

# PRE-SCHOOL TO K-2 RESOURCES BAXTER'S CORNER BOOKS

## LESSON PLAN (1 hour)

### "Why Stop for Tajo?"

Following the rules can often be hard.

So, why stop for Tajo? Because he's the guard!

Author L.S.V. Baker

**Summary** Tajo the Traffic Guard ensures the traffic flows smoothly. What happens when someone decides not to listen to the rules? *Why Stop for Tajo* is an action-packed, rhyming story about why it is important to **respect** authority and follow the rules.

### Materials & Resources

1. *Why Stop for Tajo?* story book
2. Paper
3. Markers and/or crayons
4. Puppet (optional or make your own)

**Implementation** Time: 30 minutes

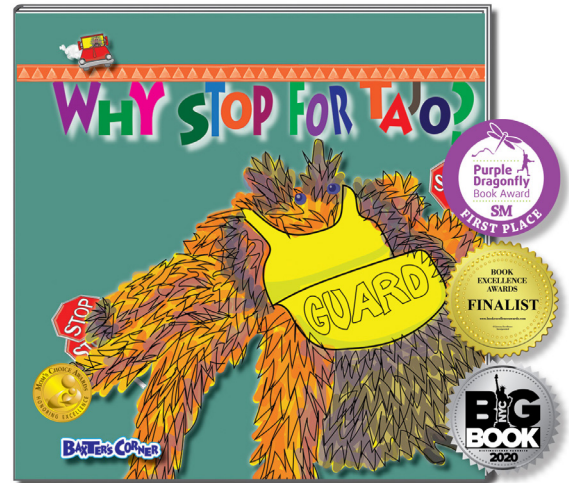
### Learning Context

Baxter's Corner Engagement Tip:

Create excitement throughout the week leading up to the event by planting clues about the characters and the mystery reader(s).

### Procedures

- **Before Reading**  
Conversational questioning: Ask "Do you have rules at home? Some might call them chores." Next, set the purpose: "Does everyone have rules to follow?" Discuss why we have safety rules. then ask "When we follow a rule does this show respect?"
- **During Reading** (*Pretend the puppet is reading*)  
Think Aloud: As you read, pause to talk about things you notice on several pages of the book. For example, why do you think Tajo the crossing guard blew his whistle on page 14?
- **After Reading**  
Check for Understanding: Use the *GoBeyond* section after the story to ask and answer questions about the story from pages 37-38 and prepare for the activity below.



**Activity** Time: 20 minutes

Review the meaning of respect from your perspective. Next ask the children what it means to them. Then have the children draw a picture of people they respect using the Respecting People craft from ideas in the *GoBeyond* section on page 47. As the children create, assist them.

**Share-Out** Time: 10 minutes

Give each student the opportunity to share their Respecting People poster with the group.

Reread this story in several weeks or months using different questions and activities from pages 35 to 51.



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