

## The Paper Bag Princess – No Help Needed

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<b>Created:</b>	06/20/2017	<b>Type of Contribution:</b>	Lesson/Project
<b>Last Modified:</b>	11/21/2017	<b>Technology Needed:</b>	LCD projector
<b>Class Time:</b>	2-3 days of instruction		

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### Summary:

How do gender roles define people? Introduce a unit on the Women's Movement with this question. Here's how to do it using *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch.

### Teacher Instructions:



Use the question "How do gender roles define people?" to introduce your unit on the Women's Movement, Women's Equality or even the Suffrage Movement in an American history course or in a world studies course. Students will utilize prior knowledge, their perceptions, online resources and *The Paper Bag Princess* to address the supporting and compelling questions.

Organize your class into gender groups:

- Organize the tables ahead of time to allow enough space for boys to be on one side of the room in a group and girls to be on the other.
- Before you begin reading *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch, discuss the definition of "stereotype" and provide an example or two of common stereotypes. (i.e. Girls play with dolls and are cheerleaders; boys play with trucks and are football players.) Ask students to think about stereotypes that still exist today. **TIP:** Limit the number of examples of stereotypes so groups have the opportunity to discuss stereotypes that still exist and ones that were shown in the book without teacher influence. **TIP:** Write the definition in kid friendly language with the example of a stereotype on the board for students to reference throughout the lesson.

- Play a YouTube Video of the book, *The Paper Bag Princess*. If this option isn't available, read the book to the class by using a projection system and document camera, or you can just hold the book up in the front of the class.
- Hand out **Stereotype T-Chart**. (Attached): Tell groups to fill in the chart. **TIP:** Remind students to revisit the definition and examples to help them fill in their chart. Allow students about 5 minutes to complete this. Be flexible; if good conversation and examples are taking place in each group, allow additional time.
  - What stereotypes exist in the book?
  - What stereotypes exist today?
- As a large class, discuss the stereotypes they have listed on their Stereotype T-Chart. Alternate back in forth between the groups so both groups have the opportunity to share their answers.
- Post the following links on Google Classroom: *I'm Glad I'm a Boy! I'm Glad I'm a Girl!*, *Labels Against Women*, *#Like a Girl*, and *Male Gender Stereotypes*. Tell students to watch the videos and discuss with their group any additional stereotypes to add to the chart. Allow about 12 minutes for students to complete this step.
- Continue the large group discussion by placing the **Stereotypes & Gender Roles** (Attached) supporting questions under the document camera. Write the ideas shared next to each question so students can refer back to them.
  - Why do people stereotype?
  - How have stereotypes changed over time?
  - What were the expectations for women throughout history?
  - What are typical roles for women during the 1700s and 1800s? Today
  - How have stereotypes influenced gender roles?

With 10 minutes left of class draw attention to the compelling question in the center of the Stereotypes & Gender Roles page.

### **How do gender roles define people?**

Students will provide a brief preliminary answer on an exit slip. Throughout the unit students will continually revisit the compelling and supporting questions to build an understanding of the gender roles that have existed throughout history.

Images:

Munsch, Robert. "The Paper Bag Princess." *Center for Philosophy for Children*. N.p., n.d. Web. 18 June 2017.

Darrow, Whitney. *I'm Glad I'm a Boy! I'm Glad I'm a Girl!* New York: Windmill, 1970. Print.

Resources:

"Stereotype – Dictionary Definition." *Vocabulary.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 18 June 2017.

*The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch. *Best Children's Stories*. YouTube, 27 May 2016. Web. 18 June 2017.