Caring Day 4 • Community Connection

RAK Definition: Caring is feeling and showing concern for others.

Today students will conduct their second community connection. Each Thursday of Weeks 2-7 they will brainstorm where in the community the kindness concept of the week is represented. This week they will investigate where in the community they most see elements of caring. Make sure to save these notes as they are VITAL for the Kindness Capstone Project that is completed during the second half of the semester.

### Weekly Objectives

Students will:
- Create a personalized definition of caring both on an individual and interpersonal level.
- Examine their community through a lens of caring.

### Resources / Materials

- WORKSHEET: Community Connection Worksheet

### Reflect / Assess

**Deliverables:**
- Daily Participation points
- Community Connection worksheet
- Write down something you see in the world where caring is being shown and/or where caring needs to be restored. What could you do to help?

### Share

**Discussion Starters:**
- Ask students to share (if they did not the day before) how their letters were received. How did they feel (what was their happiness rating) after they shared the letter?

### Inspire

**Review:**
- Review all the ways that people can show caring to other people, to the environment, to animals, etc.
- Remember that caring includes helping, showing kindness, showing compassion, and showing gratitude.

**What does a caring organization look like?**
- Can anyone think of a large company (national or global) that is a good example of caring?

**If time permits, review the 2019 Companies that Care report from Great Places to Work.** How do these companies exhibit caring?

### Empower

**Step 1: Mapping out kindness assets (Focus: Caring)**

*Hand out the Community Connection worksheet (same as last week) and have students spend the rest of class gathering data regarding where caring is a clear part of the local community. Use the same community boundaries/definition that you identified last week for Respect.*

If students need more time, they should take their worksheet home with them and complete it for the next day. **Encourage students to get out and walk through the community whenever possible to really get a feel for the caring that is present in different areas.**
## Community Connection Worksheet

### Instructions

Think about your community. This includes many things, such as:
- Public parks and community spaces
- Private businesses
- Big box stores
- Schools
- Religious organizations/buildings
- Government organizations/buildings
- Medical facilities/personnel
- People/Officials
- Police, Fire, and Rescue
- Restaurants
- Non-profit organizations
- Recreational facilities

In the space to the right, identify what parts of your community **best demonstrate caring** and how. Find three groups, organizations, businesses, etc., that foster a sense of caring for self and for others. Be as specific as possible.

### Resources

- Your community’s Chamber of Commerce is a great resource for local business information.
- Try searching on the internet for your town to see what comes up and then research individual businesses or organizations.
- Many businesses have social media accounts; see what you can learn about their connection to caring there.
- Visit these businesses and observe/ask questions.

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