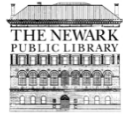




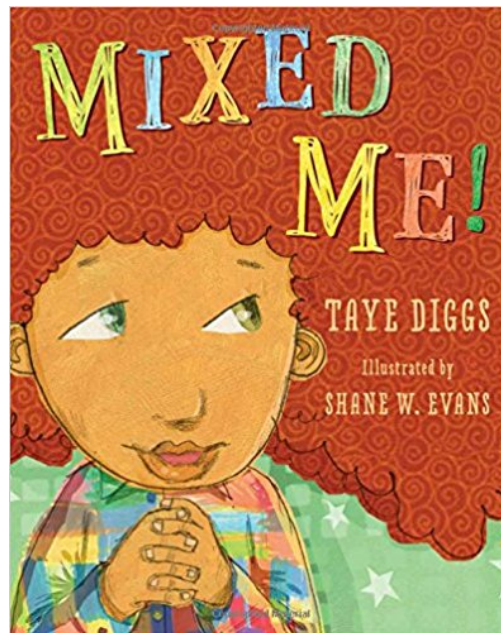
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Lesson Plan for Grade 1-4

Mixed Me by Taye Diggs



Summary:

Mixed Me: is a story about a boy named Mike, a young mixed-race boy embracing what is unique about him. Kids in the book ask the Mike questions about being racially mixed, so teachers should be prepared to discuss aspects of interracial families.

*"Mom and Dad say I'm a blend of dark and light:
We mixed you perfectly, and got you just right."*

"Mike has awesome hair. He has LOTS of energy! His parents love him. And Mike is a PERFECT blend of the two of them."

"Still, Mike has to answer LOTS of questions about being mixed. And he does, with LOTS of energy and joy in this charming story about a day in the life of a mixed-race child."

Pre-Reading: The following should be done before reading *Mixed Me* to teach students about the idea of a mixed race family.

1. Begin the lesson by telling the students that they are going to be reading a story about a mixed race boy named Mike.
2. Tell students that the boy is mixed race or a person who comes from parents with different racial backgrounds.
3. Group Discussion Questions:
 - a. What is race?
 - b. Why do you know what mixed race means?
 - c. Do you know anyone who is mixed race?

Guided Reading: The following questions should be discussed while reading *Mixed Me!*

1. Why do people stop and stare at Mike and his parents?
2. What is another word for mix?
3. Who does Mike like to, “cruise” with?
4. How is Mike like a combo plate?

Post-Reading: The following activity should be completed after the teacher has finished reading *Mixed Me!*

Activity: Mixing can make colors, foods, and even people (like Mike) more interesting.

1. Ask students:
 - What types of things do we mix? (student answers will range from cookies and cakes to dog breeds).
 - Why do we need to mix them? Or do we need to mix them
 - If you don't mix ingredients together the cake will not come out of the oven looking like a cake.
2. Tell the students they are going to mix different things together to make them different, just like Mike.
 - Colors:
 - Using PBS KIDS Curious George Mix and Paint Game to demonstrate color mixing. http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/games/mix_and_paint/mix_and_paint.html
 - Mix Blue and Yellow to get Green
 - Mix Blue and Red to make Purple
 - Etc.
 - If a Smartboard or LCD projector are not available, the same results can be accomplished by using paint, or by overlapping colored cellophane squares.
 - Foods:
 - Using PBS Kids Jim Henson's Sid the Science Kid to demonstrate how a mixed or varied diet can be healthy <http://pbskids.org/sid/mixitup.html>
 - The tasty benefits of mixing flavors can also used. Link to Lollipop flavor mixing experiment (lollipops can be substituted with juices to create the same types of results). <http://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/lollipop-labflavor-mixing-science-experiment-kids.html>

Other Resources:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCMHw6NDJ0I>