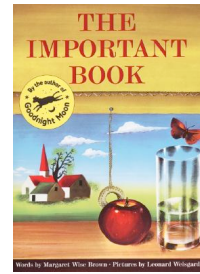


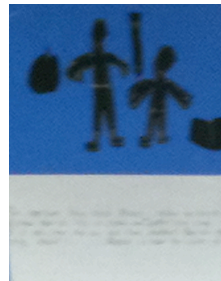
When summer ends and a new school year has begun, one activity that helps kids recognize the ways in which each student brings something unique to the classroom is a reading of [THE IMPORTANT BOOK](#) by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrations by Leonard Weisgard.



The story begins, “The important thing about a spoon is that...” and goes on to list a few descriptors: you eat with it, it’s like a shovel, you hold it in your hand, etc. As students listen to the story, they’re asked not only to think about the important things in their *own* lives, but to predict the most important elements of various commonplace things – rain, snow, an apple, and more.

The last page begins, “The important thing about you is that you are you,” and the stage has been set for writing.

Students use the cloze frame to complete their page.” Once their drafts have been checked for mechanics, they finish a final draft and illustrate images in silhouette.



own “important content and their page with

The important thing about is that.....
(your name) (list the *most* important thing about you)

It’s true that s/he likes to and

It is also true that s/he.....

But the important thing about is that
(your name) (repeat the most important thing)