I Want My Hat Back Lesson

**Character Trait:** Trustworthiness  
**Small group:** Friendship  
**Grades:** 3-4  
**Time:** 30 minutes  
**Materials:**  
- *I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen  
- Character Education Posters  
- Copies of fortune teller/cootie catcher for each student  
- Extra scissors

**Lesson:**

1. Introduce the character trait of Trustworthiness. Trustworthiness means that we are honest, reliable, loyal and live with integrity. As a preview to the activity that will complete the lesson, review what each of these words means.

2. Introduce the book, saying that it is a story that talks about being honest. Ask students to watch the very simple story carefully.

3. Read the book aloud all the way through. When you get to the end, ask the students what they think happened to the rabbit with the hat? What text evidence do they have that the rabbit was eaten?

4. Examine what the rabbit says when bear asks, “have you seen my hat?” Compare it to what bear says when the squirrel asks “have you seen a rabbit wearing a hat?” Ask them how the words they use cause us to not believe what they say? How are their words different from others who we think were telling the truth?

5. Now, explain that next is a pair and share activity that they will do to talk more about being Trustworthy. Show them the fortune teller/cootie catcher. Explain that you will teach them how to fold it.

6. Ask students to cut out the square.

7. Have them fold it first on the long line that goes all the way across the square. Then fold that rectangle in half to make a square.

8. Unfold the square, and with the words down, have them fold each corner to the middle of the square to make four triangles. Flip over the square so only the small words are showing. Do the same thing: fold each corner to the center of the square to make four triangles.

9. Fold the square into a rectangle with the color words showing, and then slip your thumb and pointer finger under each color word to create the fortune teller. Demonstrate how students will use them and walk around to hear their answers.
10. After a few minutes, ask, “Were there any questions you couldn’t answer?” “Did you learn something new about your partner?”

11. Remind them not to get in trouble with the fortune tellers. Encourage them to take them home and use them with their families.