Sci-Map Site
United Way

Name of Activity
The Secret Birthday Message by Eric Carle

Before, While, or After?
While You're There

Materials
The Secret Birthday Message by Eric Carle
(ISBN-10: 0064430995 ISBN-13: 9780064430999)
(Alachua County Library Call #: E CARLE,E)
Template of Secret Message from the book (see below)

Procedure
1-Give the secret message to the young reader and ask if they can understand it.
2- As you read through the book have the young reader identify what the shape on the message refers to.
3- As you read through the message, ask the young reader to now "read" the secret message.
4- Point out that the 2D shapes are similar to the shapes in the book of the items they represent but that before you understand what the 2D shape represents, it is difficult to understand the message.

The Science Behind It
Pre-Math/Reading -Identifying 2D Shapes in a 3D World
"Given a real-world object, identify parts that are modeled by two- and three-dimensional figures. Figures are limited to semi-circles, triangles, rectangles, squares and hexagons, spheres, cubes, rectangular prisms, cones and cylinders."(Florida BEST Standard MA.1.GR.1.4)
"Find real-world objects that can be modeled by a given two- or three-dimensional figure. Figures are limited to circles, triangles, rectangles, squares, spheres, cubes, cones and cylinders." (Florida BEST Standard MA.K.GR.1.4)
"Determine the unknown whole number in an addition or subtraction equation, relating three whole numbers, with the unknown in any position." (Florida BEST Standard MA.1.AR.2.3)
Students are exposed to symbols representing other objects. Students learn to sequence events and represent/interpret the instructions in the method to follow the sequence of events.

Supporting File 1 - Printable templates or additional information
- Secret-Birthday-Message.pdf

Submitted by:
Hands on Gainesville with support from a Friends of the Library Grant

Email
HandsOnGainesville@gmail.com