Ruth Greenfield & Zoe McKeown Philosophy for Children

Ethics Lesson Plan

Materials: The Rainbow Fish, fish outlines, colorful paper, markers, glue sticks

Learning Objectives: Get the students to think about friendship; what makes a good friend; and how they can be good friends to others. Encourage sharing and fairness

- 1. Intros
 - a. Hello! Remember what philosophy is? Cool, let's start!
- 2. Drawing friends (10 minutes to draw + ~5 minutes of discussing)
 - a. Ask kids to draw themself and a friend doing something they like to do together
 - b. Go around and share what you drew
 - c. Why did you pick this person? How do you know they're your friend?
 - d. Why do you think *you* are their friend?
 - e. Does your picture have anything in common with anyone else's?
 - i. Do they show anything about what makes a good friend?
 - f. What happens when you and your friend disagree or have a problem?
 - i. What's the right thing to do when you have a problem?

(MOVEMENT BREAK!)

3. Book: *The Rainbow Fish* (7 minutes to read + 7 minutes of discussion)

- a. Read book
- b. Do you think the Rainbow Fish is happier at the end of the book?
 - i. Are the other fish happier?
 - ii. If the other fish are happy but the rainbow fish is sad, does that make it right? What about the opposite?
- c. Would you share your scales? Why/why not?
- d. Can you be a good person and not share? Are there situations where you don't have to share?
- e. Why is sharing important?
- f. How does sharing make you feel?

(MOVEMENT BREAK!)

4. Fish craft! Make your own rainbow fish (15 minutes)

a. Show kids materials \rightarrow 5 fish outlines, 5 colors of scales, glue

- b. Tell the students that they are going to glue the scales on the fish to make their own rainbow fish
 - i. How should we distribute the materials?
 - ii. Should we give everyone one color and everyone trades?
 - iii. Should we put them in the middle and let people take turns picking their colors?