

Sub-Concepts Covered: Self-care, 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 first unit of the *Kindness in the Classroom* curriculum. It is designed to intentionally coincide with your beginning of school year routines such as establishing classroom rules and expectations, creating a positive sense of class culture, and designating your classroom as a safe space. Each week consists of one main 30 minute lesson and 4 optional 15 minute lessons that expand on the initial concept. The curriculum is designed for you to pick at least two of these mini lessons to help your class dig deeper throughout each week. The end project allows for complete synthesis of all concepts introduced in this respect unit. When planning, preview the respect project and make adjustments as needed to allow for your class to create the respect commercials. This initial concept sets the foundation for the entire year!

Unit Objective

Students will:

- Explain the importance of self-care as the core to respect for self.
- Expand their understanding of respect to through both interpersonal and technology based interactions.
- Synthesize their knowledge of respect as it applies to themselves, others, and the community through the development of a respect commercial.

Student Introduction

Respect. We have all heard this word tossed around in school each year, but what does it mean to you? How does it apply to how you treat yourself? Others? Our school? Why do we always start with respect before exploring other kindness concepts? These next 6 weeks will allow all of us to explore the root of this concept and how respect must start with respecting ourselves before we can even begin to truly respect others and our surroundings. Get ready to work -- you will be challenged to not only expand your understanding and application of respect, but also to work on showing greater respect to yourself! We will be focusing on the

following points:

- Self-Respect
- Respect via Media and Technology
- Cultural Respect

Unit Lessons

Main Lesson Title	Weekly Objectives	Main Lesson Materials	Mini Lessons
Lesson 1 Using I-Messages	Practice respectful communication	No materials required, other than the communication phrases noted in lesson (or ones you write yourself)	Small Group- Negotiation Skits Partners- Speaking Skills Individual- Personal Communication Inventory Technology Focus- Communicating
			Through Text
Lesson 2 Active Listening	Learn the components of active listening and connect them to respect and kindness	☐ Smartboard or other means of projecting the video	Small Group- Observing Active Listening Skills Partners- What Listening Means to
			Me
			<u>Individual</u> - Active Listening Inventory & Goals
			<u>Technology Focus</u> - Better Listening Through Technology
Lesson 3 Assessing Media Messages for Respect	 Evaluate media messages through the lens of respect Identify elements of bias in media messages 	☐ Smartboard for projecting the images or printed handouts of the images	Small Group- Fake News: What is it and Why it's a Problem
			Partners- Kindness in the News
			Individual- Journal Prompt: Where Do I Get My Information?
			<u>Technology Focus</u> - Kindness in Social Media
Lesson 4 Respect for Other Cultures	 Large black poster paper to make the melting pots. Packs of small sticky notes in any color My Family Culture worksheet for a home extension, if applicable 	 Large black poster paper to make the melting pots. Packs of small sticky notes in any color My Family Culture worksheet for a home extension, if applicable 	Small Group- Signs of Respect
			Partners- Culture Card Flip
			Individual- American Custom Assessment
			<u>Technology Focus</u> - Discover a New International Day

Unit Project

Project Title	Project Overview	Materials Required
Respect Commercial	The class will script out and either perform or record a commercial promoting respect in the school. The goal is to promote respectful behavior around speaking, listening, and communicating.	 Note-taking devices or materials for storyboarding or outlining Appropriate technology for recording the commercial (if recording) If performing the commercial live, plan in advance who the students can perform for. Performing live will be a much different experience than the recorded commercial, so additional practice may be necessary. If recording, plan in advance how to show the finished product to the school body and other staff/administration. You don't want the students hard work to go unviewed!