**Dandelion**

**Grades K-5**

**Objectives:**

* **To develop deeper understanding of military kids**
* **To appreciate the sacrifices military kids endure**
* **To encourage kids to be true to themselves**
* **To show appreciation to our military kids**
* **Compare and contrast military kids to dandelions**

**Materials:**

* **Dandelion by Don Freeman**
* **Dandelion art sheet**
* **Paint, markers, Q-tips, forks**

**Opening Questions**

* **What is this flower? (show a dandelion or a photo of a dandelion)**
* **Where do you find them?**
* **What is unique about it?**
* **Have you ever heard of making a wish as you blow the seeds away?**
* **Did you know it’s the official flower of the military child? Do you know why?**

**Opening Activity**

* **Show picture of dandelions and tell why it’s the Official Flower of the Military Child.**
* **Read the Legend of the Dandelion.**

**Lesson**

* **Read the story Dandelion by Don Freeman**
* **Discuss how to always be yourself and not to pretend you are someone else. Especially when making new friends and changing schools.**
* **Watch video of time lapse of dandelion to seed.** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ\_QqtXoyQw**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ_QqtXoyQw)
* **Watch Americas Funniest Videos of blowing dandelions.**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQF\_OeKtQb0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQF_OeKtQb0)

**Closing Activity**

* **Paint a dandelion flower or seed.**
* **Write their wish on their art project.**
* **Challenge- Find a dandelion and make a wish!**

**RESOURCES:**

* **You-Tube Videos** 
  + [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ\_QqtXoyQw**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ_QqtXoyQw)
  + [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQF\_OeKtQb0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQF_OeKtQb0)
* **Dandelion by Don Freeman**
* **The Legend of the Dandelion**

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