

I'M GONNA HAVE A GOOD DAY!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to a new school year! We are delighted to have your child back with us and if you're new to our facility, we are delighted you have joined us! Your child's teacher has been busy planning a fun, successful learning experience this school year. Each week of learning will be focused on an engaging and age-appropriate theme. One of the weeks' learning themes will be Social Skills & Classroom Safety Practices.

We will kick off the week with a children's book titled *"I'm Gonna Have A Good Day"* by Paula Johnson Neal.

As a commitment to parent involvement and teacher-parent collaboration, the author has created some quick conversation starters to discuss at your leisure throughout the week with your child and or when the need arises.

Thank you!

1. *Before going to school this morning, ask how your child is feeling inside*
2. *If your child had a challenging day, ask* What were you doing or thinking before becoming upset?
3. Tell me WHY you had a good day at school? What made it a good day at school for you?
4. Which rule did you follow today? What was the hardest rule to follow today?
5. *If a conflict arises, ask* Why do you believe *your* friend became upset?
6. What is one thing you can do to make tomorrow a better day?
7. Who did you sit with at lunch? What did you talk about?
8. What do you like about yourself?
9. Who is your friend? What makes them a good friend?
10. What can I do to help you have a good day at school?
11. Why did you hurt your friend? Why did the person hurt their friend? How do you think that feels when someone is not being nice?
12. What do you not like about yourself?

An autographed copy of the children's book *"I'm Gonna Have A Good Day"* can be purchased via the author's website www.PaulaJohnsonNeal.com. Use the *September* promo code **PJNBooks2021** to receive 20% (\$2.99) off the cost of the book plus free shipping.

Story: Bullying is a concern in every classroom, including the preschool classroom. This picture book provides a window into a classroom involving a bully named Gabby. Gabby wants to have her kind of day at the expense of her classmates. Fed up with Gabby's words, "I'm Gonna Have A Good Day," not matching up with her actions, Gabby's classmates take a stance.

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LESSON PLAN

Theme: Social Skills & Classroom Safety Practices

Week of _____

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Read Book:</p> <p><i>“I’m Gonna Have A Good Day”</i> by Paula Johnson Neal</p> <p>Story discussion using conversations starters</p>	<p>Group: Story Recall & Classroom Safety Practices</p> <p>The children and teacher can create written safety practices.</p>	<p>Becoming an Author:</p> <p>Drawing & lined writing paper.</p> <p>The children draw & write their version of the sequel to IGHAGD</p>	<p>Group: Pen Pal</p> <p>Writing: The children <i>write</i> a letter to the author.</p> <p>Outdoor: Play a game of Duck, Duck, Goose.</p>	<p>Theme Recap:</p> <p>What have you learned most about social skills?</p> <p>Art: Make friendship bracelets.</p>

Special note: the author refrained from using the word “bully” in the story book. However, teachers of school-age children should be prepared for a student to apply the label to Gabby’s behavior. *Great teachable moment* □

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Teacher Conversation Starters: *(Please remember to revise the questions based on the child's age and grade level. Feel free to select a few questions for each day of reading. **Challenge:** Have students help you with a retell of the story.*

1. WOW! A lot happened in this story! What are your thoughts on Gabby's behavior? What are some things she does?
2. Is she having a good day? How do you know? What happened in the story to let us know she did or did not have a good day?
3. Why do you believe she's having a good day?
4. If Gabby is not having a good day, then why do you believe she's shouting "I'm Gonna Have A Good Day?"
5. Why do you think Gabby's mom offered her ice cream if she had a good day?
6. If your mom or dad tells you to have a good day at school, what does that mean? What would you do to have a good day at school? Tell me some ways to have a "good day" at school.
7. What are some classroom safety rules we can create not only for Gabby, but to prevent others from displaying similar behavior?
(Great place to stop and create an interactive chart w/the students...teacher may want to have the title "Our Safety Rules/Classroom Rules" pre-written to save time.)
8. How do you believe Max felt after the fish and fishbowl landed on the floor? How do you know he felt this way?
9. How do you believe Sophia felt after Gabby pulled her chair from underneath causing her to fall on the floor?
10. What are your thoughts on how the children responded to Gabby's demand to play Duck, Duck Goose? What did the kids do when Gabby "demanded" to play Duck, Duck Goose? ***(You may want to explain the word demanded and provide a student friendly definition such as "When you demand something you won't take no for an answer and you don't say it nicely)"***

11. Do you believe the children will allow her to play tomorrow?
Why/why not?
12. First, think back on what occurred with Max, Sophia, and Timothy. Now, place yourself in his/her shoes. How would you have felt if she had told her mommy she had a good day and wanted ice cream?
13. What happened during bedtime?
14. Gabby's mom knows her better than anyone. Why would she wonder if tomorrow would be a better day? What has been happening all the other days? Do you think tomorrow WILL be a better day for Gabby? Why/why not?
15. There will be a sequel to I'm Gonna Have A Good Day. What would you like to see in the next story? What do you think should NOT be in the next story?