



# DISCUSSING

## FRED and the MONSTER

### OBJECTIVE

To ask and answer questions about **FRED AND THE MONSTER** in order to deepen the students' insight and perspective

### SKILLS

Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges, make logical inferences, analyze how and why individuals interact, describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story.

### PROCEDURE

1. Explain that **FRED AND THE MONSTER** is about facing fears. As a class, list all the synonyms you know for the word, "fear."

(Example answers: scared, afraid, frightened, fearful, terrified, petrified, horrified, horror-struck, alarmed, startled, etc.)

2. Next, list all the antonyms you know for the word, fear.

(Example answers: courageous, brave, valiant, heroic, fearless, intrepid, gallant, gutsy, daring, bold, audacious.)

3. Explain that there are a lot of things to be afraid of in the world.

- "Name some things that a young child (3-5 years old) might be afraid of.
- "Name some things that a boy (6-12 years old) might be afraid of.
- "Name some things that a girl (6-12 years old) might be afraid of.
- "Name some things that a teenager might be afraid of.
- "Name some things that an adult might be afraid of.

4. Why do human beings experience fear? What is the purpose of fear?

5. Can you think of any situations in which being afraid might be beneficial?

6. Can you think of any situations in which being afraid might be harmful or cause problems?



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7. What, if anything, are you afraid of?
8. Is it possible to resolve a problem with a bully? If not, why? If yes, how? Think of as many ways as you can to do it.
9. Why are some children afraid of the dark?
10. Do monsters exist? If yes, give examples. If no, explain why not.
11. At the beginning of **FRED AND THE MONSTER**, the monster is afraid of Fred. Is it normal for a monster to be afraid of a person? Why or why not?
12. What consequences might a person suffer if he or she never conquered a particular fear?



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