme: 1) Sharing and 2) Importance of a good night's sleep

LESSON

Pre-reading Questions:

- What is a ramp?
- In which sports might a person use a ramp?
- Has anyone ever tried skateboarding before?
- How can you stay safe while skateboarding?
- What does competition mean?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- How does “winning” feel?
- Have you shared something special with someone before? What was it? How did it make you feel?
- Have you ever been like Mischief, so excited that you couldn't sleep? How did you feel in the morning?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- Who has been to a skate park? What did you do there? What did you see there?
- What kind of safety gear do skateboarders wear? Why?
- What was your favourite part of the story?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children create their own sequel.
- Design a skateboard for one of the X-tails characters (they can be given a template and asked to decorate it for one of the characters).
- What would have happened if Wisdom hadn't shared his skateboard with Streak? How might that have changed the ending of the story?

Title: The X-tails Ski at Spider Ridge

Yikes! When the X-tails find out Wisdom the Lion is taking them skiing at Spider Ridge, they're shaking in their ski boots. Not only does Spider Ridge have heaps of snow and zooper-sweet jumps, it has the hairiest ski run in the world—the Tarantula!

There's no way Wisdom and his friends will go near the Tarantula. And when they see someone skiing it on a sit-ski, they can't believe their eyes! After meeting this daring skier, can the X-tails be convinced to do something hairier than the Tarantula?

Themes: 1) Inclusion, and 2) We all have different abilities

LESSON

Pre-reading questions.

- What are some winter sports that you can name or that you have participated in?
- Show the cover. What winter sport is pictured on the cover of the book?
- What equipment do skiers use?
- Has anyone skied before? What was it like?
- Does anyone know the names of some skiing tricks?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- What does the word "bravery" mean?
- Tell me about a time when you were brave.
- How are we all alike? How are we different?
- Do you know someone who is in a wheelchair?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- What kind of safety gear do skiers wear? Why?
- Have you ever been skiing? Tell me about it.
- What was your favourite part of the story?
- What are some safety rules for skiing?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children create their own sequel.
- Have the children draw their own challenging ski hill or use plasticine to make a model of a ski hill.

Title: The X-tails BMX at Thunder Track

Thunder Track is the X-tails biggest challenge yet! It's no ordinary BMX race with an airplane, loop de loop and ooey-gooey slime—oh gross! They can't wait for race day, but when Charm the Kangaroo falls hard on her bike, her dream of racing at Thunder Track may be over. Will Charm be ready to race with her friends or will she be cheering from the sidelines?

Themes: 1) Sportsmanship, and 2) Saying "I can" instead of "I can't"

LESSON

Pre-reading questions:

- Who has biked before?
- Who knows what BMX racing is?
- Has anyone ever been in a race before?
- What does it mean to be a good sport?
- What does it mean to persevere?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- Tell me about a time when you felt like you couldn't do something. How did that make you feel?
- How did Charm feel, knowing that she couldn't bike with her friends?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- How would the story be different if Charm had decided not to go in the BMX race?
- What's the funnest thing you have done on a bike? Tell me about it.
- What was your favourite part of the story?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children draw their own challenging BMX track or use plasticine to make a model of a BMX track.
- Have the children create their own sequel.

Title: The X-tails Surf at Shark Bay

Wisdom the Lion and the X-tails are wild about surfing! When they wake up to a flat ocean, they head out on the ultimate surf trip to find waves—taking them to Shark Bay. They find waves, but they also find Skulk—a shark who is always snarking. He likes to tease, name call and is just plain MEAN. Besides missing his two front teeth, Skulk is missing something else. Can the X-tails help Skulk find what he's missing?

Theme: Bullying

LESSON

Pre-reading questions:

- What is bullying? What is teasing?
- Have you ever been bullied or teased? Students can share a time when they were bullied or teased.
- Who has heard of surfing?
- What equipment do surfers use?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- How did the X-tails feel about going to Shark Bay?
- How would the story have ended if Skulk didn't find his kindness?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- Have you ever been to the ocean? Tell me about it.
- What was your favourite part of the story?

ACTIVITIES

- Give each child a percussion instrument and ask if they're able to create the sound of waves crashing in the ocean.
- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children design a surfboard for one of the main characters (showing that character's likes and personality).
- Have the children create their own sequel.
- If you see someone being bullied or teased, how can you help them?

Title: The X-tails Dirt Bike at Badlands

The X-tails are thrilled to dirt bike at Badlands! But when Wisdom finds fresh dinosaurs prints, he's puzzled because dinosaurs are extinct . . . right? Following the footprints, the X-tails discover Goodlands—a very different, very secret kind of place.

That's where they come nose to nose with Screech, who is a Tyrannosaurus Rex! Screech isn't mean, nor is he mad—instead, he's sad. There's a big problem at Goodlands, but will the X-tails be able to help?

Theme: Respecting the Environment

LESSON

Pre-reading questions:

- What is respecting the environment?
- Have you ever been dirt biking?
- Who has been to Badlands? Do you know where it is?
- What is your favorite dinosaur? Why?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- Did the X-tails do the right thing by leaving the trail to follow the footprints?
- How would the story have ended if they hadn't followed the footprints?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- Have you ever seen a fossil before? Tell me about it.
- What was your favourite part of the story?
- What have you done to help the environment?
- Can you tell me ways that we can all help the environment?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw their own character who could have been in the story. Have the children name their character and describe their personality.
- Have the children draw their own dinosaur that they would have in Goodlands (showing the dinosaur's likes and personality).
- Have the children create their own sequel.

Title: The X-tails in a Merry Monster Trucking Christmas

It's a smashing good time at the X-ville Christmas Eve Masher—the only monster truck show in the snow. After pancaking the last car, the X-tails are on their way home when they spot something amazing. Sitting on the side of the road, looking not-so-jolly, is Santa Claws! His reindeer have escaped, and after a crash landing, his sleigh is a twisted wreck. Even worse, Christmas morning is just hours away and the town of X-ville is without presents.

Wisdom the lion and his friends have a plan. After turning the broken sleigh into a zoober-supreme delivery machine, they're ready to help Santa deliver presents. Hopping into their monster trucks, they quickly learn it's not easy being Santa's helpers—especially when they're missing a present for a little rabbit named Leap. This magical night gets even more exciting when Santa tries to catch his rascally reindeer! It's a monster trucking adventure for the X-tails, but will they learn what the spirit of Christmas is all about?

Theme: Generosity

LESSON

Pre-reading questions:

- Who likes Christmas? Why?
- Who has seen a monster truck before? Where? Describe it.
- Has anyone ever built something before?
- What does generosity mean?

Read the story.

Questions to ask:

- Have you ever done something nice or special for someone else? Tell me about it. How did it make you feel?
- How did Santa feel, knowing that he couldn't deliver his presents? Why?
- Who was your favourite character in the story? Why?
- How would the story be different if the X-tails hadn't helped Santa?
- What was your favourite part of the story?

ACTIVITIES

- Have the children draw their favourite scene or favourite character.
- Have the children draw Santa as a different animal. Have them explain why they chose that animal.
- Have the children draw their own monster truck.
- Have the children create their own sequel.