

## **Trombone Shorty- 1st Grade lesson plan**

This is a great story about a boy, nicknamed Trombone Shorty, living in New Orleans who loves music and works to be successful at it. It is a true story from the author's life, Troy Andrews.

- Watch the video of the book Trombone Shorty being read. Before watching the video you can point out that the illustrator, Bryan Collier, used balloons in the artwork to represent or show music. There are some photos of Trombone Shorty at the end of the video showing him playing his trombone as a young child when it was taller than he was! Another fun fact is that all of the background music is by Trombone Shorty and his band. Search youtube for 'Trombone Shorty' read by Angela Basset or use the link.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QitquEL48Co>

### **Discussion questions:**

- What did Trombone Shorty and his friends do when they didn't have instruments to play? (They made their own.) Sometimes we have to be creative to solve problems. Can you think of a time when you found a solution to a problem you had?
- When Trombone Shorty goes home he tries to help out young musicians like his brother helped him. Why is this important?

### **Activities:**

- Have the children pretend they are marching in a parade playing a trombone or other instrument.
  - In their journal the kids could write something like-Trombone Shorty loved music and worked hard to reach his dream. I can reach my dreams by working hard too.
  - The students can draw a picture of a dream they have.
  - Watch a video of Trombone Shorty and his band-Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue playing a "Tiny Desk Concert." The video is about 12 minutes long, but the first song is just over 2 minutes and could be ended then. Search youtube 'Trombone Shorty: NPR Music Tiny Desk Concert.'
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwYAeUpH1NM>
- The author and illustrator have written a second book called The 5 O'clock Band that tells the story of Trombone Shorty's first band. Search youtube for 'The 5 O'Clock Band by Troy 'Shorty Trombone' Andrews' or use the link.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iMeKjIGZYU>

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