



Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvhN5T4XaU8>

Other Story:

You can also use the read-aloud for “Tortoise and the Hare,” found here:

http://www.mondopub.com/Pages/articles/G1_QSP_WG_T6_RA_D1-2.pdf

Overview:

Mike Mulligan and Mary Anne never give up and are successful at doing what Mike said they could do. The turtle never gives up and wins the race.

Moral/Truth/Verse:

Don't give up – persevere.

“...they did not stop teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.” Acts 5:42

Hand motions – Shake/wag finger side to side for “not” and touch middle finger to palm with both hands for “Jesus.”

Song:

Sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”

Don't ever give up, (shake/wag finger to side to side)

No, don't ever give up; (keep shaking finger)

Keep on trying with all your might, (thumbs up, show muscles with arms)

And don't ever give up. (shake/wag finger side to side)

- Color and cut out the tractor on page 1. Write “Mary Anne” on the tractor, or have the child give it another name. Piece together with brads.
- Read Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel. Discuss how Mike never gives up and works until his job is finished.
- Also consider reading or retelling the story “The Tortoise and the Hare.” We have used felt pieces for this, but simply drawing on a white board or telling orally with no pictures would be fine. Have students act out the story of the hare falling asleep and the tortoise never giving up. We have done this in the past, and the kids want to switch parts and do it over and over again.
- When you finish reading, show page 2 (printable) and/or have kids color it. Talk about what that long word means. (Never give up, especially when the task becomes difficult or unenjoyable.) Sing the song. Talk about what perseverance looks like in your life and in their lives. Make it a point throughout the week to point out examples of perseverance.
- Read Acts 5:17-42. This is a beautiful example of the apostles' perseverance in preaching the gospel. They never gave up! This should be the main part of the lesson. Read; discuss; reread; revel in the beauty of the apostles' perseverance!
- For older kids, discuss stories of missionaries who never gave up in serving God.

Science Connection:

- Talk about ants. Ants work lifting weight very heavy loads, and they work until the job is completed. Make an ant farm out of a jar:

<http://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/kidscraftsactivitiesblog/2011/02/how-to-make-an-ant-farm-jar-and-watch-an-ant-colony-build-mazes/>

- Use pages 3 and 4 to complete the ant mazes. Have kids make their own ant mazes, from simple (young kids) to complex (older).

Other Verses:

Isaiah 40:28-29

Psalms 27:14

Proverbs 13:4

Romans 12:12

Colossians 1:11-12

Galatians 6:9

1 Corinthians 9:24

2 Thessalonians 3:5

Hebrews 12:1-2

Pray:

Thank God for the apostles' perseverance. Thank God for sharing His strength with you. Ask for God's help when you are tempted to give up. Ask God to use you in difficult tasks.