

APPENDIX 2.1 Core Message to Students

Did you ever hurt someone else’s feelings and you weren’t quite sure how that happened? Did you ever say to yourself, “That’s not fair!” and want someone else to understand why? Well, we all experience moments like this. These are moments when we want someone else to understand our point of view: what we think and feel about a situation. Authors must think about a character’s point of view when they tell stories. Imagine an afternoon on the playground. Your best friend takes away the ball you are playing with. If you told the story, it might say something like, “Hey, gimme my ball back. I wasn’t done playing.” Your best friend’s story might say something like, “Why are you upset? Didn’t you hear me ask if you were done?” See how the person telling the story makes a big difference? Authors decide whose version of a story they’re going to tell and how to show the reader what each character is experiencing. In our lessons together, we are going to meet characters who have different points of view and see how this affects each story. We’re also going to write lots of short stories where point of view really matters. Our lessons on point of view will help us grow as readers and writers, and they will even help us grow in our own classrooms as friends.