



Sample Reader's Theater Lesson Plan for World Read Aloud Day

Text: Yo! Yes? by Chris Raschka

Script: By C. Grimes and her students

The original version of **Yo! Yes?** is a story about two boys that become friends. The story is told with minimal words and all in dialogue. The text is tricky to understand unless accompanied by pictures. We tried reading the text verbatim but then had an idea to have two sets of readers acting as friends that read in an echo format. This way, the audience has two chances to understand the meaning through the expressive reading.

Expressive reading is what makes this book quite powerful! For example, how many ways can you say *whatever*. There are a few ways – kids can have fun practicing saying *whatever* aloud and guessing the meaning behind each one. It can mean *it is your choice* or *I really don't care, just decide yourself and do it* (we don't this is a nice way to speak to someone) or *hurry up, I don't have time or want to listen to what you have to say* (we think this is really not a nice way to speak to someone.) The end punctuation is very important to get right. Practice reading the story several times and discuss the event that shows when the boys' opinions change about each other. Your voices should sound like them.

Text:

Yo! Yes? by Chris Raschka

Characters:

Two sets of friends makes for four readers. You can read this with one set of friends but if you have two more friends available, invite them to read along with you. We suggest that you highlight your lines. For example, line one is for the first set of friends. Line two is for the second set of friends. This is the pattern throughout the story. Take turns line-by-line.

Yo! (This first line is for one set of friends) Yes?

Yo! (This second line is for the second set of friends) Yes?

Hey! Who?

Hey! Who?

You! Me?

You! Me?

Yes, you. Oh.

Yes, you. Oh.

What's up? Not much.

What's up? Not much.

Why? No fun.

Why? No fun.

Oh? No friends.

Oh? No friends.

Oh! _____ Yes.

Oh! _____ Yes.

Look! _____ Hmmm?

Look! _____ Hmmm?

Me! _____ You?

Me! _____ You?

Yes, me! _____ You!

Yes, me! _____ You!

Well? _____ Well.

Well? _____ Well.

? _____ Yes!

? _____ Yes!

Yo! _____ Yes!

Yo! _____ Yes!

Yow!

(This line is read together!)