

A PEP TALK ABOUT A PEP TALK

MONTAGUE WORKSHOP LESSON 4

Learning Target:

- Students will understand that the masterpieces of their lives are created by filling the little moments with hope, love, and joy.

Materials:

- YouTube Video: [A Pep Talk about a Pep Talk](#)
- Markers
- Drawing Paper
- Chart Paper
- Post-it Notes

Suggested Grouping:

- Mixed Ability
- Partners

BRING

students back together and ask them to look at the pictures they drew. Have students consider if they drew the whole event, or just a small moment from the event.

PARTNER

students again to discuss only the small moments they drew:

- What were they thinking and feeling in those moments?
- Were they bringing joy to anyone?
- How did they show or feel love in that moment?

EXPLAIN

to students that they will be writing about their small moments. Remind them to include details only from their small moments in their stories and not the whole event. They can include the details they discussed with their partners about the hope, love, and joy happening in those small moments. (For example, students might consider a family wedding as the big event. The small moment might be dancing to their favorite song at the wedding reception.)

DIG DEEPER: *This is an excellent opportunity to teach the writing skill of zooming in to small moments as writers. To learn more about small moment writing, view this video: [Writing Small Moment Stories](#)*

VIEW

the YouTube Video: [A Pep Talk about a Pep Talk](#).

DISCUSS

students' thoughts about the video. Use these questions to guide discussion:

- What did you take from the video?
- How can you relate to the video?
- What does this video tell us about life?
- What do you feel is your "best work?" Is it something that is on display, or something that is done on a smaller scale?

TECH TIP: Use [AnswerGarden](#) to generate a word cloud that highlights students' thoughts about the video.

GUIDE

students to recognize that the masterpieces of their lives are made up of all the little things they do and the interactions they have with others. Today, they will consider how they can fill those moments with hope, love, and joy.

ASK

students to draw a picture of a memorable event from their lives. Pair students with partners to talk about what they drew and why it was memorable.

You can instead ask students to bring in a photo of a memorable life event. Students can bring physical copies of photos to share, or you might invite students to post digital photos to a website like [Padlet](#).

INVITE

students to share their writing with the class. Identify and discuss how focusing on the details of the small moments changes the experience for the reader.

BEST PRACTICE:
Utilize the comment feature of [Google Docs](#) to provide timely feedback while students write.

TECH TIP: *Allow students to draft and publish their writing in a [Google Doc](#). The collaborative nature of this tool will allow for easy sharing of student work.*

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REMINDE

the class that just as writing has more impact when the author focuses on the details of small moments, life is more meaningful when we focus on the little moments. The goal should be to fill our moments and our interactions with hope, love, and joy. **These moments are the sparks that turn into fires that can light up the whole world with joy.**

PLACE

four pieces of labeled chart paper around the room:

- School
- Home
- Community
- Other

GIVE

students Post-it™ notes to brainstorm small moments they will encounter in each of these places.

CREATE

a class pledge to “live your Space Jam” by considering each of the small moments students listed. Ask the class to discuss steps they can take to focus on these little moments:

- What choices can you make to bring hope, joy, and love into those moments?
- What long term impact will your small moments have as we work to create a more joyful world?

DIG DEEPER: [Here](#) is a selection of books that could be a springboard for deeper discussion.

REFLECT

on students’ experiences after a few weeks. How did you infuse hope, love and joy into the small moments of your life?

TECH TIP:

Use [Flipgrid](#) to engage students as they self-reflect.

Anchor Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details and well-structured event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.W.6

Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

ISTE Standards

6 Creative Communicator

Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.

7 Global Collaborator

Students use digital tools to broaden their perspectives and enrich their learning by collaborating with others and working effectively in teams locally and globally.

Suggested Picture Books for Small Moment Writing:

- [A Moment in Time](#) by Jennifer Butenas
- [Salt Hands](#) by Jane Chelsea Aragon
- [Every Friday](#) by Dan Yaccarino
- [Roller Coaster](#) by Marla Frazee
- [Owl Moon](#) by Jane Yolen
- [Fireflies](#) by Julie Brinckloe
- [Red Rubber Boot Day](#) by Mary Lyn Ray