



LESSON 4

Keep Trying Unit Grade 2 • Ages 7-8

TIME FRAME

Preparation: 15 minutes
Instruction: Multi day project

MATERIALS

Story Planning Sheet, one for each student

[Kindness Concept Poster](#) for Perseverance

LEARNING STANDARDS

Common Core: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.2.3; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.2.1, 1a-c, 3, 4, 6; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.2.1, 2 Colorado: Reading, Writing and Communicating S.1, GLE.1, EO.b-f; S.1, GLE.2, EO.a-c; S.3, GLE.1, EO.b-g

[Learning standards key](#)

RAK lessons teach kindness skills through a step-by-step framework of **Inspire, Empower, Act and Share**.

However, each lesson starts with the **Share** step to reinforce learning from previous lessons.



A Story of Perseverance

Students will create a story they will share and gain inspiration from other stories of overcoming obstacles to reach a goal.

Lesson Background for Teachers

This lesson builds on previous lessons in this unit.

Key Terms for Students

Consider writing key terms on the board before class to introduce vocabulary and increase understanding.

GOAL	Something you set out to do or achieve.
OBSTACLE	Something that gets in your way or is hard to overcome when trying to reach a goal.
PERSEVERANCE	Keep trying even when something is difficult, not giving up.

TIPS FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

Students might benefit from:

- Folding the graphic organizer accordion style so that they can focus on one question at a time. Have them unfold the page to reveal the next part of the assignment.
- Being able to dictate their responses to help organize their ideas from the graphic organizer to the narrative form.

Share (3 mins)

*Turn to a friend and talk about what happened when you shared your **goal** at home. Did people want to help you? Did they share any of their own **goals**.*



Inspire

Discussion (5 mins)

*Who remembers when I asked you to think of someone you knew or a character who overcame an **obstacle** to reach a **goal**? Can anyone share their example?*



Empower

Creative Writing Story (20 mins - multi-day project)

*Now that we have looked at examples of other people and our own **goals**, you are going to write a story that involves someone who has a **goal**, **obstacles** they face and how they overcome the **obstacles**. The story needs to have a main character (this could be a real person, a made up person, or even an animal), events that happen to this person and how they reached their **goal**.*

Hand each student a Create a Story Planning Sheet. Explain that they should fill out the sheet to help them plan their story. After they complete the guide, have them write their creative story about someone who set a **goal** and reached it.

The story should include seven to ten complete sentences, be edited for grammar and punctuation, etc. They should also include drawings with their story. You can allow them as much time as you would like to work on this story.

After students have completed their story, have the students read their stories to the class.

Wrap Up (5 mins)

To gauge understanding of the material, choose from the evaluation and reflection questions as discussion, or writing or journal prompts. Consider providing additional time for deeper evaluation and reflection as needed.

Evaluation Questions

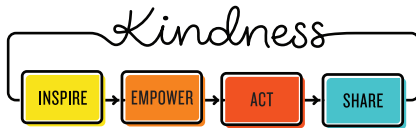
- What do you need to think of before you write a story?
- What are the steps to reaching a **goal**?
- Which story did you find the most inspiring? Why?

Reflection Questions

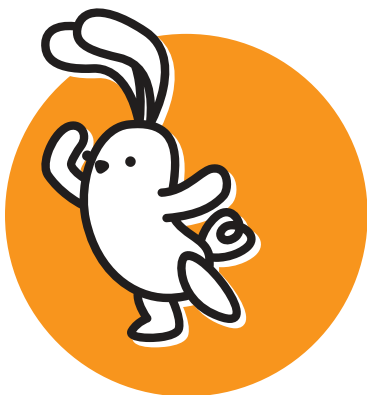
- Did the stories you heard inspire you to reach your own **goals**?
- What did you learn from hearing about other people setting and reaching **goals**?
- When can it be hard to set **goals**?

Summary

*Today we heard some wonderful stories about achieving **goals**, **persevering** and overcoming **obstacles**. Stories, true or made up, can inspire us to reach our own **goals** and give us ideas about how to overcome **obstacles** in our own lives. Encouraging others to reach their goals is a kind thing to do.*



The RAK paradigm is the framework for teaching and building kindness skills.





Act (2 mins)

Kindness Minute

*It is not always easy to take care of our environment. There are many **obstacles**, but we must keep our eye on our **goal** and make the effort. Take a moment to be kind to the environment by looking in the trash outside the classroom and seeing if you can find something to put in the recycle bin.*

Kindness in Action

Share your story with someone outside of class. Ask them if they have ever had to overcome **obstacles** to achieve a goal.



Story Planning Sheet

NAME

DATE

Main Character's Name and what he/she looks like:

Main character's goal:

Obstacles character faces:

How he/she overcomes the obstacles:

How long it takes to overcome the obstacles:

Story illustration:

