

## PERSEVERANCE KINDERGARTEN

### Objective:

To use literature in teaching students determination.

To show students that continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure or opposition results in success.

**Materials:** *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper  
**Perseverance poster**

### **Activity:**

**1) Introduce yourself to the class and explain that you are the Panther Pride Reader for Perseverance.**

**2) Ask: What is perseverance?** Children brainstorm definitions. Share poster and discuss.

Being persistent in pursuit of worthy objectives in spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement. Exhibiting patience and having the fortitude to try again when confronted with delays, mistakes, or failures.

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

**3) Introduce book: *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper**

Ask children what they think this book will be about. Ask them to look at the cover and make a prediction about what will happen in the story.

**4) Read book aloud.**

**5) Ask the class:**

**What is the train carrying?** toys, books, oranges, apples, etc.

**How do you think the train feels when none of the other trains would stop to help?** sad

**What would you do if you were a train and saw that someone needed help?**  
allow students to respond

**What happened in the end?** The Little Blue Engine was able to help the train

**6) Who in the story showed perseverance?**

the train who continued asking for help, and The Little Blue Engine who was so small but still pulled the train

**7) The Little Blue Engine said to itself, “I think I can, I think I can, I think I can...” when working so hard to pull the train. What do you say to yourself when you are working hard and persevering?**

“I can do it”, “it won’t take long”, “stick with it”, allow for student responses

**Evaluation:**

**10) Ask students to share times that they’ve struggled but kept trying and eventually succeeded.**

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ASCA National Standards

A:A1.1 Articulate feelings of competence and confidence as learners.

A.A1.2 Display a positive interest in learning

A.A1.3 Take pride in work and achievement

A:A1.5 Identify attitudes and behaviors that lead to successful learning

A.A2.2 Demonstrate how effort and persistence positively affect learning

A.A2.4 Apply knowledge and learning styles to positively influence school performance.

A.B1.1 Demonstrate the motivation to achieve individual potential

C:A2.7 Develop a positive attitude toward work and learning