

Dear Story Book Campers,

What great actors and a great actress you all are! "The Knight and Joe the Lifesaver" movie is really fun to watch! (Parents if you feel comfortable with it I can try and send you a copy of this video...all of the children are in it, so I'll wait to hear from all of you. If you don't want me to send it to you via email, you could watch it here☺

Today when we did our emotions chart of how we were all feeling we discovered that **feelings change**. So, if you're having a really big feeling, it's good to remember that the feeling will change. Sometimes how you are feeling seems like you will feel that way FOREVER! But **feelings change**.

We talked about people who have physical differences like William, our movie maker. When you see someone with a physical difference, like it's hard for them to walk, or they can't see, or maybe they are very, very short, you might feel curious and want to know why they are different. It's **expected behavior** to ask your parent or teacher about it first. William will be back tomorrow to film you acting in another movie.

We talked much more about **characters and characteristics**. Joe K and Joe F decided that the trolls were not very smart. Then I asked, "**How do you know they are not smart, what did they do or say to show they are not smart?**" The answer from Joe K, with Joe F agreeing was that they were not smart because they decided to steal a dog...not smart! Caleigh and Jack thought the trolls were smart and when asked, "**How do you know they are not smart, what did they do or say to show they are not smart?**" Caleigh responded with a very well thought answer. She explained how the trolls had made a complicated plan to catch the dog...it was such a good answer, that Jack, merely added, "I agree!" So were the trolls smart or not? We talked about how the trolls were like me☺ Smart in some ways and not so smart in other ways. Each child took a turn talking about their **learning characteristics**. Here's the list, maybe they will add to it:

Jack: really good at building with legos and great at math, good runner too

Joe K: good at drawing and painting, climbing, running, not so good at dancing

Joe F: good actor, great imagination, knows many stories

Caleigh: good at loving her family, good dancer, good at crafts and drawing

(It was much easier to think about a character's physical characteristics than their personalities. With story books we often see what a character looks like, but even in picture books, personalities are developed through the actions and speech of the character. It is often left to the reader to infer the personality characteristics. Also, developmentally younger children find personality characteristics more difficult to infer. One way to help them develop that skill is to ask the question? How do you **know** that? What did the character do/say that makes you think they are smart, kind, worried, a mom, a doctor, sick, etc.?)

Coached free play- All wanted to do dress up. Jack and Joe K, I liked the way you figured out who would wear the knight's helmet. You both wanted it, but there wasn't a **kick off** because you kept talking to each other about it and eventually Joe you figured out you would be satisfied with an astronaut helmet. Then we had a more interesting story, because we had different types of characters. And everyone compromised with you because they all agreed to take the dress up outside, which is where you really wanted to play. You are all playing the way friends play with each other!

You all did a great job on your worksheets! Joe Fitz, you did great at asking questions when you didn't hear or understand. When you asked me those questions I knew you were trying to listen and think about what you heard:) That kind of behavior is **expected** at Story book camp and in Kindergarten.

All of these ways of thinking about the parts of a story can be very hard! How do you hook those parts together?WITH the connector words. Treva **knew** the trolls were greedy SO she made a plan to trick them with their greediness. BECAUSE the troll wanted the mittens, he dropped Truffi, the dog, THEN another troll caught the Trffi , BUT he dropped the dog too BECAUSE he wanted the hat with the pom-pom, NEXT, a Troll snuck up from behind and caught Truffi again, BUT she dropped him BECAUSE she wanted the sweater, FINALLY Treva got all her things back WHEN she told the trolls to push her down the hill SO she could fly!

See you tomorrow!

Kathleen (the witchy witch!)

words in caps are the connector words; words in bold are concept words