

Imagine a Conversation

Objective

Practice perspective-taking skills
Peer to peer discussion and role play
Imagining animal and human communication

Materials

Lucky Boy by Susan Boase (or other book with human and non-human animal characters)

Instructions

Show the story's final illustration of Mr. Miller and Lucky Boy on the porch swing. Ask students to imagine a conversation between Mr. Miller and Lucky Boy (if Lucky Boy could speak in words). What would Lucky Boy say to Mr. Miller? What would Mr. Miller say to Lucky Boy? This conversation can take several forms:

- Ask two students to volunteer to role play each character in front of the class. After the role play (two minutes), ask the class what they would add to the conversation.
- Ask students to form pairs and role play.
- Ask students to write down a conversation working individually or in pairs.
- Write the conversation as a class with you or another adult writing on the white board or chart paper.
- Have students pretend to be Mr. Miller's voice and you pretend to be Lucky Boy as you respond to their statements and questions.

At the end of the lesson

Ask students to reflect on one of these questions: "What surprised you most about this lesson?" "What would you like to learn more about?" You can do this with the whole group, in a sharing circle or related class meeting format, by having students fill out index cards or another format you choose. We recommend that you ask different questions and have a variety of formats for the different books. Consider adding additional activities or lessons based on what they say they'd like to learn more about. Please share with us student responses and stories about changes in attitude or behavior you observe by adding to your report about this reading or by emailing Readers@RedRover.org.