

## LESSON GUIDE

# *Raising Cane*

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### **Raising Cane Video by:**

Libby Daugherty- age 13

Yasmine Allen- age 15

Shay Quinn- age 15

Sydney Smith- age 13

Dayne Ramirez- age 12

Cole Ramirez- age 8

**About the Video:** Abby Diamond is being bullied because of her visual impairment. Her friends and two adorable wizards help Abby to handle bullying situations correctly.

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## **Monday**

**Goal:** Students will listen to the video, “Raising Cane,” while realizing appropriate and inappropriate ways to handle difficult social situations.

### **Materials:**

“Raising Cane” DVD

Writing Media: Perkins Braille Writer, Laptop, Bold line paper, 20/20 pens

Printer

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### **Described and Captioned Media Program**

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**Step 1-** Students will listen to the DVD, “Raising Cane.”

**Step 2-** Children will discuss positive and negative ways that Abby Diamond handled two different bullies.

**Step 3-** After discussing the DVD, students will Braille or write a brief summary about “Raising Cane”

**Step 4-** Students read aloud summaries and discuss other ways Abby could handle a bully in a positive way.

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## Tuesday

**Goal:** Enhancing literature while teaching across the Expanded Core Curriculum.

### Materials:

Paragraph from *The Adventures of Abby Diamond* (copied below)

20/20 pen

Writing Media

Baking Soda

Vinegar

Small plastic container (the top should be small enough to place a balloon around the edges)

One balloon per student

**Step 1-** Read or ask the students to read the following summary from *Secrets in the Attic—The Adventures of Abby Diamond*.

**Step 1a-** Ask students to circle the word ‘Abby’ while they read the paragraph.

### Summary:

Abby Diamond is new to middle school and is having a difficult time with two bullies. Her best friends, Neil’s- an adorable tomboy, Alison- the daughter of a movie star, Jaxson- a chubby redneck, Glen- Jaxson’s best friend who repeats everything Jaxson says, and Andrea- a beautiful and strong spirited girl share the middle school experience with Abby.

Abby is tripped and has her cane taken away from her by a bully named Jimmy. Jimmy throws her cane and laughs at her because she’s blind. A magic wizard comes into play- Jared. Jared turns Abby’s cane into a magic cane.

To have fun, Abby and the wizard go into the lunchroom and make everyone’s drink bubble. Jared tells Abby to repeat the following words, “When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” Within seconds the entire lunchroom is filled with bubbles. Abby is beginning to enjoy her magic cane.

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**Step 2-** Students will pretend their cane is magic and discuss how they would use a magical cane.

**Step 3- Science Project:** Students will pretend that a magic cane causes the balloon to expand in the experiment below.

Hand each student one balloon with baking soda and a small plastic container with vinegar. (Place balloon on plastic container after baking soda is placed in the bottom of the balloon.) When the students pick the balloon up and drop the baking soda into the vinegar, the balloon expands. Students with severe visual loss will enjoy this activity because it is hands-on, and they can feel the balloon blow up.

**Step 4-** Ask students to Braille or write the Scientific Method from the experiment.

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## Wednesday

**Goal:** Identifying character traits from the script, “Raising Cane,” while learning how each personality handles a bullying situation.

**Materials:**

“Raising Cane” DVD

Tape Recorder

**Step 1-** Have the students to watch “Raising Cane” once again.

**Step 2-** Students will discuss one of their favorite characters from the script.

**Step 3-** The children will spend ten minutes thinking of a bully or socially uncomfortable situation using their favorite character/characters. Students will create their own “bully free” script and record their script into a tape player.

**Step 4-** Students will share their stories with others.

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## Thursday

**Goal:** Students will create a ‘Friendship Pudding Cake’ with others while socializing, baking, and understanding the expanded core curriculum.

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### **Materials:**

Rectangular glass pan  
Chocolate pudding  
Bananas  
Chocolate Chips

### **Steps to Making a Friendship Pudding Cake**

Pudding Cake-

Step 1- Take a rectangular glass pan.

Step 2- Coat the bottom on the pan with chocolate pudding for the first layer.

Step 3- Next, cut up bananas and lay them on top of the first layer.

Step 4- For your third layer, take the rest of the chocolate pudding and spread it across the bananas.

Step 5- Now melt chocolate chips in a boiling pan. Pour the chips on top of the cake. Enjoy!

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## **Friday**

**Goal:** To develop confidence through role-playing difficult social situations or bullying.

### **Materials:**

A copy of the poem listed below: "Hello!" by Jamille Smith  
Musical Instruments

**Step 1:** Ask students to read the following poem by Jamille Smith called, "Hello!"

HELLO! By: Jamille Smith

My cane makes a tapping sound,  
As I hurry across the room.  
I hear a quiet hush. . .  
Where once sounds seemed to loom.

"I'm really not an elephant,"  
I often want to say.  
"I'm just a blind traveler  
Trying to find my way."

You don't need to stop talking  
Or feel strange that I am there.  
I'm blind, but I'm not different,  
And I'm on my way somewhere.

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LESSON GUIDE  
***Raising Cane***

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Just greet me with “Good morning.”  
I’ll reply, “How do you do?  
“It’s such a lovely day  
I’m so happy to ‘see’ you.”

Let’s be friendly to each other,  
And repeat your name, please.  
So the next time that we meet  
We will both be put at ease.

**Step 2:** Ask the students to create a rap, country, or pop rock song from the poem, “Hello!”

**Step 3:** Perform the poem in front of the class.

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In conclusion, children who are taught to stand up for themselves in appropriate ways will have more confidence to socialize with all types of people.

Abby Diamond was created to demonstrate to our children who are blind or with a visual impairment that we are all basically the same and deserve the best that life has to offer.

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