Responsibility

Sub-Concepts Covered: Self-discipline, Kindness

Kindness in the Classroom lessons teach kindness skills through a step-by-step framework of Inspire, Empower, Act, Reflect and Share. Each lesson starts with the ‘share’ step to reinforce learning from previous lessons. The ‘act’ piece is woven into the lessons but really takes place in the projects.

This is the fifth unit of the *Kindness in the Classroom* curriculum. You have made it through over 75% of the curriculum - congrats! Students are focusing on increased responsibility in a variety of contexts and this unit dives deeper into what it takes to truly be responsible through the use of self discipline and in recognizing their social and digital responsibilities. Although it can be difficult, it is important to start letting students be independent in (some of) their decision making as they transition towards owning their choices and the consequences that come with them.

Unit Objective

Students will:

- Explore responsible words and actions in social settings, both physical and online.
- Evaluate responsibilities in online spaces and with technology devices.
- Explain the connection between rights and responsibility.

Student Introduction

Responsibility—this word is not new to most of us at this point. Many, if not all of you, are responsible for getting up, getting ready, and getting to school with minimal reminders. You have basic expectations both at home and at school and often times, your responsibilities may seem more like a burden than a gift. This unit will challenge you to take a second look at this word and how it applies to your life. You might just be surprised to find some benefits within all those responsibilities. We will be focusing on the following:

- Personal Responsibility
- Freedom and Responsibility
- Self-Discipline
# Unit Lessons

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| **Lesson 1**  
Stations of Responsibility | ● Define responsibility and self-discipline.  
● Identify responsible behavior.  
● Evaluate personal levels of responsibility | ❑ Large pieces of butcher paper or extra-large sticky notes  
❑ Markers for writing out responsibilities | Small Group- Who is Responsible?  
Partner- Self-discipline Discussion  
Individual- How Responsible am I?  
Technology Focus- Digital Distractions |
| **Lesson 2**  
Rights vs. Responsibilities | ● Identify responsibilities in a variety of settings and groups, including the environment.  
● Evaluate the impact irresponsibility has on others. | ❑ Template for drawing the scales of justice | Small Group- Family Responsibilities  
Partner- Web of Responsibility  
Individual- What is my Responsibility in My Community?  
Technology Focus- Responsibility for the Environment |
| **Lesson 3**  
Social Responsibility | ● Evaluate responsible words and actions in social settings, both physical and online.  
● Discuss assertive behavior as a means of exhibiting personal responsibility.  
● Practice responsible communication. | ❑ Smartboard to project the situations (optional) | Small Group- Social Communication  
Partner- Teamwork  
Individual- Being Assertive: Self-reflection  
Technology Focus- Netiquette |
| **Lesson 4**  
Digital Responsibility | ● Evaluate responsibilities in online spaces and with technology devices. | ❑ Board to project or write the five categories for students | Small Group- Being Responsible in Large Online Spaces  
Partner- Being Responsible in One-on-One Digital Communication  
Individual- Digital Reputation  
Technology Focus- Responsible, Safe Searches |

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## Responsibility Log

The class will create independent responsibility logs tracking their day to day responsibilities in an effort to visualize just how much they accomplish over a designated period of time.

- Responsibility log
- Writing utensils **could** keep a digital log if that works into your students’ schedule/skill level. Would be harder for accountability partner to sign, though.