

Lesson Plan

Kindness Counts

Children will take helpfulness to new heights as they explore ways to support those around them.

Materials:

- chart paper
- drawing paper
- glue
- markers, crayons, pencils
- camera
- variety of books that focuses on the concepts of kindness. The following are available on Book Clubs:
 - *Wombat Issue 4 – Best Me Trio* (includes *I Care About Others* and *I Can Tell the Truth*) and *No Bullies Allowed Pack*
 - *Lucky Issue 3 – Second Best Friend*
 - *Lucky Issue 4 – A Friend for Old Tom, Sunday Chutney* and *Sometimes Love Is Under Your Foot*
 - *Arrow Issue 3 – How to Handle a Bully*
 - *Star Issue 3 – Dragonkeeper Trilogy*
 - *Star Issue 4 – Everything for a Dog, Blueback* and *Love, Aubrey*

Objective: Children will develop social awareness and language skills as they work together to think of kind things that they can do for their school, community or family.

ACTIVITY

1. Read books that focus on the concept of kindness. Follow each reading with book talks to discuss different aspects of the stories including the story sequence, main ideas, main characters, and settings. Do the stories remind children of experiences they have had? Then, ask them to share why they think the stories are important. Why is it important to be kind? How do they feel when someone has been kind to them?
2. Brainstorm with children kind deeds that they can do together in their classroom, for the school or school environment, or for their families or people and places in their community. Prepare a list with children to record their ideas.
3. Review the list and ask children to choose a few kind deeds that they would like to do as a class. Circle the deeds they have chosen.
4. Work with your group to plan time to accomplish their kind deeds. Invite family members to assist if any of their plans involve class trips or time outside of the classroom. Photograph children to document the process of the activity.

5. Encourage children to write and draw in their writing journals about their experiences. Engage them in discussions to share their feelings about taking part in kind deeds. How did people react when they did their kind deeds? Acknowledge the deeds that they have done during class time.

Curriculum Connection: ART

Group Murals. Identify different areas in the school or places in the community where children can display murals. Divide the children into small groups and invite each group to create a mural. It can relate to a curriculum theme or favourite story, or be relevant to the season or the environment in which it is being displayed. Help them develop ideas for their mural. Give children large mural paper and art materials including pencils, crayons, markers, collage materials, and paint. Remember to include the title of their murals and the names of the artists.