

PERSEVERANCE - FIRST GRADE

Book and Lesson will be together in the media center. Materials are in the cabinet immediately to your left when you enter the media center.

Materials:

The Art Lesson by Tomie dePaola
Perseverance poster

Activity:

Lead discussion with students: What is perseverance?

- never give up
- persistent determination
- continuing or repeating behavior
- refusing to stop
- continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure or opposition

Display definition on the poster and read aloud

Introduce book entitled *The Art Lesson* by Tomie dePaola. Look at the cover of the book. Ask students to make a prediction. What will this book be about?

Read book, stopping periodically to discuss.

What is Tommy's favorite thing to do? (draw pictures)

Why couldn't Tommy wait to go to kindergarten? (to start art lessons)

How did Tommy's family feel about his artwork? (they liked it, they put it in their store, and in special frames in their house)

Why was Tommy upset when his teacher told him to copy? (he was told real artists don't copy)

Questions:

Who in the story showed perseverance? (Tommy, he kept drawing pictures)

How do you know? (on the last page there is a grown up drawing and it says "And he still does." That tells us that he stuck with it and did become an artist)

Ask students to share times that they've struggled but kept trying and eventually succeeded.