ELED 3113  
Fall 2018  
Hayley Nowlin

A Bad Case of Stripes

Author: David Shannon

Illustrator: David Shannon

Genre: Fantasy

Awards: None

Multicultural: No

Summary

This girl named Camilia Cream is unlike any of the children in her school because she likes lima beans. Camilia never indulges her love for lima beans, though, because none of the other children at school eat lima beans. She’s so concerned with how the other children will treat her differently if they know about her love for the beans. She just wanted to fit in. However, one morning she wakes up covered in colorful stripes! The only time the stripes go away is when something different is happening around her, but she only changes to match whatever that is. No one knows how to help her, and she just keeps getting worse. She’s got the answer to her problem inside, but that means she has to be herself.

Personal Response

This book is so important to read to students because it teaches them the life lesson of just being yourself. Camilia’s problems sprung up when she betrayed her love for lima beans because she didn’t want the other children to think she was weird for liking them. She wanted to fit in so badly, she was willing to give up what she loved. This teaches children to never betray themselves. It’s so important to be who you are, without worrying what other people will think of you. It’s also important to not go with the crowd. Just because everyone is doing something, doesn’t mean it’s a good thing. In this case it wasn’t such a big deal, but in other cases it can be. Teaching children this lesson especially will prepare them for their adolescence and beyond. I loved this book when I was growing up. The pictures are so colorful!

Activity

We all have stripes!

After I read the book, *A Bad Case of Stripes*, written by David Shannon to the class, each student will be given a blank piece of construction paper in whatever color they would like.

From here, the students will trace out their face, making a circle, as big as the paper is.

They will then use other pieces of construction paper in whatever color they choose to make a pattern on their face like Camilia from the book.

From there, I will come around and help the students write something unique about themselves on the back of their patterned face.

When all is finished, the children will share the unique thing about themselves and the classroom will embrace them with open arms. The important part of this being “open arms” because I plan on making my classroom the most supportive environment that I can.

This activity is teacher made.