



LESSON PLAN

Whimsy Pug Intro

Location: Whimsy Pug You Tube Channel

Video: WhimsyPug Intro: A disabled pug teaches abilities.

Author: Pam Hicks, a retired K-12 Special Education Teacher

Goal: Increase understanding of disabilities

Objectives:

1. Student will develop empathy for a disabled pug named Whimsy.
2. Student will define disability.
3. Student will emphasize abilities when confronted with special needs.
4. Student will list several of their unique abilities.

Activity: Watch the child version of [WhimsyPug Intro](#).

Summary: This video is a narrated video appropriate for all ages. It introduces a three-year-old pug living in Clallam Bay, Washington with a disability. Whimsy was born without ligaments attached to his front left leg's knee. It is Whimsy's normal. The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a disabled person as a one *who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity*. It is not a condition to be overcome. Rather, activities and services enjoyed by the nondisabled need to be made accessible for the disabled with modifications. Which is why people with disabilities are sometimes referred to as having special needs.

Discussion: Ask for comments and reactions with emphasis on how Whimsy differs from and is the same as an able dog.

- Who is Whimsy? Is your description influenced by his disability?
- What are his special needs? How is his life different than other dogs?
- Where is Whimsy unable to go and why? How can he be accommodated?
- Why does Whimsy's disability define who he is? Is it the first thing you notice?
- How should Whimsy be treated – in a special way or like other dogs?

Assessment: Each student writes or vocalizes five abilities that allow them to live their best life. These may be as simple as seeing or hearing or walking. For each ability, define why it is important.



LESSON PLAN

Whimsy Pug LOST

Location: Whimsy Pug You Tube Channel

Video: WhimsyPug Lost: Finding a disabled pug.

Author: Pam Hicks, a retired K-12 Special Education Teacher

Goal: Increase understanding of disabilities

Objectives:

1. Student will develop empathy for a disabled pug named Whimsy.
5. Student will discover unique pug characteristics.
6. Student will list ways to keep Whimsy safe.

Activity: Watch the child version of [WhimsyPug LOST](#).

Summary: This video is a narrated video appropriate for all ages. It tells about losing a pug on the beach when the owner unclips his leash. Searching for Whimsy the viewer discovers he is disabled with one leg that doesn't work properly. The tide is coming in. The waves are getting higher. The hot sun is bad for pugs because their faces are squished and they cannot regulate body heat. Disabled or not, Whimsy's mum put him in danger when she let him run free. When she finds him she vows to keep him safe.

Discussion: Ask for comments and reactions with emphasis on how to keep Whimsy safe.

- Who should keep Whimsy safe?
- What are his special needs? How is his life different than other dogs?
- Where is Whimsy unable to go?
- Why is the sun unsafe for pugs?
- How does Whimsy's disability (three paws) help his mum find him?

Assessment: Each student writes or vocalizes stories about being scared or unsafe. Why is it important to keep everyone safe? What would they do to keep Whimsy safe?



LESSON PLAN

Whimsy Pug Unleashed

Location: Whimsy Pug You Tube Channel

Video: Whimsy Unleashed: Is it safe?

Author: Pam Hicks, a retired K-12 Special Education Teacher

Goal: Increase understanding of disabilities

Objectives:

1. Student will develop empathy for a disabled pug named Whimsy.
7. Student will define disability.
8. Student will emphasize abilities when confronted with special needs.
9. Student will identify dangers and ways to stay safe.

Activity: Watch the child version of [WhimsyPug Unleashed](#)

Summary: This video is a narrated video appropriate for all ages. Whimsy's normal is to play on the beach. He is always on the lookout for danger: fire, wave activated logs, eagles, and other dogs. He wonders why the other dogs don't like him and concludes it's because he is different. It does not stop him from having a good day.

Discussion: Ask for comments and reactions with emphasis on how Whimsy differs from and is the same as an able dog.

- Who is Whimsy? Describe him.
- What scares Whimsy?
- Where is Whimsy the safest?
- Why does Whimsy want his leash off?
- How does Whimsy keep himself safe?

Assessment: Whimsy is different because one leg does not work properly. Does his disability keep him from being safe? In what ways? How is he different than other dogs playing on the beach? What are Whimsy's special needs?

Vocabulary: Special, free, hooray, thank you, smells, run, log, eagle, dogs, secret, different.