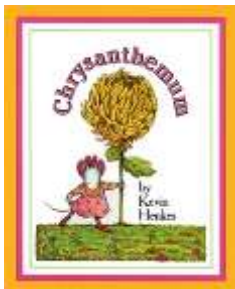


It's Hard to Fix A Wrinkled Heart

Presentation: Review YouTube clip called “Chrysanthemum” prior to this exercise. It can be accessed at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxMlxbgYvLI>
OR

Read the book with your class:

“Chrysanthemum” by Kevin Henkes



You can purchase the book – [click here](#)



Intended age group: Elementary

Learning objectives: The importance of using kind words

Materials needed:

- YouTube video or book
- Large piece to red paper for heart
- Band-Aides
- Markers

Objective: After sharing the video or reading the book, engage the students in a discussion to really think about the main character's feelings and the author's message. As you read the book, pass around a large paper heart. Each time Chrysanthemum was teased because of her name, crumple up the heart. Every time someone did something nice to her, try your best to smooth it out. By the end of the story, the heart is a wrinkled mess that can not be smoothed out perfectly.

Talk with your students about the connection that our own hearts feel wrinkled and crumpled sometimes when we don't like what someone says. Words do hurt. Then try to put Band-Aids on the heart as a way to show that we can own our mistakes and apologize. The heart will probably still be wrinkled, but it is healing!



In class we try to smooth out the crumpled heart, but it is never quite the same. Put Band-Aids on the heart and hang it up at a visual reminder to the importance of using kind words.