



The Sky Is the Limit!

A new school year often brings uncertainty and anxiety for students. Encourage them to channel that energy in a positive way to create decorative mobiles that display their goals for the year!

Grade Level: K-3

Objectives

Students will identify contrasting and complementary textures and patterns.

Students will explore how texture and pattern can be combined to create a cohesive composition.

Literature Selections

Thank You, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco

Skills

setting goals, overcoming fears, fine motor skills

Set up and Prepare

Begin the lesson by introducing the book *Thank You, Mr. Falker*. Show the students the cover and ask them to predict what the story is about. Do they think it is fiction or nonfiction? Who do they think Mr. Falker is? Read the story aloud to the students sharing the illustrations and stopping to discuss periodically.

After reading the story, explain to the students that the author, Patricia Polacco, wrote this book to share her story about struggling to read as a child. She also wanted to share her appreciation for the special teacher who helped her overcome her challenge. Ask students to write down at least five things that are difficult for them. They could be academic, social, or family challenges. Discuss that personal goals are sometimes difficult, but if we work hard and have supportive people in our lives like Mr. Falker we can reach those goals.



Materials

Elmer's School Glue, cotton balls, markers or crayons scissors, yarn, construction paper, Elmer's Glitter Glue Pens (optional)

Preparation

Provide students with the necessary materials and ask them to choose two personal goals that they would like to reach throughout the school year. Take and print a digital photo of each child to include on the mobile.

Directions

Explain to students that they will be creating cloud mobiles to display two of their personal goals for the year. Instruct them to cut a large cloud shape for the header and three smaller cloud shapes for the goals and photo. (Younger children may benefit from having a printable with the header and goal clouds).

Ask them to write a goal in the center of the smaller clouds, and glue their picture to the third smaller cloud. Next, tell them to decorate the header cloud (perhaps with the words *The Sky Is the Limit* and their name). Students may decorate the clouds with crayons or markers, if desired.

Next, students will glue the header and each cloud to a piece of card stock or poster board. Instruct them to use a pencil to lightly trace around the cloud on the card stock so that there is at least a one-inch border. Cut on the pencil lines.

Complete the clouds by drawing a line of glue around the edges and adding cotton balls. Let the glue dry completely.

Finally, use a hole punch and colorful yarn to complete the mobile.