

Diligence Lesson

Musical Diligence

Introduction:

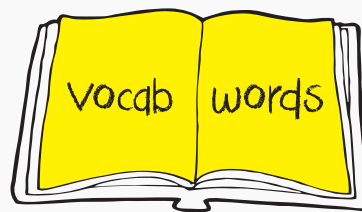
Carmen Bandea diligently works toward her goal of becoming a world-class tennis player.

Essential
Question:

How does diligence
help us do
difficult things?



A recording of
"The Presidents Song"
(found on youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQAUnnCbEz8>)



accomplish

caring

courage

diligence

Pre-viewing:

The following can be asked/done before watching video.

- Talk about animals who work diligently to survive: chipmunks, squirrels, beavers, honeybees, etc.
- Why do these animals need to be diligent in their work?
What do they need to do?
- Could you work as many hours and as hard as a honeybee?
as a chipmunk? a squirrel? a beaver? Why or why not?
- What are some of the things we we do in this classroom
that require diligence? Do we need to diligence for the same
reason as squirrels and beavers and other animals do?
Why/why not?

Notes:

Discussion Questions:

The following can be asked/done after watching video:

- Why does Carmen have to be so diligent in order to accomplish her goal?
- What are some of your goals? What would you like to be able to do when you get older?
- Why would you need to be diligent in order to accomplish your goals?
- Does it help to have the support of family and friends when you are trying to be diligent? Why or why not?

Notes:

Procedure:

Introduction:

Talk with children about how sometimes in school we must diligently work on very specific tasks. Music is fun, but it also can take a lot of diligence to do well.

Direct Instruction (I do):

- ✦ Tell your students that you have always wanted to remember all the names of all of the presidents of the United States, from George Washington to (insert current president's name here).
- ✦ Explain that you heard a song that lists all the presidents of the United States of America, and it will take diligence to learn it all. You would like them to join you in learning this song.

Guided Exploration (We do):

- ✦ Play "The Presidents Song." It can be found on YouTube sung by students at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQAuNnCbEz8>.
- ✦ Ask students how they think the children on the recording were able to memorize all of those names.
- ✦ Talk about how they diligently worked for a long time to learn and perform the song.
- ✦ Break the song into small sections of a few names and begin learning it with your students.

Independent Practice (You do):

- ✦ Ask students to set a goal for everyone to have learned the song.
- ✦ Have students set a schedule for practicing. What part of the day would be best for practicing the song?
- ✦ Have students determine the visual checklist for learning the song.

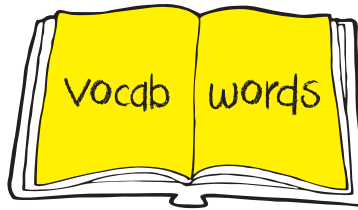
Procedure Continued:

Conclusion:

- When the class has memorized the entire song, ask students how they feel.
- How did their diligence pay off?
- With whom can they share their story?

Notes:

Vocabulary & Definitions



accomplish (v.) Definition: to succeed in doing something, especially after trying very hard

Context: Maria practiced her kicking drills daily so she could accomplish her goal of earning a spot on the school's soccer team.

caring (adj.) Definition: being kind and loving; being concerned about someone because a person likes or loves him or her

Context: T.J. shows his caring nature by taking the neighborhood kids to the park to spend the day together.

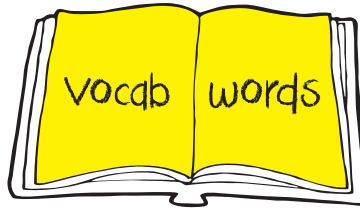
courage (n.) Definition: bravery; the quality of being brave when a person is in danger, in pain or in a difficult situation

Context: Lifeguards must have a great deal of courage in order to pull drowning victims out of deep water.

diligence (n.) Definition: hard work; the quality of working carefully and thoroughly

Context: Yer's diligence in practicing the flute helped her earn a place in the all-state children's orchestra.

Vocabulary & Definitions Continued:



improve (v.) Definition: to make oneself or something else better than it was before

Context: Micah hopes to improve his math skills by using flashcards and memorizing the multiplication tables.

schedule (n.) Definition: a plan for what someone is going to do and when he or she is going to do it

Context: Alexandra's busy schedule includes swimming every morning before school, taking piano lessons twice a week after school, attending dance class three days a week after school and completing her homework in the evenings.