

Educator Page— September 2009

*For teachers, media center staff, parents, children, and anyone else who'd like to gain even more value from Stories for Children Magazine*

By: Claudette Hegel

“Fantastic Mastic” (article)

*Questions for thought and discussion:*

1. What's your favorite chewing gum flavor? What flavors don't you like? What other flavors would you like to have available?
2. For what other uses besides chewing could you use gum? Example: temporarily stop a leak.
3. What are good ways to dispose of ABC (Already Been Chewed) gum? What ways *shouldn't* you discard ABC gum?

*Activity idea:*

Police investigators have used chewed gum to identify criminals by teeth marks as well as DNA. Ask several people to stick a piece of their chewed gum to a small piece of stiff paper. Examine the various pieces with or without a magnifying glass and point out the differences and similarities of the teeth marks among them.

“Jimmy Roy, King of the World” (story)

*Questions for thought and discussion:*

1. What do you like to do outdoors on a Saturday? What would you do to keep from getting bored if your parents grounded you and made you stay in your room all weekend?
2. How do you think Mrs. Crabb and Mrs. Stern felt about Jimmy ruling the world?
3. Who would you like to rule the world the way Jimmy did? Why? Would you like to rule the world? Why or why not?

*Activity idea:*

Make a list of the first five commands you'd make if you ruled the world the way King Jimmy did. Ask your friends if they'd obey those commands.

“Classroom Tension” (poem)

*Questions for thought and discussion:*

1. If you were the teacher in the poem, which one of the students mentioned would you call on first? Why?
2. What do you do when you want your teacher to call on you? What do you do when you *don't* want the teacher to call on you?
3. What kinds of things do you do when you're nervous?

*Activity idea:*

Conduct a contest to see who is able to remain completely still the longest.