Teacher's Guide to

The Heartwood Ethics Curriculum
for Kindergarten

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Mellon

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Dedication

To all kindergarten teachers who usher children from the nurturing environment of home and nursery into the challenges and joys of elementary school life.
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Acknowledgments

This curriculum is based on the successful Heartwood Elementary Curriculum developed by Eleanore N. Childs, Esq., Patricia B. Flach, Barbara A. Lanke, and Patricia K. Wood. We want to extend particular thanks to the Hillman Foundation for their wholehearted financial support of the development of the Early Childhood and Kindergarten Ethics Curricula, and to Ceci Sommers, who provided the early impetus. Mellon Bank donated the printing.

The pilot kindergarten materials were developed under the direction of Barbara A. Lanke, Project Manager and Ellen R. Rodwick, Project Liaison. During the three year pilot, Ethel Titnich from the Child Development Center, University of Pittsburgh, evaluated the program and based on her findings, the current model was created.

The new Ethics Curriculum for Kindergarten has involved educators representing the varied aspects of child development. Our deep gratitude to all the following who contributed in so many ways: selecting literature, participation in focus groups, writing and editing, and piloting materials.

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• Miller Research Learning Lab, Edinboro
  University of PA (Patricia B. Flach)
• Pittsburgh Public Schools
  (Karen Howard and staff)
• Shady Lane School
  (Linda Ehrlich and staff)
• Coudersport elementary school
  (Nancy Seeley)
Dear Teacher:

We believe that yours is the most important of professions. You supplement the work of families by providing the motivation, skills, strategies and tools that enable our children to become an integral part of the world around them. You extend their abilities and support their efforts.

We invite you to join us on an important journey. In an age of increasing emphasis on technology, economics and power, the challenge before us is to encourage one another to become more caring, high-minded, and less selfish. It is a noble task, and requires us to consider the human spirit that connects us as a school, community and world.

In the pages that follow we have compiled important background information, curricular suggestions and teaching strategies that are meant to be tools for your use in this vital mission. Coupled with your love for children, your energy and creativity, we hope to provide a strategy for success in teaching our children to be people of ethical character. Please know that you are not alone in the task; the effort requires community support, and we hope to be a part of that group as well. This is a living curriculum created by elementary classroom teachers. It must change to meet your individual and group needs so it will remain current and of high quality. We hope you will keep us involved by sharing your ideas and innovations as many of America’s teachers are already doing.

We are excited that you are accepting our invitation to impact our children, and wish you well in your journey.

Sincerely,

The Heartwood Team

P.S. For information about training and supplemental materials, please contact The Heartwood Institute at hrtwood@aol.com or 1-800-HEART-10.
Heartwood Ethics Curriculum for Kindergarten  
MAP MAT

Heartwood has traditionally included a geographic learning component, and evaluation research has shown that it is reliably effective in improving young children's geographic knowledge.* The books chosen for the kindergarten program include stories from every continent except Antarctica. This all new, fun, durable map showing the world's continents and oceans will enhance children's understanding of their world while they learn about universal ethical concepts of Courage, Loyalty, Justice, Respect, Hope, Honesty and Love.

How to Use the Map Mat
The Map Mat may be used as a floor mat or a banner. To hang it, attach binder clips at corners, and install matching push pins, nails or hooks on your wall. As a floor mat, it may be used as a gathering place to listen to Heartwood stories or share team activities.

When a Heartwood story is read and discussed, ask the children if they can find the continent or continents where the story takes place. A majority of the stories occur in North America, but many occur in or make reference to other places, providing a variety of opportunities to introduce geographic information.
• Thundercake (Courage): Babushka (the grandmother) is from Russia. Russia is a huge country that is located in NE Europe and Northern Asia.

• Too Many Tamales (Loyalty): Anna’s family is Mexican-American. They live in the United States, and their ancestors are from Mexico, which is also part of North America.

• Silent Lotus (Respect): This story takes place in Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia) which is located in East Asia.

• Masai and I (Respect): The girl in this book lives in the U.S., but imagines living in East Africa (e.g. Tanzania) with the nomadic Masai (now usually spelled “Maasai”).

• Pedrito’s Day (Honesty): This story takes place in Latin America. Pedrito could live in any of the Spanish-speaking countries south of Mexico. The author is from Nicaragua.

• Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge (Love): Wilfrid lives in Australia, the smallest continent.

• Mama, Do You Love Me? (Love): This story is about an Inuit family. Most Inuit people live in the Arctic region of North America. This particular family lives in northern Alaska. (Check the glossary at the back of the book for more cultural information).

Specifications:
The Map Mat is 76” by 50”. It is made of heavy duty plastic. Colors will not run or fade. Colors of the continents are not intended to match the attribute colors of the corresponding stories.

* Extensive evaluation research on the impact of the Heartwood Curriculum has been carried out by Dr. James Leming, University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale. On page 124 of Final Report: An Evaluation of the Heartwood Institute’s “An Ethics Curriculum for Children” Leming writes: “...the posttest students in the Heartwood classrooms (grades 1 – 3) demonstrated a higher level of geographic knowledge when compared with students in the comparison classrooms.” (Parentheses in the original; the Kindergarten curriculum was not yet available.) Dr. Leming’s reports are available by contacting the Heartwood Institute, 425 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15213.
The Heartwood Institute Mission:

To promote the understanding and practice of ethical values that are the foundation of community among all people, with particular emphasis on children and families and the understanding of seven universal attributes: Courage, Loyalty, Justice, Respect, Hope, Honesty, and Love.

The Heartwood Institute is a non-profit corporation.
The Need for an Ethical Values Curriculum in Our Schools

Our children are confused about moral and ethical values...and no wonder. Rarely, if ever, has a generation of children been raised in such an atmosphere of uncertainty. Constant change forces everyone, adults and children alike, to continuously deal with new conditions in new ways. A welter of messages...from the media, parents, teachers, and peers...makes it difficult for children to find stable, consistent moral and ethical standards that can guide their development.

The fact is, the traditional modes of inculcating moral and ethical values in our youngsters are no longer functioning well. The family, the schools, the religious institutions, and our communities themselves seem to have lost their way in fulfilling the most fundamental need for any society, that of passing on the character attributes and cultural wisdom which are the glue that holds the society together.

The breakdown of the family is a major factor. Economic pressures, changing roles of both women and men, high divorce rates, the loss of extended families – all conspire to damage the age-old linkages between the adult generations and the young.

Television plays an obvious role as well. Even in reporting the news, TV generally selects the worst in our society; corporations taken to task for environmental irresponsibility, public officials indicted on ethical misdeeds, child abuse, serial killing, rape, drive-by shootings, drug wars. And television’s commercial programming barrages our children from morning to night with dramatic messages of instant gratification, fantasy, and violence.

Our educational institutions also play a part. Though schools face much more diverse student needs, conflict and sometimes even physical threats to teachers, many have been slow in developing new approaches to meet the changing needs. Many schools have too often encouraged children to feel good about themselves as individuals at the expense of both genuine performance and cooperation with others.

Who today is teaching the children how to use good judgment? Where are our children learning the character attributes necessary to become responsible, caring adults? Who are their heroes? Positive role models? Where are the respected adults to offer guidance in these confusing times to our children? The answers to these questions are hard to find. Clearly our society is failing in the crucial task of passing on the wisdom that introduces the wonder of life to the next generation.

The results of our failure are predictable: more and more children are disruptive, bored, angry, confused, and hopeless. Those feelings, in turn, have devastating effects: school dropouts, teenage pregnancies, substance abuse, juveniles who commit more and more serious crimes, and a host of other problems. And as children grow into
The Need for an Ethical Values Curriculum in Our Schools (cont.)

adulthood, increasing numbers show an appalling lack of sound moral, ethical values.

At Heartwood, we believe steps must be taken now. Just as the harvest starts with preparing the garden, so the task of ensuring the moral and ethical fabric of our society must start with our children. Unless actions are taken, our children are at risk; our democratic institutions are at risk; our very future is at risk.

The role of teaching human attributes is not limited to any one societal institution, religious group, or even the family alone. All institutions must play a part in passing ideas and traditions to the young, giving them feelings of cohesiveness and community. Yet the educational community is today better positioned to fill this void than any other. A growing number of business colleges and graduate schools are now addressing these issues through various ethics courses. But until now, there have been few focused and sustained efforts directed toward children and adolescents. This must and will change.

Pre-schools, elementary and secondary schools have the opportunity to lead; in fact, they also bear a special responsibility. Children spend more waking hours at school than in the home, and a kind and loving teacher can provide the role model a child desperately needs.

In the recent past, schools have concentrated on the three "R"s and avoided moral stories for fear of offending both religious and non-religious groups; a classic case of throwing out the baby with the bathwater. Awareness is growing, however, that the schools can distinguish narrow sectarian perspectives from values that all civilized groups share, and awareness is growing that schools must take a major role in helping children learn these values. Moral education can no longer be ignored. It is now time for schools to have the courage to address human character development, to teach those human attributes common to all cultures, all communities, all religions.

As we approach the new century, we are a global community. As our children define and clarify their own values, they need to learn about the values of other cultures, to see that all cultures share basic moral concepts. Through this process, they begin to develop global awareness and responsibility. And from that seed of understanding, they can work towards a peace that will protect and rebuild the earth we all share.

It is time to offer our children guidelines for moral and ethical behavior and character. The Heartwood curriculum is a tool for achieving this. Designed with a powerful methodology that nurtures learning, shared understanding, and self-esteem, it helps children to learn the character attributes that enable them to become caring, responsible adults.
The Purpose and Plan of the Heartwood Curriculum

Who's telling the stories your children are listening to? Stories convey a certain "magic" for children and for adults. Stories stretch the imagination beyond the limits that intellect dictates. Stories open "new windows and doors" for children of all ages, touching emotions and conscience. Stories make us laugh and cry. Stories unlock "treasures," providing us with gifts that we never lose, because stories remain in our memories. Stories nurture.

Too often, our children hear stories filled with aggression and violence. Some children live stories of aggression and violence. In order to insure a future nurtured with understanding, gentleness, caring, respect, justice and hope, we must offer stories of understanding, gentleness, caring, respect, justice and hope. Literature provides an abundance of reference points for attributes common to all people, including the seven attributes selected to form the core of the Heartwood Curriculum: Courage, Loyalty, Justice, Respect, Hope, Honesty, and Love.

The Heartwood Institute curriculum provides opportunities to build a nurturing climate within the classroom or school setting. Stories that "touch the heart" are at the "heart" of the program. As Margaret Hodges, award-winning children's author and storyteller, says: "What the heart knows today, the head will understand tomorrow." Stories are powerful tools for learning. Heartwood uses these tools to promote a nurturing environment. The reading time and discussion afterward operate to strengthen the relationship between adults and children. The stories are multi-cultural with discussion probes, related activities and a home/school connection.

The stories have ethical themes that are positively presented in beautifully illustrated books. At the point of the story that the problem arises, the ethical theme is introduced and the problem is resolved in a positive manner, making the character and the ethical theme worthy of admiration.

The program encourages and challenges children to assimilate attributes that are vital to the peace, protection, sharing and future well-being of both themselves and the world which all people share.

The objective of the Heartwood Curriculum is to foster moral literacy and ethical judgment by:

1. Helping students develop ethical standards based on multicultural understandings of the human condition and those things which sustain, nurture, and promote growth of human beings and cultures.

2. Giving reference points for common cultural and ethical choices.

3. Providing an anchor for children in universal virtues common to the world's cultures and traditions.
The understandings, reference points, and virtues illuminated by the stories are representative of countries from all inhabited continents, and they present common themes that illustrate the attractiveness and validity of ethical/virtuous choices.

Though the Heartwood Curriculum draws upon many precepts common to the world's great religions, it presents a philosophic foundation, not a religious dogma. The attributes are universal and basic to human life, and are common across all communities, all cultures, and all religions. We believe that all people can agree on these common attributes and make use of this material.
Definition of Terms

Ethics
Standards of moral obligation which determine the difference between right and wrong; ethics involves a commitment to do what is thought to be right (Josephson, 1990).

Values
Concepts and beliefs that direct an individual's behavior, and when held in common with others, shape a culture's ideals, customs, and institutions.

Character education
The teaching of the values and conduct that are necessary for the orderly functioning of a society; it includes elements that are unifying as well as those that express the society's diversity (California School Board Association, 1982).

Public morality
A common core of universal concepts.

Private morality
Religion; concepts that are learned through the family and the church.
The Stages of Moral Reasoning
Thomas Lickona

Ages indicate reasonable developmental expectations for a child of normal intelligence growing up in a supportive moral environment.

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<th>Stage 0:</th>
<th>What's right: I should get my own way. Reason to be good: To get rewards and avoid punishments.</th>
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<td>Egocentric Reasoning</td>
<td>(preschool years - around age 4)</td>
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<th>What's right: I should do what I'm told. Reason to be good: To stay out of trouble.</th>
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<td>Unquestioning Obedience</td>
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<th>Stage 2:</th>
<th>What's right: I should look out for myself but be fair to those who are fair to me. Reason to be good: Self-interest. What's in it for me?</th>
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<th>Stage 3:</th>
<th>What's right: I should be a nice person and live up to the expectations of people I know and care about. Reason to be good: So others will think well of me.</th>
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<td>Interpersonal Conformity</td>
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<th>What's right: I should fulfill my responsibilities to the social or value system I feel a part of. Reason to be good: To keep the system from falling apart and to maintain self-respect... (to) meet obligations.</th>
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<th>Stage 5:</th>
<th>What's right: I should show the greatest possible respect for rights and dignity of every person and should support a system that protects human rights. Reason to be good: The obligation of conscience to act in accordance with the principle of respect for all human beings.</th>
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<td>Principled Conscience</td>
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Differences Between Morality of Constraint and Morality of Cooperation
Adaptations of Jean Piaget

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<th>Morality of Constraint (typical of six-year-olds)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Single, absolute moral perspective, behavior is right or wrong.</td>
<td>Awareness of differing viewpoints regarding rules.</td>
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<td>Conception of rules as unchangeable.</td>
<td>View of rules as flexible.</td>
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<td>Extent of guilt determined by amount of damage.</td>
<td>Consideration of wrongdoer's intentions when evaluating guilt.</td>
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<td>Definition of moral wrongness in terms of what is forbidden or punished.</td>
<td>Definition of moral wrongness in terms of violation of spirit of cooperation.¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punishment should stress atonement and does not need to “fit the crime.” wrong.</td>
<td>Punishment should involve either restitution or suffering the same fate as a victim of someone's wrong.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer aggression should be punished by external authority.</td>
<td>Peer aggression should be punished by retaliatory behavior on the part of the victim.²</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children should obey because rules are established by those in authority.</td>
<td>Children should obey because of mutual concern for the rights of others.³</td>
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From interpretations of Piaget (1932) freely adapted by Kohlberg (1969) and Lickona (1976).

1. Note that the first four differences call attention to the tendency for children below the age of ten or so to think of rules as sacred pronouncements handed down by external authority.

2. Beyond the age of twelve, adolescents increasingly affirm that reciprocal reaction, or “getting back,” should occur in response only to good behavior, not to bad behavior.

3. Note how the last three differences call attention to the tendency for children above the age of ten or so to see rules as mutual agreements among equals.
As we stand on the threshold of the twenty-first century, there are at least ten good reasons why schools should be making a clear-headed and wholehearted commitment to teaching moral values and developing good character.

1. There is a clear and urgent need. Young people are increasingly hurting themselves and others, and decreasingly concerned about contributing to the welfare of their fellow human beings. In this, they reflect the ills of societies in need of moral and spiritual renewal.

2. Transmitting values is and always has been the work of civilization. A society needs values education both to survive and to thrive - to keep itself intact, and to keep itself growing toward conditions that support the full human development of all its members. Historically, three social institutions have shared the work of moral education: the home, the church, and the school. In taking up values education, schools are returning to their time-honored role, abandoned briefly in the middle part of this century.

3. The school's role as moral educator becomes even more vital at a time when millions of children get little moral teaching from their parents and where value-centered influences such as church or temple are also absent from their lives. These days, when schools don't do moral education, influences hostile to good character rush in to fill the values vacuum.

4. There is common ethical ground even in our value-conflicted society. Americans have intense and often angry differences over moral issues such as abortion, homosexuality, euthanasia, and capital punishment. Despite this diversity, we can identify basic, shared values that allow us to engage in public moral education in a pluralistic society. Indeed, pluralism itself is not possible without agreement on values such as justice, honesty, civility, democratic process, and a respect for truth.

5. Democracies have a special need for moral education, because democracy is government by the people themselves. The people must care about the rights of others and the common good and be willing to assume the responsibilities of democratic citizenship.

6. There is no such thing as value-free education. Everything a school does teaches values - including the way teachers and other adults treat students, the way the principal treats teachers, the way the school treats parents, and the way students are allowed to treat school staff and each other. If questions of right and wrong are never discussed in classrooms, that, too, teaches a lesson about how much morality matters. In short, the relevant issue is never "Should schools teach values?" but rather "Which values will they teach?" and "How well will they teach them?"
7. The great questions facing both the individual person and the human race are moral questions. For each of us as individuals, a question of the utmost existential importance is: "How should I live my life?" For all of humanity, the two most important questions facing us as we enter the next century are: "How can we live with each other?" and "How can we live with nature?"

8. There is broad-based growing support for values education in the schools. It comes from the federal government, which has identified values education as essential in the fight against drugs and crime. It comes from statehouses, which have passed resolutions calling upon all school districts to teach the values necessary for good citizenship and a law-abiding society. It comes from business, which recognizes that a responsible labor force requires workers who have character traits of honesty, dependability, pride in work, and the capacity to cooperate with others. Support also comes from reform-minded groups such as Educators for Social Responsibility, which know that progress toward social justice and global peace demands morally principled citizens. It comes from groups such as the American Jewish Committee, which in 1988 reversed its long-standing caution against values education and issued a report urging schools to teach "civic virtues" such as "honesty, civility, responsibility, tolerance, and loyalty..." Perhaps most significantly, support for school-based values education comes from parents who are looking for help in a world where it's harder than ever to raise good children. For more than a decade, every Gallup poll that has asked parents whether schools should teach morals has come up with an unequivocal yes. Typical in the finding that 84 percent say they want the public schools to provide "instruction that would deal with morals and moral behavior."

9. An unabashed commitment to moral education is essential if we are to attract and keep good teachers. Says a young woman preparing to enter the profession:

I am not a teacher yet, but I need a sense of hope that teachers can help to turn around the community-shattering values of today's society: materialism, me-first apathy, and disregard for truth and justice. Many of the teachers with whom I've spoken have been frustrated, some to the point of despair, with the deteriorating moral fiber of their students and the lack of effective methods in the schools to counter this trend. It is a hard message for me to hear as I stand on the threshold of a teacher career.

If you want to do one thing to improve the lives of teachers, says Boston University educator Kevin Ryan, make moral education— including the creation of a civil, human community in the school — the center of school life.
Summing Up the Case for Values Education (cont.)

10. Values education is a doable job.
Given the enormous moral problems facing the country, their deep social roots, and the ever-increasing responsibilities that schools already shoulder, the prospect of taking on moral education can seem overwhelming. The good news, as we will see, is that values education can be done within the school day, is happening now in school systems all across the country, and is making a positive difference in the moral attitudes and behavior of students, with the result that it’s easier for teachers to teach and students to learn.

Until recently, calls for school reform have focused on academic achievement. Now we know that character development is needed as well. That awareness cuts across all spheres of society; the current call for teaching values in the schools is part of an "ethics boom" that has been seen more than a hundred institutionalized ethics programs — in fields as varied as journalism, medicine, law, and business — established in the United States in just the past few years. We're recovering a foundational understanding; just as character is the ultimate measure of an individual, so it is also the ultimate measure of a nation. To develop the character of our children in a complex and changing world is no small task. But it is time to take up the challenge.

From Educating for Character by Thomas Lickona.
Copyright 1991 by Dr. Thomas Lickona. Used by permission of Bantam Books, a division of Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, Inc.
Moral Development Synopsis

Jean Piaget (1932) The Moral Judgment of the Child:

Studied 5 to 12 year old boys in the 1920's to determine what makes a rule fair. Piaget's conclusions include:

- Morality of constraint
- Morality of cooperation
- Equity and reciprocity (the Golden Rule)

James Rest

Developed the Defining Issues Test: a paper and pencil adaptation of Kohlberg's interviews.

Carol Gilligan

Challenged the studies done on all male subjects and did her own research to conclude that men look at the morality of justice (rights), while girls and women focus more on responsibility and caring.

Lawrence Kohlberg

In an extension of Piaget's work, Kohlberg studied the moral development of 50 boys (10, 13, 16) at three year intervals. Used the moral dilemma approach with interviewing technique.

Developed stages of moral reasoning.

Tom Lickona

States that rights and responsibilities are opposite sides of the same coin.

All major findings agree on the progress of moral development from self-centeredness to conformity to independent, principled morality.
Character Education Resource Bibliography


Developmental Studies Center (1993). The child development project: Description of findings in two initial districts and the first phase of a further extension. Oakland, CA: Developmental Studies Center.


Girl Scouts. (1989). Girl scouts survey on the beliefs and moral values of America's


Schools' role in developing character. (1986) (Special issue). Educational Leadership, 43 (4).


Getting Started with Heartwood

What is the program's focus?

The seven Heartwood attributes or ethical themes always remain the focus of every lesson. You may present the attributes in any order.

How is the program designed?

Review the Teacher's Manual to become familiar with the purpose and format of the program. Read the Heartwood Lesson Design and Sample Teaching Plan sections.

How can I get an overview of the program?

See the Purpose and Plan of the Heartwood Curriculum section.

Do I have everything I need to begin?

Yes, all of the materials for the curriculum are included in the kit.

How do I get the classroom ready?

A Heartwood Storytelling Corner should provide a focus area in the classroom. This will create a secure, comfortable place for children to retreat or explore. The children will sense the importance of the Heartwood program.

The teacher may create a class mural of Heartwood with the children's help. A background can include finger paintings of all of the children's hands or other art that is representative of all of the kindergarten children. Photographs of your group may help serve as a starting point for this mural. As each attribute is introduced, add drawings children make as part of their Heartwood learning activities.

How can I involve families?

Have a family orientation meeting for the Heartwood program. Use the Heartwood Family Orientation Format as a guide. If a meeting is not possible to arrange, reproduce and send home the Family Newsletter during the first week that the curriculum is implemented. Located behind each curriculum card in this manual are reproducible masters of The Heartwood Family Newsletter for each attribute. Send home copies of the appropriate newsletter on the second or third day of the unit so parents can help reinforce concepts at home if they wish.

How do I introduce the children to the program?

The Sample Teaching Plan later in this section includes a detailed version of one week of the Courage unit as an example of how you might pace and adapt the material for your classroom.
Getting Started with Heartwood (cont.)

How much time should I spend on each attribute?

Pilot teachers have found that two to four weeks for each attribute allows enough time for children to assimilate what they are learning.

Is there a thorough review of the lesson design?

Yes, see the Lesson Design for Teaching the Heartwood Curriculum.
The Heartwood Design

PREVIEW:
- Prior knowledge
- Purpose for listening

STORY:
The Literature Connection

DISCUSSION:
- Critical thinking strategies
- Problem-solving strategies
- Conflict resolution strategies

ACTIVITIES:
- "Hands on" • Cooperative learning • Resource persons

WRAP-UP:
- Student response

Interdisciplinary Ideas:
- Classroom Connections

HOME
COMMUNITY
WORLD
EXTENSION:
The Home/School Connection
Lesson Design for Teaching the Heartwood Curriculum

The Heartwood Curriculum is designed to be used throughout the school year. Each attribute is featured through stories, discussion, activities, and home school connections. The objective of Heartwood is to lay the foundation for development of moral literacy and provide reference points for ethical discussion.

The Kindergarten Specific Objectives are:

1. To introduce attributes of COURAGE, LOYALTY, JUSTICE, RESPECT, HOPE HONESTY, and LOVE.

2. To promote understanding and recognition of the attributes.

3. To relate the attributes and stories to the children’s lives.

4. To support families as the primary moral educators.

The core of the Heartwood Curriculum consists of seven attributes which are presented through literature. Discussion and activities, along with the Home Connection, follow every story to expand understanding of the concept.

Preview: Introducing the Concept

At the Storytelling Corner the teacher sets a focus for listening and introduces each attribute by telling a story from his or her personal experience, preferably one from childhood. The discussion on page 2 of each unit lists examples to evoke appropriate memories.

Stories

Each Heartwood book has been carefully selected to enhance the attribute. There are two book selections for each attribute.

The stories “touch the heart” and are rich in imagery, with illustrations that are always captivating. The stories are from continents across the world, as well as from a variety of American experiences, and they present themes that illustrate the attractiveness and validity of ethical/virtuous choices. These stories share a positive tone. The variety of stories and cultures represented demonstrate that the seven ethical attributes that comprise Heartwood are the “glue” that hold societies together; concepts that are common to all the world’s people.

After introducing the concept, the teacher reads the story aloud to the class. See discussion of Reading Aloud in this manual, Activities and Resources, p.6. Some of the stories may contain unknown vocabulary. Use the context and illustrations to assist the students’ understanding of the word meanings. The preview and story presentation should be completed in one session.
Lesson Design for Teaching the Heartwood Curriculum (cont.)

Discussion

After the teacher reads the literature, a discussion follows, focusing on the attribute as shown by the characters or plot of the story. The aim is to draw out all aspects of the attribute under discussion. Teachers are encouraged to listen to children's answers and contributions even if they are off-task, gently guiding discussions back to the lesson. Teachers should feel free to use their own open-ended questions to elicit feelings and attitudes about the story characters. Discussion also focuses on what it means to possess the qualities of the attribute represented.

The format for discussion generally leads children through questions that:

- Assist them in recalling the story.
- Help them recall the ethical theme and define it in their own words.
- Help them relate the story attribute to their own experience.

Learning Activities

The Activities section of each unit incorporates ideas with “hands-on” activities and first-hand experiences. Here, the meaning of the attribute is developed and made real to children in their own lives. Teachers are welcome to develop their own extension activities related to topics or cultures introduced in the stories.

Home Connection

Extension to children's homes is strengthened as children share the Heartwood stories with their families and families share their personal stories with their children. As each ethical theme is introduced, a Heartwood Family Newsletter encourages family discussion and at-home activities. Many learning activities include opportunities for children to share in class what they learn from their families. Reproducible masters for the newsletters are located in each attribute section of this manual.

My Heartwood Journal

Children's responses to the stories are often profound. Keeping a Heartwood Journal helps them process and remember the lesson. We recommend creating portfolios of drawings during the year to serve as a record and reminder. A reproducible cover is included in the Activities and Resources section of this manual.

Suggested Time Frame

The major components to the lessons for each attribute — the Preview and First Book Selection, the Second Book Selection, and a number of Learning Activities — should each be completed on separate days. Some children may require more time and/or repetition of the components. Most teachers have found that covering a Heartwood unit over a period of at least two weeks allows children to master the
attribute. Some teachers have successfully devoted up to a month for each attribute.

**Practicing the Attribute Every Day**

While reading, discussion, and learning activities can lay a conceptual groundwork for understanding ethical attributes, children learn most effectively (for better or worse) by modeling the behavior of significant adults. The Classroom Connection and Additional Activities section of each unit provides ideas for consistently relating the attribute to everyday learning activities. Learning about the attributes should not be confined to a special "Heartwood" lesson. Research has shown that teachers who model the attributes and infuse them through daily activities experience the greatest rewards from the curriculum and their students.
Sample Teaching Plan

*Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco

Prior to these sessions, the teacher will need to arrange for a Guest Speaker on Day 3.

**Day 1 Preview**

**Before Reading the Story**

1. Elicit student understanding of Courage. You might say, “Today we are going to share a Heartwood story about Courage.”

   a. What do you think courage means? (List student ideas on a chart).
   b. Discuss their ideas. This might be extended through the following questions:
      - Do you know anyone who is brave?
      - How do you know that a person is brave? What might being brave look like?

2. Tell the class that today our story is about a little girl who was afraid of thunderstorms. Ask them to listen to find out how her grandmother helped her find courage (listening focus).

**Reading the Story**

*Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco

Reading Time: 8 minutes

---

**Unit: Courage**

**After the Story**

1. Discussion should initially focus on recalling the story, but progress to relating courage to students' own experiences. The following questions would initiate this discussion:
   a. In the story, what made the little girl afraid? Why did she come out from under the bed? What did Babushka decide to do during the storm? How did making a Thunder Cake help her not to be afraid?
   b. Have you ever been afraid of a storm? Who helped you when you were afraid?
   c. Ask questions to promote the understanding that when we are afraid, we need to find courage. You might ask:
      - What are some things that might frighten us? (Perhaps you could share a frightening experience which you remember from your own childhood, such as getting lost, being afraid of storms, going to the dentist, etc.). Several students may want to share their own fears. List these on a chart. What could you suggest to others to help them find their courage in these situations?

2. The Pass the Courage activity encourages students to pass “fears” around the circle, and watch them change to courage as children keep facing them again and again.

   a. Form a circle.
   b. Ask children to think of a fear of their
own or one from the chart.
c. Use an object such as a soft ball to represent the fear.
d. Pass the ball around the circle. As each child gets the ball, he/she can act out being afraid (body curled, short breath, scrunched down...).
e. The next time around the circle, the children should act out being less afraid. They now know what to expect.
Perhaps they could shout out the name of someone who helps them when they are afraid.
f. During the following round, students can appear excited, courageous, and confident (sitting tall, open breathing...).

3. Create “Badges of Courage”. Make sure an extra badge is made for the Guest Speaker on Day 3.

Day 2 Cake Making Day
(or another activity of your own invention)

1. Retell the story in sequence by asking the following questions: In the story, the little girl had to be brave so she could help her grandma. What did she need to do (enter the dark, dry shed, climb the trellis, face the chicken...)?

2. Act out the story as she gets the ingredients for her grandma. You may need to reread portions of the story.

3. Choose a cake to bake with the students. It may be the Thunder Cake recipe at the back of the book, but it might also be a simple, boxed cake mix. The recipe should be on a large chart to enable the students to follow along. If an oven is not available, making a pretend cake could be just as much fun.

4. While the cake is baking, students could create a Thunderstorm picture.

Day 3 Guest Speaker

1. Students may work in their Heartwood journals drawing and/or writing about a time when they were brave. Students might also want to use their imagination, and write/draw about a time in the future when they might be brave. Drawings about other courageous people should also be encouraged.

2. Ask students to share their journal entries. This may provide an opportunity to begin a list of professions which provide examples of bravery.

3. Create or add to a list of occupations that might require bravery. Students will quickly think of firemen, but encourage them to think about other jobs and roles such as mother, lifeguard, or principal. Provide an opportunity for students to act out several of the listed jobs for their classmates to identify.

4. Introduce the Guest Speaker; by noting or adding his or her occupation on the
list. Some teachers may want to have the children prepare a list of questions for the speaker ahead of time; others may be comfortable with impromptu questions. Students should share how the little girl was helped by her Babushka as she said, "I'm here, child." How does the Guest Speaker show courage and help others?

3. Remember the little girl in the story. Create a Sound Poem about the storm using repetition. It might look (and sound) like the following:

   Crack! Crack! Boom! Crash!
   Crack! Crack! Boom!
   Lightning Zip!
   Crack! Crack! Boom! Crash!
   Crack! Crack! Boom!

4. Add movement to the Sound Poem, by having students use big, varied actions for loud sounds. Instruments may be added to mimic the sounds.

5. Ask the students to remember how they and others have shown courage. Remind them of their first definition of courage. Ask them if they would like to make any changes or additions. Add these to the original chart.

Day 4 Thank You

1. Review with the students how the Guest Speaker was courageous in his/her job.

2. Working in small groups, the students should create large Thank You cards or letters for the speaker. Decorate with drawings of acts of courage.

Day 5 Wrap Up

1. Share student examples of family courage as discussed at home (See newsletter).

2. Discuss the following:

   a. Does being brave mean you don't feel afraid?
   b. How can you act bravely even if you feel afraid on the inside?
Suggested Heartwood Family Orientation Format

This information may be presented to all families in a large group setting or may be used in small group gatherings.

Purpose:

- To enlist the cooperation and participation of families in children’s learning about Courage, Loyalty, Justice, Respect, Hope, Honesty, and Love.
- To communicate Heartwood Curriculum information to families.

Suggested method:

A different staff member presents each part of the orientation to:

- Substantiate the knowledge and competency of staff members;
- Model a cooperative effort of staff;
- Stress the importance of the program to the school and its staff.

1. Introduction (10 minutes)

What is the Heartwood Curriculum?

Why was it chosen? Why was it needed?

2. Heartwood lesson presentation (15 minutes)

Select a lesson to present in brief.

3. Developmental levels as they relate to attributes (10 minutes)

Possible presentation by director, principal or counselor.

4. Family connection/partnership (10 minutes)

Review the Heartwood Family Newsletter and the central role of the home in initiating and reinforcing ethical education.

5. Invite “hands-on” experience with materials

Unveil the kit or tour the Heartwood Storytelling Corner in the kindergarten room. Have the books available for preview.

6. Refreshments (optional) and informal discussion
Whole School Involvement

At present, a plethora of solutions have been proposed to our nation’s school problems. These solutions point to schools’ restructuring, cooperative learning, cultural brokering, multiple intelligences, and creation of caring communities. One of these movements that is particularly suitable for Heartwood is Whole School Involvement. The Heartwood attributes provide a focus for implementation of whole school change by uniting the school and community around shared core values.

The following ideas are recommended for Whole School highlighting of ethical themes through the Heartwood program:

1. Heartwood Display Area
   Designate one area in your school to display Heartwood activities and projects weekly or monthly. A display case or table can be arranged to highlight the attribute being discussed.

2. World Cultures Fair
   Stories from different countries tell us about cultures, but the stories also contain lessons about life. We can learn things of value by listening to or reading stories from many cultures. Collect tales from different ethnic backgrounds and celebrate the cultures represented with a World Cultures Fair. Each classroom could choose one culture to research and then share findings in drawings, songs, games, and storytelling. The whole school population could share ethnic dishes at lunchtime. Parents could volunteer to prepare ethnic food.

3. Cookbook
   Make a school cookbook with recipes representing the ethnic backgrounds of the school population or recipes associated with an attribute, like Thunder Cake for Courage.

4. Assembly
   A class (or several classes) could prepare and present to the whole school a play that celebrates the positive aspects of the attribute being studied.

5. Heartwood Quilt
   On cloth squares, students can draw with magic markers symbols that represent the concepts of the Heartwood character attributes. Sew them together to hang in the hall. The quilt could also be made of felt squares or wall paper samples.

6. Heartwood Village
   Have students replicate houses represented in the Heartwood stories (farmhouse, apartment, palace, African village hut, igloo).

7. Media
   Invite a local newspaper, TV channel or radio station to do a feature on the students at work.
Whole School Involvement (cont.)

8. Infusion

Talk about the attributes and related concepts in connection with every subject area and every program or project at your school. Children modeling the concepts should be acknowledged throughout the day.

9. Teacher Education

Teachers wanting additional information about implementation of Heartwood and ways to infuse it in classroom teaching, can call the Heartwood Institute or other qualified consultants to provide support and in-service staff development.

10. Community Commitment

Meet with parents and other community representatives to talk about your school's ethics focus & ethos. Invite a facilitator to help community members explore their common values.
Something to think about before presenting the attributes:

Values, standards, ethics, and moral decision making are not learned overnight. They are conceptual. Seeds are planted. The role of the teacher is to nurture the seeds. The seeds will not mature in one season, like acorns or lupines, but will mature as the child develops, even as an acorn becomes a giant oak over the passage of time, gathering strength from the Earth, the sun, and the rain.

It is a mistake to say, "Today education ends; tomorrow life begins." The process is continuous; the idea into the thought, the thought into action, the action into the character. When the mulberry seed falls into the ground and germinates, it begins to be transformed into silk.

Henry Van Dyke
"The School of Life"
Harper's, October 1904
To teach **COURAGE:**
One must act with integrity, and support those who act with courage in all its forms.

To teach **LOYALTY:**
One must exemplify commitment and honor to others and to ideals.

To teach **JUSTICE:**
One must strive for fairness and equity in everyday situations.

To teach **HOPE:**
One must envision future goals and aspirations and use stories to support their validity.

To teach **RESPECT:**
One must show and expect to be treated with respect.

To teach **HONESTY:**
One must work from a strong fiber of honesty that doesn’t consider lying a possibility.

To teach **LOVE:**
One must operate daily out of caring commitment, and with kindness and understanding that are genuine.
## Book/Attribute Correlation Chart
### Kindergarten Kit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Culture</th>
<th>Secondary Attributes</th>
<th>Reading Time in Minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Courage</td>
<td>Thunder Cake</td>
<td>P. Polacco</td>
<td>USA/Russia</td>
<td>Love</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ira Sleeps Over</td>
<td>B. Waber</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Love, Respect</td>
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<td>Too Many Tamales</td>
<td>G. Soto</td>
<td>Mexican American</td>
<td>Love, Honesty</td>
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<td>S. Hughes</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
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<td>M. Hoffman</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Respect, Hope</td>
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<td>Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel</td>
<td>Virginia Lee</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Honesty, Hope</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
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<td>J. Lee</td>
<td>Kampucheca (Cambodia)</td>
<td>Hope, Love</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>V. Kroll</td>
<td>Africa (Tanzania)/</td>
<td>Love</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>African American</td>
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<td>V. Williams</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>M. Fox</td>
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<td>B. Joosse</td>
<td>N. America/Inuit</td>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Story Overviews: see page 4
Story Overviews - Kindergarten

**Courage**
Thunder Cake
A girl overcomes her fear of thunderstorms with the help of her loving grandmother.

Ira Sleeps Over
Ira demonstrates the courage needed to make a hard decision & try something new.

**Loyalty**
Too Many Tamales
Family loyalty provides a supportive atmosphere for telling the truth.

Dogger
Older sister’s understanding inspires an act of loyalty that saves the day.

**Justice**
Amazing Grace
An African American girl works hard to overcome prejudices and win the lead role in the school play.

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel
Townspeople find a fair solution when complications threaten the honoring of an agreement.

**Respect**
Silent Lotus
A girl who cannot hear or speak finds respect and expression through dance.

Masai and I
Love and respect for family are the same even in two very distant cultures.

**Hope**
A Chair for My Mother
Hope is crucial for rebuilding after a fire and making shared dreams come true.

Owl Moon
An owling expedition teaches a girl about hope and patience needed to observe wildlife.

**Honesty**
Pedrito’s Day
Pedrito bravely chooses honesty and restitution even though it jeopardizes his hopes for a new bicycle.

Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine
A girl learns the difference between truth and fantasy when her tall tales put a young friend in danger.

**Love**
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge
A boy’s love and willingness to share his treasures help to restore an elderly friend’s own fond memories.

Mama, Do You Love Me?
A mother’s unconditional love reassures a child who is testing her limits.
“Courage is not simply the mastery of fear through physical strength; it is that quality that springs from a certain type of spirit, honor, and integrity.”

-Michel de Montaigne
Once my brother and I were riding our bikes. And my brother was going too fast. He couldn't stop. I was scared. I jumped off my bike and ran. I grabbed his bike and fell. I knew I was but I didn't care. And I saved him from going into the street, or he would have been run over.
Courage

Courage — the state or quality of mind that enables one to face danger with self-possession, confidence, and resolution; bravery, valor.

Synonyms: fearlessness, fortitude, pluck, spirit, boldness, valor, bravery, dauntlessness

Courage gives one strength, power, and endurance to overcome or surmount obstacles, weaknesses, hardships, and crises. The types of courage fall into three categories: physical, mental, and spiritual. Courage is associated with bravery, valor and heroism. Bravery implies fearlessness in the face of danger; but courage may be shown in spite of fear. Valor defies danger; Heroism signifies self-denial and self-sacrifice in the face of danger.

Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592) stated, “The worth and value of a man is in his heart and his will; there lies his real honor. Valor is the strength, not of legs and arms, but of the heart and soul. Courage is not simply the mastery of fear through physical strength; it is that quality that springs from a certain type of spirit, honor, and integrity.” Courage is habitual, contagious. “We become brave by doing brave acts.” Aristotle reminds us.

Note: If Montaigne were alive today, he would doubtless use the word “person” rather than “man.” In our time, we explicitly recognize that courage, spirit, honor, integrity, and other personal attributes are not gender-, race-, or ethnicity-related, but are defining characteristics of the best of all humans.

I thought and thought as the storm rumbled closer. She was right. I was brave!

Thunder Cake
by Patricia Polacco
The Kindergarten Child and Courage

Kindergarten children realize the difference in power between themselves and others, especially adults, and they sometimes feel vulnerable. While four-year-olds try to cover this vulnerability with a show of bravado, five-year-olds work at developing their competencies and ability to master their fears by showing real skills at overcoming obstacles. They may tremble inside, yet they act bravely in spite of this — especially when caring adults support their actions.

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed courage or what courage means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Courage include but are not limited to:
• persevering when there are difficulties or obstacles
• trying new things (starting school, tasting foods)
• taking risks, but not foolish or dangerous risks
• making choices to do the right thing even under pressure from peers
• acting bravely even though you are afraid

Please remember:
• Acknowledge feelings instead of telling children not to feel fear. For example, we can say, “I know you’re afraid, and part of you wants to be brave and try the slide,” or, if injured, “That must hurt a lot!”
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Brainstorm a list of rain’s benefits. [SCI]
2. Review Babushka’s explanation of how to estimate one’s distance from a storm. [MATH] [SCI]
3. This story takes place in a rural setting. Using pictures as clues, discuss the setting. Rewrite the story in an urban setting. [SS]
4. Create a “Sound Poem” about the storm using repetition. It might look (and sound) like the following:
   Crackle! Crackle! Boom! Crash!
   Crackle! Crackle! Boom!
   Lightening Zip!
   Crackle! Crackle! Boom! Crash!
   Crackle! Crackle! Boom!

   Add movement by having students use big, brave actions for loud sounds. Instruments may be added to mimic the sounds. [LA] [MUSIC] [PE]
5. Create a “Stormy Day” picture by using a crayon resist technique. Students can color a picture depicting a rainy scene on a rainy day. Stress the importance of pressing hard with the crayon to color darkly and completely. When finished, lightly brush the picture with diluted black tempera paint. The crayon should resist the paint. [ART]

Thunder Cake

Patricia Polacco
1990
New York: Philomel Books

CONCEPTS

Courage
Trust
Love

SUMMARY

On a sultry summer day, a young girl learns to overcome her fear of thunderstorms with the help of her loving Babushka, her Russian grandmother. The little girl musters up courage to complete each task required to bake a “Thunder Cake” and turns the frightening thunderstorm into a celebration. Among Polacco’s intensely colored illustrations are many warm intergenerational portraits. Her fine details also offer a glimpse into Babushka’s heritage.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss courage and trust as they apply to this story. The student will recognize courageous behavior in self and others.
After the Story

Thunder Cake

DISCUSSION

1. In the story, what was the little girl most afraid of? Why did she come out from under the bed? What did Babushka decide to do during the storm? How did making a Thunder Cake help the girl overcome her fears?

2. The little girl had to be brave so she could help her grandma. What did she need to do (enter the dark dry shed, climb the trellis, face the chicken)?

3. How did Babushka know what to do? Do you think she may have been afraid of thunder when she was a little girl? What are some things that frighten you? What do you do when you are afraid? Who helps you when you are afraid?

4. One way Babushka helped the little girl was by saying "I'm here, child." How can you help someone else to be brave?

5. Does being brave mean you don't feel afraid? How can you act bravely even if you feel afraid on the inside?

ACTIVITIES

1. Pass the Courage: The goal is to pass "fear" around the circle and watch it change to courage as children keep facing their fear over and over. Form a circle. Ask the children to think of something they are afraid of. Use an object such as a soft ball to represent the fear. Pass the ball in a circle. As each child gets the ball, he/she can act out being afraid (body curled, short breath, scrunched down). The next time around the circle, the children have done it before, so they are not quite as fearful – they can act a little less afraid. After several rounds, children should appear to be unafraid, and can act excited, courageous, and confident (tall, breathing open, etc.). Now that children have faced their fear, have them return to their seats and make a "Badge of Courage" to wear.

2. List people whose jobs require them to be brave (local police, firefighters, doctors and nurses ...). Invite someone to come in the classroom to talk about their work. After the visit students might want to make a Badge of Courage and write a thank you note for the guest.

3. Make a bulletin board where students can place pictures of people who have shown courage. Pictures from magazines, newspapers, or original drawings can form the collage. Adaptation: a bulletin board outside the classroom can display the "Hall of Heroes." Invite students from other classrooms to contribute.

WRAP-UP

In My Heartwood Journal draw a picture of one of your heroes doing something brave.

EXTENSION

1. Ask grown-ups at home to tell you something they were afraid of as children and explain how they got over their fears. With their permission, share with the class.

2. Send home the Heartwood Family Newsletter on Courage.

VOCABULARY

- ingredients
- luscious
- dry shed
- trellis
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Arrange a Show and Tell time when students can bring a favorite toy and share what makes the toy special. (These do not have to be things they sleep with.)  

2. In groups of 3 or 4, create a mural on craft paper showing all the things you might do at a slumber party.  

3. On a Friday afternoon, have a pretend "Sleep Over." Children can bring sleeping bags and pillows from home. As a group, plan games, stories, and snacks.  

4. Using a clock, count the hours Ira spent at Reggie's house if he arrived at 7:00 p.m. and left at 9:00 a.m.  

5. Make a class courage book with dictated sentences and illustrations telling students' stories of their bravery. Or make individual zigzag books, which give each child several frames to tell a story.  

6. Fear causes physical stress. Children can learn to calm the physical reaction to fear so that courage can take over. Ask students to tighten up, hold and then relax various parts of their bodies — hands, arms, shoulders, stomach, legs, etc. End with tightening the whole body, and then relaxing all over. Have children notice how calm and comfortable they feel when they are loose, open, and breathing deeply.

Ira Sleeps Over

Bernard Waber  
1972  
Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company

COURAGE
USA
Reading Time: 6 minutes

CONCEPTS
Courage  
Love  
Respect

SUMMARY
Any child who has ever been comforted by a favorite toy or blanket will understand Ira's struggle with taking his teddy bear to a first time sleep over. Making the decision requires Ira to draw on his courage in this reassuring and realistic family story. Waber's humorous drawings keep the mood light.

OBJECTIVE
The student will be able to define and discuss courage as it applies to this story. The student will be able to recognize the courage needed to make hard decisions and try new things.
After the Story   Ira Sleeps Over

**DISCUSSION**

1. What was Ira afraid would happen if he took his teddy bear to Reggie's? What was he afraid would happen if he didn't take his teddy bear? What did he decide to do? For Ira, this was a brave decision. What happened next?

2. Ira had to make a hard decision. How did his sister make it harder? (She tried to scare him.) Has a brother or sister ever tried to scare you? What can you say or do when someone tries to make you afraid?

3. It takes courage to make a hard decision. What did Ira do that showed courage? Think of a time when you decided to do something new even though you were afraid.

**ACTIVITIES**

1. Take turns acting out Ira deciding whether or not to take his teddy to Reggie's house.

2. On chart paper, list situations when students decided to do something that frightened them. Include people who helped them make decisions.

3. List students' first-time experiences from Discussion question three. Choose one and write a class story about it. (You might want to change the names.) Talk about fears and courage as they apply to the story.

**WRAP-UP**

In *My Heartwood Journal*, draw a picture of yourself or someone you know having the courage to do something for the first time.

**EXTENSION**

1. Ask someone at home to tell you about a hard decision he/she had to make and how he/she found the courage to do the right thing.

2. Ask someone at home to remember a time when you were brave but that you may have forgotten.

**VOCABULARY**

dominoes
magnifying glass
The Attribute of Courage

Courage – the state or quality of mind that enables one to face dangers or challenges with confidence and resolution; bravery, valor

Courage gives one strength, power, and endurance to overcome or surmount obstacles, weaknesses, hardships, and crises. Types of courage fall into three categories: physical, mental, and spiritual. Courage is associated with bravery, valor, and heroism. "Courage is not simply the mastery of fear through physical strength; it is that quality that springs from a certain type of spirit, honor, and integrity." Courage is habitual, contagious. "We become brave by doing brave acts," Aristotle reminds us.

Stories that teach... Courage

In school, we’re reading these books:

Thunder Cake, by Patricia Polacco
New York: Philomel Books. 1990

A young girl learns to overcome her fear of thunderstorms with the help of her loving Babushka, her Russian grandmother. The little girl musters up courage to complete tasks required to bake a "Thunder Cake" and turns the frightening thunderstorm into a celebration.

Ira Sleeps Over, by Bernard Waber

Any child who has ever been comforted by a favorite toy or blanket will understand Ira's struggle with taking his teddy bear to a first time sleep over. Making the decision requires Ira to draw on his courage in this reassuring and realistic family story.

The Kindergarten Child and Courage

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of Courage based on experience. Types of Courage include but are not limited to:

- persevering when there are difficulties or obstacles
- trying new things (starting school, tasting foods)
- taking risks, but not foolish or dangerous risks
- making choices to do the right thing even under pressure from peers
- acting bravely even though you are afraid

Food for Thought
"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step." – Lao-tzu

Recommended Books
Raising Good Children from Birth through the Teenage Years
Dr. Thomas Lickona
Bantam Books, New York, 1983

In this book, Dr. Lickona discusses ways you can help your child develop a lifelong sense of honesty, decency, and respect for others.

Things you can do at home:

- Recall a time when your child was brave and may have forgotten about it. Tell his or her story of courage.
- Share with your child a childhood fear that you had. Talk about how you overcame that fear.
- Try a new food at home. Talk about being courageous and trying new things.
Additional Resources for Courage

**Songs**

“Whenever I Feel Afraid, I Hold My Head Erect And Whistle A Happy Tune” (From “The King and I”)

**Poems**

“Things That Go Bump In The Night”


**More Books**

*Abuela’s Weave*
by Omar S. Castañeda, illus. by Enrique O. Sanchez
Guatemala
A Guatemalan girl learns about family traditions as well as trust and personal fortitude from her grandmother, a skilled weaver.

*El Chino*
by Allen Say
U.S.A/Spain
Billy Wong, a Chinese American, overcomes racial stereotypes to become the first Chinese matador.

*Nessa’s Fish*
Nancy Luenn, illus. by Neil Waldman
New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1986
Arctic Tundra Region (Inuit tribe)
When her grandmother falls ill during an ice fishing trip, Nessa bravely protects her and their catch of fish from a fox, a bear and wolves until help arrives.

*Brave Irene*
by William Steig
New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1986
USA
When Mrs. Bobbin, the dressmaker, falls ill after completing a beautiful ball gown for the duchess, Irene Bobbin braves the snowy, windy elements to deliver the dress.

*Kate’s Giants*
by Valiska Gregory, illus. by Virginia Austin
Cambridge, Mass.: Candlewick Press, 1995
U.S.A.
Kate imagines scary creatures creeping into her new bedroom during the night. But with reassurance from her parents, Kate soon has her fears under control.
Swimmy
by Leo Lionni
New York: Knopf, 1963
USA
Swimmy the fish is alone and afraid after
his school is eaten by a tuna. But when he
meets some new companions, he devises a
clever, protective camouflage.

Mirette on the High Wire
by Emily Arnold McCully
New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1992
France
In 19th-century Paris, young Mirette helps
Bellini, the world famous high-wire walker,
regain the courage to perform. Winner of
the Caldecott Medal.

Resources

Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish. How to Talk
So Kids Will Listen and How to Listen So Kids

Clifton Fadiman, ed. The World Treasury of
Children's Literature, Book II. Boston: Little,
Brown and Company, 1984
Loyalty involves duty, a sense of commitment and community; a knowledge that each of us is a part of something greater than ourselves.
I was loyal when:

This girl on the bus was threatening and picking on my sister. She said if you do this you won't get fruit snacks. And I said we don't have to listen to you.
Loyalty

**Loyalty** — the state or quality of being faithful to a person, ideal, or group.

*Synonyms:* fidelity, allegiance, duty, commitment, community, steadfastness

The respected Rabbi Hillel questioned, "If I am not for myself, who is for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I?" (Mishneh: Ethics for the Fathers, 1:14). Loyalty, at the center of human values, cements social bonds between people, families, communities, and nations. It requires that we recognize a relationship to our fellow human beings; it must be cultivated and taught, because it is rarely instinctive. Loyalty involves duty, a sense of commitment and community, a knowledge that each of us is a part of something greater than ourselves. It makes us aware of the duties and obligations we therefore have toward each other:

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He hugged Dogger and he hugged Bella around the waist.

"Thank you, Bella," he said.

*Dogger*

by Shirley Hughes
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The Kindergarten Child and Loyalty

Belonging and being part of the group are important to young children. After they develop a sense of who they are, kindergartners struggle to understand who others are, first as family members, then as members of friendship groups. As they change from self-centeredness to other-centeredness, children focus on relationships between themselves and others and try to see where they fit as part of the group.

Please remember:
- Respect the way children perceive situations. For example, we might say, "I know you want to keep using the ball, but it's Anna's turn now," or "We have to share even though it's sometimes hard."
- Focus on positive demonstrations of the attribute, for example, "Mary is being loyal, she's sharing with Jimmy."

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed loyalty or what loyalty means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Loyalty include but are not limited to:
- helping a friend or family member
- making up with a friend after a fight
- sticking up for a sibling
- including others in a game, party or other activity
- not saying mean things about other children in the group
- giving up something valuable for another person
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Find a recipe for tamales and make some. (Or find a parent volunteer to make them at home.)
   Have a Mexican Food Fair. [SS]

2. Play Follow the Leader; emphasizing how much fun it is to work together as a group. [PE]

3. Make a thank you card for someone who has been loyal to you. [ART]


Too Many Tamales

Gary Soto
Illustrated by Ed Martinez
1993
New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons

CONCEPTS

Loyalty

Love

Honesty

SUMMARY

While making tamales with her family on Christmas Eve, Maria tries on her mother's diamond ring. Later, Maria misses the ring and believes she has cooked it into the food. She enlists her loyal cousins to eat through the batch of tamales in search of the ring. When they are unsuccessful, she confesses her actions to her mother. Family loyalty provides a supportive atmosphere for telling the truth. Martinez's oil paintings show a loving contemporary Mexican American family.

LOYALTY

Mexican American
Reading Time: 7 minutes

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss loyalty, love and honesty as they apply to this story. The student will recognize family loyalty.
VOCABULARY

husks
masa
reams

2. Students may trace hands with crayons.

1. Make a "Keeping Hands" banner at home with each family member's handprint.

2. Work with your family to make a family tree. Discuss it into your parts and draw.

3. List ways each child is loyal at home. Help family members understand how for a picture of your family working together.

WRAP-UP

1. Ask each family to help and encourage each other as you begin to share:

2. Fill out the loyalty survey for parents

ACTIVITIES

1. An activity for many families: Help and encourage each other as you begin to share:

2. Help your classmates with their interviews. Plan their part in the classroom party.

3. Help the various families keep the room clean. Some tasks might be making invitations, planning and preparing food.

EXTENSION

4. Illustrate:

- Drawing maintained friendship. Give children individual time throughout the day to discuss maintaining friendships. Give children individual time throughout the day to discuss.

TOO MANY TAMALEs

After the Story

1. How did the cousins agree to help? How did the Native Americans come to settle?

2. Why did the cousins agree to help? How did the Native Americans come to settle?

3. How did the cousins agree to help? How did the Native Americans come to settle?

4. Our classroom is like a family. How can we show loyalty to each other? Share:

- Cousins have helped each other. How did the cousins help their family?

- How did the Native Americans help their family?

- How did the cousins help their family?

- How did the Native Americans help their family?
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Hold a fair. Use ideas from the story as well as other games.

2. Draw pictures of prizes. Put price tags on the prizes. Each prize may be worth from 1 to 10 cents. Distribute 10 pennies to each child. Take turns buying prizes. Ask students how they could purchase two prizes with 10 cents. [MATH]

3. Tape record “how loyalty sounds.” As a class, brainstorm phrases and sentences that express loyalty. (Do you need help? Don’t tease my brother. I’m sorry. Can we still be friends? We can work together to do that.) Students can individually record their “loyalty.” [LA]

4. Using paper plates, draw a happy, sad, or worried face of one of the story characters. Students hold up their pictures, giving a sentence their character might say. For example, a child might say, “I lost my favorite dog.” The others guess the character’s identity. [LA]

Dogger

Shirley Hughes
1988
NY: Lee & Shepard
(originally published in 1977 as David and Dog)

LOYALTY
USA
Reading Time: 7 minutes

CONCEPTS

Loyalty
Love
Kindness
Sacrifice

SUMMARY

Dogger is the well-worn, beloved stuffed toy that Dave takes everywhere. When Dogger gets lost, Dave is sad and anxious until his older sister Bella saves the day. Her understanding of Dave’s problem inspires an act of loyalty as she sacrifices her own toy. The charming illustrations, detailed and expressive, complete this touching story.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss loyalty, love and kindness as they apply to this story. The student will be able to recognize and observe loyalty in self and others.
Vocabulary
3. Send home the Heartwood Family Newsletter on loyalty.
2. Share with the class.
1. Ask someone at home to introduce you to a friend.
   or show a picture of a friend.
   Someone may have a friend over to stand up and show loyalty.
   a picture of yourself or something.

Wrap-Up
Tell about someone who is loyal to you.
1. What made Dogger special to David? How did Dogger become loyal?
2. Describe the teddy bear. Did it make you feel special?
3. Would you like to have a sister like Bella? Have you ever been loyal like Bella?
4. Would you like to have a sister like Bella? Have you ever been loyal like Bella?

Activities
1. Prepare sentence strips with children to cut out and assemble strips. Make drawings of what loyalty looks like (helping someone);
2. Write out loyalty as you play hide and seek with Dogger. Two children (Dave and Bella) take a big teddy bear and leave the room. A third student here Dogger behind hiding in a desk and leave the room.
3. Ask students to bring a toy to school. For whom would they give it up?

Discussion
After the Story
The Attribute of Loyalty

Loyalty - the state or quality of being faithful to a person, ideal, or group

The respected Rabbi Hillel questioned, "If I am not for myself, who is for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I?" (Mishva: Ethics for the Fathers, 1:14). Loyalty, at the center of human values, cements social bonds between people, families, communities, and nations. It requires that we recognize a relationship to our fellow human beings; it must be cultivated and taught, because it is rarely instinctive. Loyalty involves duty, a sense of commitment and community; a knowledge that each of us is a part of something greater than ourselves. It makes us aware of the duties and obligations we therefore have toward each other.

Stories that teach... Loyalty

In school, we're reading these books:

Too Many Tamales, by Gary Soto
New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1993

While making tamales with her family on Christmas Eve, Maria tries on her mother's diamond ring. Later, when she believes the ring to be lost, she confesses her actions and her loyal family provides a supportive atmosphere for telling the truth.

Dogger, by Shirley Hughes
New York, Lothrop, 1988

Dogger is a well-worn, beloved stuffed toy that Dave takes everywhere. When Dogger gets lost, Dave is sad and anxious until his older sister Bella saves the day. Her understanding of Dave's problem inspires an act of loyalty as she sacrifices her own toy to recover his.

The Kindergarten Child and Loyalty

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of Loyalty based on experience. Types of Loyalty include but are not limited to:

- helping a friend or family member
- making up with a friend after a fight
- sticking up for a sibling
- including others in a game, party or other activity
- not saying mean things about other children in the group
- giving up something valuable for another person

Food for Thought

"If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder without any such gift from the fairies, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it..." — Rachel Carson, marine biologist

Things you can do at home:

- Make a "helping hands" banner using family members' hand prints.
- Show your child something special that someone gave to you as a good friend. Talk about the friendship.
- Work together to make a family flag. Divide it into four parts and draw family loyalties; things that are important to your family (ancestors, activities, places, pets.)
Additional Resources for Loyalty

Songs

“Make New Friends and Keep the Old”

“Puff the Magic Dragon”

“Lean On Me”

“You’ve got a Friend”

“Stand by Me”

Poems


More books

The Two Brothers
by Neil Waldman
New York: Antheum, 1997
Israel
Community grows out of loyal relationships.

Buffalo Woman
by Paul Goble
New York: Bradbury Press, 1984
Native American
When a young hunter marries a female buffalo who is in the form of a beautiful woman, he must pass several tests before he’s allowed to join her people the buffalo nation.

Doodle Flute
by Daniel Pinkwater
U.S.A.
Rich boy Kevin Spoon and less fortunate Mason Mintz become unlikely friends when they decide to share Mason’s doodle flute.

The Hero of Bremen
by Margaret Hodges, illus. by Charles Mikołajczyk
New York: Holiday House, 1993
Germany
A humble, disabled shoemaker secures land for his neighbors with unexpected help from the village children and the legendary hero Roland.

The Woman Who Outshone the Sun: The Legend of Lucia Zenteno
by Alejandro Cruz Martinez
San Francisco: Children’s Book Press Mexico
A beautiful woman is feared by her fellow villagers who drive her away. But when she leaves, the nearby river, which has fallen in love with her, leaves too, and the villagers suffer for their unkindness.
Additional Resources for Loyalty (cont.)

Margaret and Margarita/Margarita y Margaret
by Lynn Reiser
New York: Greenwillow, 1993
U.S.A.
Two girls — one who speaks Spanish, the other who speaks English — meet in the park and become fast friends despite their language barrier.

Frog and Toad Are Friends
by Arnold Lobel
U.S.A.
Best friends Frog and Toad help and encourage each other through good times, bad times and even an occasional crabby mood.

I Love My Family
by Wade Hudson, illus. by Cal Massey
New York: Scholastic, 1993
U.S.A.
An African American boy fondly recalls the fun and affection of his family's annual reunions in North Carolina.

Yo! Yes?
by Chris Raschka
New York: Orchard, 1993
U.S.A.
With a minimum of words, two boys on a neighborhood street break the ice and initiate a friendship.

Jamaica's Blue Marker
by Juanita Havill, illus. by Anne Sibley O'Brien
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1995
U.S.A.
Jamaica is angry with her disruptive classmate Russell until she realizes he's upset about moving away. She changes her mind and gives him a going-away present.

Resources


Createx brand paints are non-toxic water-based paints that can be used as textile paints for the friendship quilt activity in this section. They are available through most school art supply catalogs.
Justice is the quality of being guided by truth, reason, and fairness. Justice encompasses respect and understanding.
If I were in charge of the world, I'd cancel polluting.
If I were in charge of the world, I'd have no slavery.
If I were in charge of the world, I would have no drugs.
If I were in charge of the world, I would have no prejudice people
Justice

Justice — moral rightness, equity; honor, fairness; fair handling; due reward or treatment.

Synonyms: equity, fairness, right

Justice is the quality of being guided by truth, reason, and fairness. It keeps a society, nation, family, or relationship functioning in an orderly, fair manner. The mind and logical thinking play paramount roles in determining justice.

Justice encompasses respect and understanding; it resists unjust or unlawful control by one group or person over another.

“What’s the matter?” asked Ma.

“Raj said I can’t be Peter Pan because I’m a girl.”

“That just shows what Raj knows,” said Ma. “A girl can be Peter Pan if she wants to.”

Amazing Grace
by Mary Hoffman
The Kindergarten Child and Justice

In the early years, children have a hard time seeing another's point of view, including rights to goods and materials. Sharing is difficult, and they are not yet able to see the relationship between giving up something immediately and getting something later on in return. At the same time, they are learning to take responsibility for some of their actions, and, in a limited way, for the well-being of others.

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed justice or what justice means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Justice include but are not limited to:
• thinking about fairness in sharing toys, teacher’s time, etc.
• protesting when something is not fair
• voluntary apologies
• making restitution or atoning for misdeeds (children may need help from the teacher to do this)
• voluntarily sharing toys or giving up a turn

Please remember:
• Avoid making children apologize when they don’t feel contrite or forcing children to give up toys, turns, etc. and calling it “sharing.”
• When conflicts occur, help children negotiate with each other (more information on resolving conflict may be found on p. 14 of the Resources section of this manual).
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. At a pretend audition, have students take turns acting out scenes from Peter Pan or another favorite story. Talk about how it felt to try out for a part. 

2. Use dress-up clothes to create a favorite costume. Tell a story about your character (tape record if possible).

3. Discuss whether people can really fly on their own. Find out how people in movies or on TV seem to fly. Draw pictures of things that really can fly.

4. Listen to the music from Peter Pan. Pretend you can fly.

5. Make a list of ways to decide who goes first in a game. Which ones are fair and why? Why is it important?

Amazing Grace

Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Caroline Binch.
1991
New York: Dial Books for Young People

JUSTICE
USA
Reading Time: 6 minutes

CONCEPTS
Justice
Respect
Hope

SUMMARY
Grace loves stories and acts out character after character. She would love to be Peter Pan in the school play, but her classmates tell her she can't because Peter is neither a girl nor African American. With aspirations and independence, and assurances from Ma and Nana, Grace prepares well and justice prevails. Caroline Binch's animated illustrations give remarkable expression to this heart warming story.

OBJECTIVE
The student will be able to define and discuss justice as it applies to this story. The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of justice by identifying situations as fair or unfair.
1. After Grace listened to stories, what did she like to do? Who were some of the characters Grace liked to pretend to be?

2. When the school play was planned, what did Grace want to do? Why did the others say she shouldn't play Peter Pan? Was that fair? Why or why not?

3. Who thought Grace could be Peter Pan? Why did Nana take Grace to the ballet?

4. Why do you think the children changed their minds about Grace playing Peter Pan?

5. We use the word justice to describe fairness. What has happened to you that was not just or fair? What might you have done to change what was unfair?

In my Heartwood Journal draw a picture of yourself or someone you know acting unfair, such as voting or sharing.

WRAP-UP

1. Have each child draw a self-portrait or make a silhouette. Above each portrait place a thinking balloon and the child's thoughts about fairness (you may use one of the following sentence starters):

   - Fair when ___________
   - Not fair when ___________

   Being fair means ___________

ACTIVITIES

1. Have each child draw a self-portrait or make a silhouette. Above each portrait place a thinking balloon and the child's thoughts about fairness (you may use one of the following sentence starters):

   - Fair when ___________
   - Not fair when ___________

   Being fair means ___________

2. Using a large cardboard box, construct a puppet theater. Use hard puppets or make puppets from socks or paper bags to allow students to produce story plays about justice. Plan carefully so roles are not gender determined.

3. Design an activity where children will experience unfairness and discrimination. For example, students wearing red must stand at the end of the line or students whose names begin with A, B, or C get served last at snack time. The activity should be brief and should be followed immediately by a discussion of what happened, how students felt, and the unfairness (injustice) of the activity.

EXTENSION

1. With your family, talk about the fairness of helping out with household chores.

2. Grace practiced a lot to get the part of Peter Pan. Ask a grown-up about a time when they worked hard to get something they deserved.

3. Send home a Heartwood Family Newsletter on Justice.
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. To see if they could get their job done in one day, Mike Mulligan had to estimate how much dirt Mary Anne would have to move. Fill a container with sand, dried beans, or rice. Ask the children to guess how many scoops it will take to move the sand to another container. Test their estimates. (This works well outdoors.) **MATH**  **SCI**

2. Estimate how long it will take to move all the sand if only one child moves it. Then estimate how long it will take two children. If everyone helps? **MATH**  **SCI**

3. Boil water in a tea kettle or pot with a lid. Why does it make noise? What is steam? How does it power Mary Anne? Why is steam dangerous? **SCI**

4. Look at the illustrations and identify the features that show the story is 60 years old. What building(s) corresponds to the town hall in your area? What happens there? Arrange a visit to a judge and courtroom if possible. Draw the town hall of Popperville. **SS**  **ART**

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**Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel**

*Virginia Lee Burton*

*1939*

*Boston: Houghton Mifflin*

**JUSTICE**

*USA/Urban*

*Reading Time: 8 minutes*

**CONCEPTS**

Justice
Honesty
Hope

**SUMMARY**

A hardworking man and his steam shovel try to prove their usefulness by agreeing to dig the foundation of a new town hall in a single day. During their dramatic race with time, a young boy recruits spectators and shouts encouragement. The boy finds a fair solution when a conflict complicates the outcome. Children will see a cheerful picture of small town life 60 years ago in Burton's simple illustrations.

**OBJECTIVE**

The student will be able to identify and discuss justice as it applies to this story. The student will practice making agreements and solving conflict.
Uncle Osborne had a list of household rules and discussed which ones are fair to everyone.

2. Everyone make a list of household rules and discuss which ones are fair to everyone.

When they were children, tell them what you learned about fairness in the story.

4. Brainstorm a list of problems that children have experienced with siblings or classmates. Pick one and discuss three ways to solve the problem.

3. Role play Mike Mulligan and Henry B. Swap taking after Mike finished digging the

in the agreement. What makes them fair or unfair?

2. Compare a character from your class. Discuss the agreements that each

in the agreement. What makes them fair or unfair?

1. Talk about your classroom rules. Why do we need them? Classroom rules can be

Discussion

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel

After the Story
The Attribute of Justice

Justice - moral rightness, equity; honor, fairness; fair handling; due reward or treatment

Justice is the quality of being guided by truth, reason, and fairness. It keeps a society, nation, family, or relationship functioning in an orderly, fair manner. The mind and logical thinking play paramount roles in determining justice.

Justice encompasses respect and understanding; it resists unjust or unlawful control by one group or person over another.

The Kindergarten Child and Justice

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of justice based on experience. Types of justice include but are not limited to:

- thinking about fairness in sharing toys, taking turns, etc.
- protesting when something is not fair
- voluntary apologies
- making restitution or atoning for misdeeds (children may need help to do this)

Stories that teach... Justice

In school, we're reading these books:

- Amazing Grace, by Mary Hoffman
  New York: Dial Books for Young People, 1991
  Grace loves to be Peter Pan in the school play, but her classmates tell her she can't, because Peter is neither a girl nor a boy. Grace prepares well and justice prevails.

- Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel, by Virginia Lee Burton
  Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1939
  Townspeople find a fair solution when complications threaten the honoring of an agreement.

Food for Thought

"In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice...the path of faith, the path of hope and the path of love toward our fellow men." – source unknown

Things you can do at home:

- Create a household chore list and indicate each member's responsibilities.
- Share with your child a time someone in the family worked hard to get something he/she deserved.
- Share with your child a time someone forgave you or you forgave someone. Tell how that made things right.

Courage · Loyalty · Justice · Respect · Hope · Honesty · Love
Additional Resources for Justice

Songs

"If I Had a Hammer"

"Free to Be You and Me"

Poems

"The Ants and the Grasshopper;" Aesop’s Fables.

More Books

The Eggs
by Aliki
New York: Pantheon, 1969 (a. p.)*

Greece
A greedy innkeeper who tries to overcharge a sea captain for a meal of eggs gets caught in his own lie.

I Am Your Misfortune
by Marguerita Rudolph, illus. by Imero Gobbato
New York: Seabury Press, 1968 (a. p.)*

Lithuania
A poor and humble man who has been shunned by his rich and selfish brother builds a better life for himself when he outwits Misfortune. But when the wealthy man tries to bring Misfortune back into his brother’s life he pays a dear price.

The Little Red Hen
by Paul Galdone
New York: Scholastic, 1973

U.S.A.
The little red hen can’t find any friends to help tend the wheat and grind it into flour. But all of them are more than willing to help her eat the cake she makes from it.

One Fine Day
by Nonny Hogrogian
New York: Macmillan, 1971

Armenia
A greedy fox steals some milk from an old woman’s pail and must work very hard to repay her and regain his dignity.

The Rough-Face Girl
by Rafe Martin, illus. by David Shannon
New York: Putnam, 1992

Native American
In an Algonquin Indian Cinderella story, the rough-face girl earns the right to marry an invisible being when she is wise enough to see him in the natural world around her.

Story of Ferdinand
by Munro Leaf, illus. by Robert Lawson
New York: Viking Press, 1936

Spain/Mexico
Ferdinand the Spanish bull would rather sit and smell the flowers than fight in the ring. Finally he is allowed to march to his own drummer.

* O.P. indicates out of print books. Look for these at your library.
Additional Resources for Justice (cont.)

*Strega Nona*
by Tomie dePaola
New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1975
Italy
When Strega Nona leaves her assistant Big
Anthony alone with her magic pasta pot,
he's compelled to try it out, with disas-
trous results.

*Three Gold Pieces*
by Aliki
New York: Pantheon, 1967 (o.p.)*
Yannis worked ten years only to earn
three gold pieces for his family. After all his
time and effort, his master takes the coins
back, in exchange for three pieces of
advice.

*Resources*

Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish. How to Talk
So Kids Will Listen and How to Listen So Kids

William J. Kreidler. Creative Conflict
Resolution: More than 200 Activities for
Keeping Peace in the Classroom, K-6.
Glenview, IL: Scott Foresman and

William J. Kreidler. Teaching Conflict
Resolution through Children’s Literature, K-2.

* O.P. indicates out of print books. Look for these at your library.
Respect involves patience, open-mindedness, and regard for traditions, differences, age, race, religion, the earth, the self, and others.

RESPECT
Respect is not having slaves
Respect is honoring other people
Respect is paying attention when someone else is talking
Respect is common courtesy
Respect

Respect — esteem for, or sense of worth of, a person, personal quality, or trait; honor, willingness to show consideration or appreciation.

Synonyms: regard, consideration, courtesy, attention, deference, admiration, tolerance, reverence, veneration

Respect involves patience, openmindedness, and deference for traditions, differences, age, race, religion, the Earth, the self, and others. It means a fair and open-minded attitude toward opinions and practices that differ from one’s own. We show respect by listening carefully to others’ viewpoints and acknowledging their validity.

I come home and stare at my reflection in my bedroom mirror... smooth brown skin over high cheekbones and black eyes that slant up a little when I smile. I like what I see. I tingle again with that feeling about kinship. I would look just like this if I were Masai.

Masai and I
by Virginia Kroll
The Kindergarten Child and Respect

This attribute has many aspects.
Fundamentally, it means valuing yourself, other people, their differences and abilities, the world in which you live.
Respect is shown through various cultural customs such as politeness and manners.
During the early years, children consolidate their sense of who they are in relation to others. They become intensely aware of similarities and differences, often excluding those who are different in a variety of dimensions. Seeing themselves as different sometimes makes children feel less valued. But children are intensely curious during these years, and the growing competence that comes with learning helps them to become more inclusive of others and accepting of other cultures.

Please remember:
- Use positive directives when addressing behaviors. For example, we can say, "Please listen carefully to what I am saying," or "We show kindness in this classroom."
- Encourage open, respectful interaction with people who face mental and physical challenges.

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed respect or what respect means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Respect include but are not limited to:
- listening to others and responding positively
- being considerate of other's feelings, belongings, etc.
- reacting positively to similarities and differences
- learning about other cultures
- recycling, not littering, and other environmental activities
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Feeling the vibrations - have the class stand or sit on bleachers. Experience the vibrations when feet are pounded on the seats. Try pounding softly and in unison. [SCI, PE]

2. Using classical music or recorded sounds of nature, move like wading birds (long legs, long neck, tall steps, graceful and quiet). [MUSIC, PE]

3. Learn several words in sign language (I love you, clapping in sign language, please and thank you). Use them in the classroom. [LA]

4. Talk about and identify table manners. Plan a tea party. Each student invites a guest (perhaps the person in the picture frame) and demonstrates his or her respect for that person by showing good manners. [SS]

5. List manners we use to show people we respect them. (Phrase the entries in positive terms.) Post the Good Manners List and refer to it regularly, making additions and reinforcing good manners in the classroom. [SS, LA]

Silent Lotus

Jeanne M. Lee
1991
NY: Farrar, Straus & Giroux

CONCEPTS
- Respect
- Hope
- Love

SUMMARY

In this story set in ancient Kampuchea, a child who can neither hear nor speak finds respect and a means of expression through dance. Lotus' supportive, encouraging parents provide the opportunities for her to explore her talents. Illustrations inspired by the temple at Angkor Wat capture Lotus' grace and serenity as she dances the traditional court ballet.

RESPECT
Kampuchea (Cambodia)
Reading Time: 5 minutes

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss respect, hope and love as they relate to this story. The student will be able to identify ways to respect and be respected by others.
After the Story
Silent Lotus

DISCUSSION

1. How could Lotus' parents tell what Lotus was feeling even though she couldn't speak? How did Lotus' "say" her name?

2. What made Lotus happy? What made her sad? What was special about her? Why do you think the other children ignored Lotus? How could you have made friends with her and respected her?

3. How do you think Lotus could dance when she couldn't hear the music? How did Lotus' life change at the temple? Why did she have friends there?

4. Who loved Lotus and respected her throughout the story? You are special to a lot of people. Share how they show you love and respect.

ACTIVITIES

1. Help each student create a sign for his/her name. Learn to sign each other's names and continue using them throughout the year.

2. Brainstorm ways to show respect such as handshakes, high fives, curtsies, or bows. Form concentric circles or two lines moving in opposite directions. As students pass each other, exchange greetings using the different signs of respect.

3. Help students choose story characters or real people they respect. Pretend to be that person for a day at school. Children may come to school dressed as that person, and try to act and talk like that person does. Set aside a time for sharing why they chose the person they did.

WRAP-UP

In My Heartwood Journal, draw a picture of yourself doing something others would respect.

EXTENSION

1. Share your name sign with your family and help your family members create name signs of their own.

2. Discuss special names that you might have for each other in your family. How did they originate? Would anyone like to change theirs? Why?

3. With help from a grown-up, make a list of ways your family members show respect to each other.

VOCABULARY

- egret
- heron
- crane
- temple
- offering
- pavilion
- vibrations
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Read *When Africa Was Home* by Karen Williams. Make a list of things in the students' homes which would be missing if they were in Africa. Talk about how your school life would be different if you were in Africa.

2. In a flat box or tray, construct a savannah. Use sand, twigs for trees, and animals made of clay or cut from magazines.

3. As you read books set in other countries, locate the country on a globe or map and identify cultural similarities and differences.

4. Listen to the CD "Legend of the Tortoise" and move to the music.

5. Make a Respect bulletin board. Collect and post pictures of people from around the world, noting how they are the same and different. Look for pictures showing respect.


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Masai and I

Virginia Kroll,
Illustrated by Nancy Carpenter.
1992
New York: Simon and Schuster

RESPECT
Africa (Tanzania)/
African American
Reading Time: 6 minutes

CONCEPTS

Respect

SUMMARY

A young African American girl envisions what it would be like to live among the proud people called the Masai. She feels a special closeness and kinship with these unique people who live in such a different way. Best of all, this city girl realizes that the love and respect she feels for her family would be the same in any country, any culture. Carpenter's paintings perfectly blend two distinct worlds, contrasting a contemporary urban lifestyle with a traditional Masai village.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss respect as it applies to this narrative. The student will be able to identify similarities and differences between the cultures.
After the Story

**Masai and I**

**DISCUSSION**

1. What are some of the ways Linda’s life would be different if she lived in Africa? How would Linda’s life be the same if she were Masai? (Have children look at the birthday party illustration for help.) What do you think she would enjoy about being Masai?

2. Talk about what respect means. The more Linda learned about the Masai, the more she understood and respected them. Which pictures show this? Discuss if a Masai girl came to Linda’s school, what do you think Linda would do?

3. When they come to our school, can they see that they look a lot like us, but their clothes and hair might be different from ours. What could we do to welcome our guests? How could we show this person our respect?

4. How do we show respect to each other in our classroom?

**ACTIVITIES**

1. Explain that the Masai people sometimes celebrate with a dance where they jump straight and high. Make a circle and let the children jump to the beat of a drum.

2. Draw a picture of ways students celebrate special occasions.

3. Invite someone from another country to talk about their cultural customs, or invite parents to share aspects of their heritage.

4. Make a class Respect Book. Talk about things we respect and why we respect them (e.g., classroom, grandparents, etc.). In small groups or individually, children can illustrate items or people they respect.

**WRAP-UP**

In my Heartwood Journal, draw a picture of yourself meeting and greeting a classroom visitor.

**VOCABULARY**

- kinship
- gourds
- kraal
- tanning
- parched
The Attribute of Respect

Respect – esteem for, or sense of worth of, a person, personal quality, or trait; honor; willingness to show consideration or appreciation

Respect involves patience, openmindedness, and deference for traditions, differences, age, race, religion, the Earth, the self, and others. It means a fair and objective attitude toward opinions and practices which differ from one’s own.

The Kindergarten Child and Respect

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of Respect based on experience. Types of Respect include but are not limited to:
- listening to others and responding positively
- being considerate of other’s feelings, belongings, etc.
- reacting positively to similarities and differences
- learning about other cultures
- recycling, not littering, and other environmental activities

Stories that teach... Respect

In school, we’re reading these books:

**Masai and I**, by Virginia Kroll
New York: Simon and Schuster, 1992

A young African American girl envisions what it would be like to live among the proud people called the Masai. She feels a special closeness and kinship with these unique people who live in such a different way. Best of all, this city girl realizes that the love and respect she feels for her family would be the same in any country, any culture.

**Silent Lotus**, by Jeanne M. Lee
NY: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1991

In this story set in ancient Kampuchea, a child who can neither hear nor speak finds respect and a means of expression through dance.

Food for Thought

“You who are on the road must have a code that you can live by
And so became yourself because the past is just a good bye” – Graham Nash
Csathy, Stills, Nash and Young

Things you can do at home:
- Share with your child your family’s ethnic roots. Write some information on a card for your child to share in school.
- With your child, make a list of ways your family members show respect to each other.
- At the public library find a book about sign language. Learn some words together and use them in your home, such as please and thank you, hello and good-bye.

The Heartwood Institute is a nonprofit organization. May be reached at 1-800-HEART-10 or heartwood@hol.com.
Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.
Additional Resources for Respect

**Songs**

“I Like You Just the Way Your Are.”
Fred Rogers

**Poems**

“The Lion and the Mouse,” Aesop’s Fables.

Follen, Eliza Lee, “The Good Mooly Cow.”


Hoberman, Mary Ann, “Changing.” (Ibid.)

Prelutsky, Jack, “Me I AM!” (Ibid.)

**More books**

*My Father’s Hands*
by Joanne Ryder, illus. by Mark Graham
New York: William Morrow, 1994
U.S.A.
A girl is inspired and amazed by the movements of her father’s strong and gentle hands as he works in the garden and shows her the wonders of the natural world.

*All the Colors of the Earth*
by Sheila Hamanaka
New York: William Morrow, 1994
U.S.A.
In poetic language, Hamanaka compares the rainbow of colors found in nature to the diversity of children in the world.

*Cleversticks*
by Bernard Ashley, illus. by Derek Brazill
Discouraged when all the other kids in his class are good at something, Ling Sung discovers that his own skill at handling “cleversticks,” or chopsticks, impresses his friends.

*Bein’ With You This Way*
by W. Nikola-Lisa, illus. by Michael Bryant
New York: Lee & Low, 1994
U.S.A.
This exuberant, rap-like poem celebrates the diversity among children on the playground and people in the world.

*Prize in the Snow*
by Bill Easterling
Boston: Little, Brown, 1994
U.S.A.
A boy longs to be a hunter like his older brother. But when he captures a helpless rabbit in his trap, the boy decides to let the famished creature go.

*Africa Dream*
by Eloise Greenfield, Carole Byard
New York: Philomel Books, 1993
U.S.A./Africa
An African American child dreams of Africa and the village where her grandfather lived.

*Dragonfly’s Tale*
by Kristina Rodanas
Native American
Foolish villagers upset the gods and bring a terrible famine upon themselves. But two children fashion a dragonfly from a withered cornstalk and offer it to the Corn Maidens, who restore the land.
I Have a Sister — My Sister Is Deaf  
by Jeanne Whitehouse Peterson, illus. by Deborah Ray  
U.S.A.  
A young Asian American girl describes what it is like to live with a very special younger sister—a sister who is deaf.

Island Boy  
by Barbara Cooney  
New York: Viking, 1988  
U.S.A.  
After growing up on isolated Tibbetts Island, Maine, Matthias sails around the world but eventually settles back on the island—where his heart is.

My Grandpa and the Sea  
by Katherine Orr  
Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books, Inc., 1990  
West Indies  
When the island waters become overfished and the traditional fishing methods outdated, Grandpa saves his livelihood—and respects the environment—by starting a sea moss farm.

Through Grandpa's Eyes  
by Patricia MacLachlan  
U.S.A.  
Young John learns a different way of seeing the world from his blind grandfather.

The Village of Round and Square Houses  
by Ann Grifalconi  
Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1986 (o. p.)*  
Central Africa  
The story of the village of Tos—where the women live in round houses and the men live in square ones—is told from the point of view of a young girl who grew up there.

Who Owns the Sun?  
by Stacy Chbosky  
Kansas City: Landmark Editions, 1988  
(o. p.)*  
U.S.A.  
A boy's father explains how the beautiful things in nature—the sun, the stars, the flowers—cannot be owned. The boy is then deeply saddened and dismayed to learn that both he and his father are owned by the man for whom they work.

Resources  

* O.P. indicates out of print books. Look for these at your library.
Hope is linked to faith and aspiration. It elevates one beyond the plane of selfishness to nobility as it reaches out to the future.
Hope makes me think of my grandma. Makes me wish that my mom would come back. Makes me wish that my mom would come back. Makes me hope that grandma would make homemade cookies again. Hope is a beautiful flower blooming. When I think of hope it makes me feel happy.
Hope

**Hope** — belief, desire, trust; the enemy of despair

*Synonyms:* aspiration, faith, trust, belief not based on fact

The attribute of hope involves feeling that what is desired is also possible. Hope is linked to faith and aspiration. Aspiration involves a strong desire, longing, aim, goal, ambition, and power that directs the individual to higher, nobler, and loftier objectives. It elevates beyond the plane of selfishness to nobility.

When you go owling you don’t need words or warm or anything but hope. That’s what Pa says. The kind of hope that flies on silent wings under a shining Owl Moon.

*Owl Moon*

by Jane Yolen
The Kindergarten Child and Hope

The early years are a time of magic and wishful thinking. Children believe their wishes can come true. Adults encourage children to take initiative and extend their accomplishments in play and learning tasks. Children who have established trusting relationships show confidence in their ability to succeed, and are much more likely to develop a solid base from which springs an everlasting faith in the future.

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed hope or what hope means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Hope include but are not limited to:
- wishing for good things to happen
- wishing to be big
- being able to wait for something pleasant
- believing that wished-for things will happen or are true
- making get well cards for ill relatives or classmates
- saving money to buy something they want
- planning a party or activity, setting a goal

Please remember:
- Follow through on commitments made to children to avoid disappointing their expectations.
- Encourage children to imagine many possible futures by envisioning jobs and families, and drawing or writing stories about their futures.
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Gather a collection of chairs and pretend Rosa and her relatives are shopping. Try out all the chairs. [PE]

2. Working in small groups, sort and classify a handful of coins. Discuss [MATH]

3. Using squares of fabric and fabric crayons, or paper and crayons, create designs and patterns students would use on a chair for their mothers/grandmothers/friends. Use picture borders from the story for ideas. Option: sew the squares together into a quilt. [ART]

4. Plant marigold seeds six to eight weeks before Mother's Day as a gift for mother or grandmother. [SCI]

5. List students' hopes for the world. Illustrate and send to your local newspaper. [SS] [ART]

A Chair for my Mother

Vera B. Williams
1982
New York: Mulberry Books

CONCEPTS

Hope
Love
Loyalty

SUMMARY

When a fire destroys their apartment and its contents, Rosa, her mother and grandmother are left with nothing but each other. Kind relatives and neighbors pitch in and donate household items. Rosa's family begins the task of diligently saving money to buy a big comfortable chair for their new apartment. They work together to make the dream they share come true. This tale of a hardworking, loving family and a caring community provides a vivid message of hope. Bright, cheerful illustrations bring the story to life.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss hope, love and loyalty as they apply to this story. The student will be able to identify individual and family hopes and wishes.
After the Story

A Chair for my Mother

DISCUSSION

1. What terrible thing happened last year to Rosa and her family? How did their neighbors help them start over? Why didn’t Rosa’s family give up? (They had hope.)

2. In the story what is Rosa doing to help her family buy a new chair? Why didn’t she use the money to buy a toy for herself? What are other family members doing to help?

3. When has someone helped you get something you needed? Can anyone tell us about a project or plan your family is working on together? How are you helping?

4. What hopes do we have for our classroom this year?

ACTIVITIES

1. Make a large circle or a silhouette of your head. Pretend you can see inside it. What hopes are there? Encourage students to think about hopes that are not material objects. Draw some of your hopes. Older students or adult volunteers may write students’ hopes below the pictures. Share and display.

2. Play charades. Take turns acting out a hope you have for yourself, your family, the school, or the world while other students guess.

3. Save for something special. Plan a party for parents or volunteers, or save pennies to give to a local charity. Set a goal and ask children to contribute a couple of pennies each week. Save the pennies in a container until the goal is met. Talk about hope for and anticipation of achieving your goal.

WRAP-UP

In My Heartwood Journal, draw a picture of what you would do for your family if you saved a jar of money.

EXTENSION

1. Ask someone at home to tell you about a time when they didn’t give up hope and got through something that was very hard.

2. Find out how your family was able to make a hope come true—perhaps a vacation trip, a purchase of something for the home, or preparation for a special event.

VOCABULARY

tips
change
velvet
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Make a Spring Watch bulletin board. About a month before Spring comes to your region, begin to watch for signs. Take regular walks and as students notice signs of Spring take a photograph, draw a picture or write signs on cards. Watch the bulletin board grow. You might record the daily temperatures for a month. Discuss hopes and anticipation of things to come. (This works for any season.)  

2. Discuss nocturnal animals, and make a collage showing examples.

3. Learn owl calls. Many owl calls are easy for children (and teachers) to mimic. Your local library may have tapes of bird calls, or call your state wildlife agency for assistance. Check with nature centers, avianes or museums for owl resources. Some loan mounted specimens to schools.

4. Identify the next holiday or important school event such as Open House for Parents, Thanksgiving, winter break, or summer vacation. Make a calendar and mark off the days as the event approaches. From time to time discuss the feelings of hope children are experiencing.

5. Have children stand in a circle and coach them through this exercise. How do you look when you are filled with hope? Everybody fill yourself with hope. How do you walk when you are empty of hope, discouraged, hopeless? Take a partner and skip through the room together, both of you full of hope. Freeze and become hope sculptures.

Owl Moon

Jane Yolen  
Illustrated by John Schoenherr  
1987  
New York: Philomel

CONCEPTS

Hope  
Respect  
Patience

SUMMARY

Observing wildlife in nature requires generous helpings of hope and patience. A young girl experiences this when she and her father go owling on a snowy, moonlit night. Respect for the Great Horned Owl, the special bond between father and child, and their relationship with the natural world make this gentle story memorable. Exquisite watercolor paintings capture the magic of the adventure.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss hope, patience, and respect as they apply to this story. The student will recognize personal hopes and the patience they may need to attain them.

HOPE

USA  
Reading Time: 7 minutes
**After the Story**

**Discussion**
1. What is the little girl hoping for? What do you think the word "hopping" means?
2. What are some of the things you'd do if you were an owl? How do you think the girl would feel if they hadn't seen an owl that night?
3. Have you ever waited for something special to happen? What did you do while you waited?

**Activities**
1. Act out how the little girl in the story walked through deep snow. Remember that she was cold and had to be very quiet. Can your class stay very quiet for one whole minute?
2. Incubate chicken eggs obtained from a farm or agricultural service, marking off days on a calendar. Discuss hope, expectations, and anticipation as the 21 days pass. (Plan ahead for a future home for the chicks.)
3. Plan a trip to your schoolyard, an environmental center, or a nearby park. Predict events in the next 21 days, and make a list of things you hope to see. Afterward, identify the animals, birds, insects, and talk about your predictions. List what you have seen.

**Extension**
1. Write a story or newspaper article about an animal you have studied. Include an animal or a scene from the article. Ask a grown-up to help you write down what happened. Share it with your family and classmates.
2. Send home the Heartwood Family Newsletter.
The Attribute of Hope

Hope - belief, desire, trust; the enemy of despair

The attribute of Hope involves feeling that what is desired is also possible. Hope is linked to faith and aspiration. Aspiration involves a strong desire, longing, aim, goal, ambition and power that directs the individual to set higher, nobler, and loftier objectives. It elevates beyond the plane of selfishness to nobility.

Stories that teach...

Hope

In school, we're reading these books:

A Chair for My Mother by Vera B. Williams
New York Mulberry Books, 1982

When fire destroys their apartment, Rosa, her mother and grandmother begin the task of saving money to buy a comfortable chair for their new home. This tale of a hardworking, loving family and a caring community provides a vivid message of hope and love.

Owl Moon, by Jane Yolen
New York Philomel, 1987

Observing wildlife in nature requires generous helpings of hope and patience. A young girl experiences this when she and her father go owling on a snowy, moonlit night. Respect for the Great Horned Owl, the special bond between father and child, and their relationship with the natural world make this gentle story memorable.

The Heartwood Institute, a nonprofit organization, may be reached at 1-800-HEART-10 or heartwood@aol.com. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.

The Kindergarten Child and Hope

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of Hope based on experience. Types of Hope include but are not limited to:

- wishing for good things to happen
- wishing to be big
- being able to wait for something pleasurable
- believing that wished-for things will happen or are true
- making get well cards for ill relatives or other children
- saving money to buy something they want
- planning a party or activity, setting a goal

Food for Thought

"The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof."

- Barbara Kingsolver, Animal Dreams

Things you can do at home:

- Tell your child about a time when you didn't give up hope, and got through something that was very hard.
- As a family, choose a hope and create a plan for making that hope come true (such as a vacation trip, the purchase of something for your home, or preparing for a special event).
- Have your child tell you a story about something he or she hopes to be able to do when he or she is older. Write the story and share it with others in your family.

COURAGE • LOYALTY • JUSTICE • RESPECT • HOPE • HONESTY • LOVE
Nature Hunt
Please adapt for your local environment.

Things to see

___ A feather 🦚
___ A hole in a tree 🌳
___ A yellow leaf 🍂
___ A red & black bird 🐦
___ An ant 🪒
___ A squirrel 🦇
___ A butterfly 🦋
___ A pine cone (or spruce) 🌲

Things to hear

___ A bee 🐝
___ Trees in the wind 🌬️
___ A bird 🦆
___ Dry leaves under feet 🍂
___ A farm animal 🐬

Things to Smell

___ The mud 🌱
___ Pine or spruce needles 🌲
___ A yellow flower 🌸
___ A hole 🛠
___ Green grass 🌿
___ Old leaves 🍁

Things to Feel

___ Wet mud 🌧
___ Prickly plant 🌿
___ The wind on a hill ⛦
___ Rotten wood 🍁
___ A worm 🐛
___ Tree bark 🍂
___ Leaves 🍃

Things Happening

___ An ant moving something 🪒
___ A spider web with a bug in it 🕷️
___ A leaf falling 🍂
___ An animal eating 🐕
___ A turtle swimming 🐢
___ A frog jumping 🐸
Additional Resources for Hope

**Songs**

"High Hopes"

"The Garden Song," David Mallett
(Numerous recordings are available, including one by Peter, Paul and Mary)

**Poems**


"March" by Elizabeth Coatsworth. (The World Treasury of Children's Literature, Clifton Fadiman, Ed. Book II.)

"Hope," Langston Hughes. (The Oxford Book of Children's Verse in America, Donald Hall, Ed.)


**More Books**

*The Cherry Tree*
by Ruskin Bond, illus. by Allan Eitzen
India

Young Rakhi plants a cherry seed and as her cherry tree grows and weather many obstacles, Rakhi also grows and blossoms into a woman. The tree is a symbol of hope as it prevails, despite damaging accidents and harsh weather conditions.

*Prize in the Snow*
by Bill Easterling
Boston: Little, Brown, 1994
U.S.A
A boy longs to be a hunter like his older brother. But when he captures a helpless rabbit in his trap, the boy decides to let the famished creature go.

*Mimi's Tutu*
by Tynia Thomassie, illus. by Jan Spivey Gilchrist
New York: Scholastic, 1996
U.S.A/African American
Inspired by her mother's African dance class, and her friend Sophie's dance outfit, Mimi longs to wear a tutu. Mimi's wish comes true when her aunts and grandmothers prepare a one-of-a-kind traditional African lapa (dancing skirt) for her.

*Umbrella*
by Taro Yashima
New York: Viking Press, 1958
U.S.A/Japan
When Momo receives a pair of red galoshes and a new umbrella for her third birthday, she hopes a rainy day will arrive soon so that she can use her gifts.

*Keeper for the Sea*
by Kimberley Smith Brady, illus. by Peter M. Fiore
New York: Simon & Schuster
U.S.A.
A young girl and her grandfather rise early to go fishing. Grandpa lands a beautiful “keeper,” but both he and the girl decide they’d rather return the fish to its ocean home.
Additional Resources for Hope (cont.)

**Amigo**
by Byrd Baylor Schweitzer, illus. by Garth Williams (o.p.)*
New York: Macmillan (Aladdin), 1963
Mexico
Desperately wanting a pet to love, a boy decides to tame a prairie dog who has already decided to tame the boy.

**Aurora Means Dawn**
by Scott Russell Sanders, illus. Jill Kastner
New York: Bradbury, 1989
U.S.A.
The Sheltons leave Connecticut for Ohio in 1800 with hopes for a prosperous new life. But they experience hardships along their journey and are surprised to find that they are the first settlers in Aurora and will have to start a community themselves.

**Daydreamers**
by Tom Feelings, illus. by Eloise Greenfield
U.S.A.
This hopeful poem puts into words the daydreams about playing, dancing, and growing up of some African American children.

**The Mountain That Loved a Bird**
by Alice McLerran, illus. by Eric Carle
New York: Picture Book Studio, 1985
U.S.A.
A bird helps bring new life to a lonely, barren mountain.

**Song of the Swallows**
by L. Politi
New York: Macmillan (Aladdin), 1948
Mexico
Young Juan prepares to welcome the swallows when they return to Capistrano, California following their winter migration.

**The Treasure**
by Uri Shulevitz
New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1978
Eastern Europe
A poor man follows the advice that came to him in a dream and eventually finds his way to a treasure.

**Resources**


* O.P. indicates out of print books. Look for these at your library.
Additional Resources for Hope (cont.)

Information about ordering moth cocoons is available from:

Young Entomologists Society, Inc.
Phone and fax: 517/887.0499
1915 Peggy Place
Lansing, MI 48910-2553
http://www.tessen.com/minibeast

Hatch a Monarch butterfly (caterpillar)
(You will be asked to harmlessly tag the butterflies and release them so this research project can track Monarch migration patterns.) Purchase a rearing kit from:

Monarch Watch
c/o O.R. Taylor
Department of Entomology
Haworth Hall
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66045

Phone: 913/864.4441
http://www.keil.ukans.edu/~monarch/
Honesty, the quality of being honorable, is a fundamental condition for friendship and community. "For he who is honest is noble whatever his fortune or birth."

-Alice Carey
Honesty is a world where people are always truthful. Honesty's sister is hope. It moves gracefully. It says "I'm the trustworthy of all." Honesty flows through the river of hope.
Honesty

**Honesty** — the quality of being honorable in principles, intentions, and actions; freedom from deceit, falseness, or fraud.

**Synonyms:** integrity, uprightness, truthfulness, sincerity, trustworthiness, genuineness, virtuousness, incorruptibility

How does one approach honesty? Take it seriously. Recognize that honesty is a fundamental condition for friendship, for community. "There can never be any solid friendship between individuals or union between communities that is worth the name unless the parties be persuaded of each other's honesty" (Mitylene's Envoys to Athens, Thucydides' Peloponnesian War I I I. 10).

Alice Carey has observed, "For he who is honest is noble whatever his fortune or birth."

"Oh, Daddy! I'll always know the difference between REAL and MOONSHINE now. Bangs and Thomas were almost lost because of MOONSHINE."

**Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine**
by Evaline Ness
The Kindergarten Child and Honesty

Young children have some difficulty with honesty. Their tendency to magical thinking often interferes with their ability to get facts straight. The line between wishing and reality is often so hazy that they think if they want something badly enough, it will happen or did happen. They aren’t being dishonest, they are just trying to bend reality to fit the way they wish things were. However, they are also beginning to develop a conscience and identify with the standards parents have set for them. When their behavior varies from parental expectations, they begin to feel a little uncomfortable.

Please remember:
• Expecting young children to be able to behave honestly all the time is unrealistic. We should make it clear that we know the difference, but we need not treat every made-up story as a serious transgression. Indeed, most adults do not tell the truth every single time, and it confuses children when adults tell small lies or fail to follow through on promises.

• Keeping secrets is almost impossible for kindergarten children, so you know what to expect if you try to plan a surprise party!

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed honesty or what honesty means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Honesty include but are not limited to:
• telling the truth
• giving back property one finds
• not taking things that belong to others
• not cheating in a game; following the rules
• making distinctions between reality and “pretending”
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Brainstorm how much a bike costs. Determine a realistic cost. Discuss the impact of Pedrito losing the money. Make a list of ways you might earn the money for a bike. **MATH**

2. Learn about balance. Make or visit a see-saw. Stand on one foot for as long as possible. Talk about how bike riders stay upright. **SCI**

3. Sometimes we say things that aren’t completely true, such as “It’s mine!” when it isn’t. Talk about ownership. For example, if you use school blocks to build a tower, whose is it? If you find a quarter, whose is it? **LA SS**

4. What does honesty look like? Brainstorm a variety of scenes that involve honesty and put descriptions of them on slips of paper. Take turns drawing a scene out of a hat to act out. Examples: A student finds a dollar bill on the floor of the school bus. What will he do? A student breaks another student’s toy. What words could she say that show honesty and respect? **SS**

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Pedrito’s Day

Luis Garay
1997
New York: Orchard Books

HONESTY
Latin America
Reading Time: 6 minutes

CONCEPTS

Honesty
Courage

SUMMARY

In this story we meet Pedrito, a Latin American shoe-shine boy. Pedrito bravely chooses honesty and restitution when he pays back lost money, even though it jeopardizes his hopes for a new bicycle. Author/illustrator Luis Garay evokes the feeling of the story through an emotional connection of text and pictures.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss honesty and courage as they apply to this story. The student will be able to identify times when he or she had the courage to tell the truth.


**Pedrito's Day**

**Discussion**

1. Why was Pedrito saving his money? How many of you have a bicycle or hope to get one soon? How might you get your bike? Why was having a bicycle so important to Pedrito and his family?

2. What important job did Pedrito's aunt ask him to do? What happened? How did he make it right?

3. Pedrito thought of a lot of excuses for losing the money. Why did he choose to tell the truth? Think of some words that were not what kind of a person Pedrito was. Why did Pedrito's mother think Pedrito was now old enough to save for a bicycle?

4. Do you think it was hard for Pedrito to tell the truth? Think of a time when it was hard for you to tell the truth. Would anyone like to share your experience?

**Activities**

1. Ask children to think of situations when they might find it hard to be honest. (Mother asks, "Who spilled the milk?" Did asks, "Who's turn is it to choose the TV program?" Role play the situations.)

2. Make a list of words that tell what kind of person Pedrito was. Use discussion question #3; Ask children to name a person they know who also has these traits.

3. As a class or in small groups discuss answers to the following questions:
   - What would have happened if Pedrito had told that a robber had taken the money?
   - Pedrito said a bird swooped down and grabbed the money?
   - Pedrito ran away?

**Extension**

1. Ask someone at home to talk about a time when it was difficult to be honest, but they still felt better.

2. Send home the Heartwood Family Newsletter on Honesty.
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Listen to music of recorded seashore sounds. Imagine you are at the seashore with Sam and Thomas. Talk about what you imagine. List the descriptive words students use. [MUSIC]

2. What is flummadiddle? Make up new words that mean moonshine. [LA]

3. Learn about the tides and the danger for Thomas as he went to the Blue Rock to look for a mermaid. [SCI]

4. Collect pictures of gerbils and other small pets for a pet collage. Compare gerbils and kangaroos. List differences and similarities. [ART] [SCI]

5. Borrow or buy a gerbil for the class to care for. [SCI]

Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine

Evaline Ness
1966
New York: Holt, Rhinehart, Winston

HONESTY
USA
Reading Time: 10 minutes

CONCEPTS

Honesty
Love

SUMMARY

In this classic story, Sam learns the difference between fantasy and truth when her tall tales (moonshine) put her young friend, Thomas, in danger. Ness’ illustrations received the Caldecott Award for their perceptive interpretation of the text.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss honesty and love as they apply to this story. The student will be able to tell the difference between truth and fiction, real and pretend.
**After the Story**

**Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine**

**DISCUSSION**

1. What did Sam's father mean when he said, "Talk REAL not MOONSHINE!" What terrible thing happened because of moonshine?
2. How did Sam feel when the Thomas's took Blue Rock? What did Sam do for Thomas at the end of the story? Why?
3. Sam's dad said that there is good moonshine and bad moonshine. What is the difference? When is it right to make up good moonshine? Honesty means telling the truth and not telling lies. How is pretending different from telling a lie?
4. What did you learn from the story? Share something that might be good moonshine.

**WRAP-UP**

In my Heartwood Journal draw a picture of someone you know who is honest. Dictate a sentence about your picture.

**ACTIVITIES**

1. Play the game "Real or Moonshine!". Children sit in a circle and take turns telling two things about themselves (one real and one moonshine). The next person must guess which is true and Which is not.
2. Why did Sam's dad believe her when she said Thomas was on Blue Rock? How did she look and act? Make a list of feeling words to describe Sam's state of mind.
3. Act out the end of the story, Thomas is in bed with a laryngitis and Sam brings the getwell. What might Sam and Thomas say to each other?
4. Make Honesty Badges. Design a badge with a motto, pledge or picture about honesty such as "Try to be honest!"

**EXTENSION**

1. Ask someone at home what they like to pretend as a child. Find out if moonshine ever got them in trouble.
2. Give "Honesty Badges" (see activity #4) to your family members and explain why you are giving them.
3. Send home the Heartwood Family Newsletter on Honesty.
The Attribute of Honesty

Honesty – the quality of being honorable in principles, intentions, and actions; freedom from deceit, falseness, or fraud

How does one approach Honesty? Take it seriously. Recognize that Honesty is a fundamental condition for friendship, for community. "There can never be any solid friendship between individuals or union between communities that is worth the name unless the parties be persuaded of each other’s honesty." (Mitylene’s Envoys to Athens, Thucydides' Peloponnesian War, 111.10).

The Kindergarten Child and Honesty

Your kindergartener already has an understanding of Honesty based on experience. Types of honesty include but are not limited to:

- telling the truth
- giving back property you have found
- not taking things that don’t belong to you
- not cheating in a game; following the rules
- making distinctions between reality and "pretending"

Stories that teach... Honesty

In school, we’re reading these books:

Pedrito’s Day, by Luis Garay

In this story we meet Pedrito, a Latin-American shoe-shine boy. Pedrito bravely chooses honesty and restitution when he pays back lost money, even though it jeopardizes his hopes for a new bicycle.

Sam, Baags, and Moonshine, by Evaline Ness

In this classic, Samantha learns the difference between fantasy and truth when her make believe tales ("moonshine") put her young friend, Thomas, in danger.

Food for Thought

"For he who is honest is noble whatever his fortune or birth." – Alice Carey

Recommended Books

How to Talk so Kids Will Listen and How to Listen so Kids Will Talk
Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish
1982, Avon
This book addresses communication skills for parents.

Things you can do at home:

- Talk with your child about a time someone in your family paid back money for something he/she lost or broke.
- Help your child write an Honesty Promise. Other family members may also create their own Honesty Promises.
- Share with your child things you liked to pretend when you were young.

COURAGE • LOYALTY • JUSTICE • RESPECT • HOPE • HONESTY • LOVE
Additional Resources for Honesty

Poems

The Pied Piper of Hamlin by Robert Louis Stevenson

Folktales

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

More books

A Day's Work
by Eve Bunting, Ronald Himier
New York: Clarion, 1993
Young Francisco learns a lesson about honesty and integrity when he lies to get needed employment for his non-English speaking grandfather.

Resources

Terry A. Beck, Building Healthy Friendships: Teaching Friendship Skills to Young People.
Love, like compassion, is a virtue of action as well as emotion. Love is the one thing we can continuously give and become increasingly rich in the giving.

LOVE
Love thinks of beauty when it does good things and compassion when people feel bad.
Love thinks of you love likes you to be caring and when you're not love says Tis k Tis kstisk until your caring again.
Love — an intense, affectionate concern for another person; self-sacrificing regard which seeks the well-being of others.

Synonyms: compassion, kindness, charity, generosity, patience, sympathy, tenderness, warmth, affection

Love, like compassion, is a virtue of action as well as emotion; something not only felt, but done. It is a feeling that needs to be educated and formed, so as not to be confused with sentimentality. Love is giving with no thought of getting. It is tenderness enfolding with strength to protect. It is forgiveness without further thought of that which is forgiven. It is understanding human weakness with knowledge of the true person shining through. It is quiet in the midst of turmoil. It is refusal to see anything but good in our fellow men and women. Love is the one thing we can give constantly and become increasingly rich in the giving.

I will love you,
forever and for always,
because you are
my Dear One.

Mama, Do You Love Me?
by Barbara M. Joose
The Kindergarten Child and Love

Although young children are struggling to become more independent, they are still reluctant to give up dependency completely. Relationships with adults, especially with parents, are still very important to them, although now they are able to tolerate separations. As they identify with caring adults, children want to care for others by helping or giving them things.

Teaching aspects
When discussing this attribute, you may deal with a variety of aspects. Children will think of some when you ask them about times they showed love or what love means to them. Others you may want to introduce yourself.

Types of Love include but are not limited to:
• feeling fond of people and pets
• hugging relatives and friends
• taking care of someone or something
• helping someone
• giving, materially or not, to another
• giving up something for another person
• wanting to be with the loved one

Please remember:
• Acknowledge and respect children's feelings and facilitate their expressions of love and caring. For example, we can say, "I can tell you are sad that your mom left."
• Ask children to express how they feel and point out their impact on the feelings of others, but avoid urging them to demonstrate love they may not feel.
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. Visit a nursing home or senior center. Take photographs of the children with their older friends and post on a bulletin board back in the classroom.  
   [SS]

2. Invite seniors into the classroom for a tea party. Ask them to tell stories of their early school experiences.  
   [SS]

3. Role play the story, taking parts of the old people and Wilfrid.  
   [LA]

4. Make a memory basket for your classroom. This could be an end-of-year activity with reminders of the school year together. Write a class story about why you chose these items  
   [LA]

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partidge

Mem Fox  
Illustrated by Julie Vivas.  
1985  
New York: Kane/Miller

LOVE  
Australia  
Reading Time: 4 minutes

CONCEPTS

Love  
Respect  
Generosity

SUMMARY

Wilfrid finds many friends at the old people’s home next door. When he learns that his favorite, Miss Nancy, has lost her memory, Wilfrid gathers a basket of treasures that help restore Miss Nancy’s own fond memories. Whimsical illustrations help readers remember Wilfrid’s generous heart long after the story is over.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss love, respect, and generosity as they apply to this story. The student will be able to identify acts of love and generosity.
After the Story

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge

**Discussion**

1. Why was Nancy Wilfrid's favorite person at the old people's home? What
was Wilfrid's problem?
2. What did Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge do that showed he loved and
cared about Miss Nancy? When Wilfrid gave Miss Nancy all the things he
collected, what happened? How did they both feel about sharing the memories?
3. How do you know Wilfrid was generous, not selfish? What did he do for his
other friends at the old people's home? Other than giving presents, how can you
be generous?
4. Tell us about an older friend or relative you like to visit. How do you show love?

**Activities**

1. Form a circle with a soft ball or bean bag suitable for tossing. Toss the bean bag to
someone in the circle and say something you like about him/her. Repeat until
everyone has had a turn catching the bean bag.
2. Bring a "Token of Love" from home. Each child shares something received from
someone she/he loves (a postcard, small gift, sea shell). Share the memory.
3. Give a "Token of Love" to an elderly family member or friend. (Make pictures of
friendship bracelets, origami animals, hand prints, ...)
4. Do something caring for someone today — but keep it a secret.

**Vocabulary**

organ cricket lad tram

**Wrap-Up**

In My Heartwood Journal, draw a picture of yourself with a
favorite older person.

1. At home, ask a grown-up to remember some older person he/she knew and loved
when he/she was young.
2. Recite Wilfrid's story at home or find it in the public library or book store so you
can enjoy it many times.
Classroom Connections & Additional Activities

1. In a shoe box, create an arctic scene. Cotton ball snow, sugar cube igloos, clay animals, and popsicle stick dog sleds are possibilities. [ART] [SS]

2. Make animal masks (paper plates, paper bags, feathers, yarn, tempera) and have a parade. [ART]

3. With eyes closed and relaxed breathing, imagine you are with someone who loves you. Wrap your arms around yourself and give a polar bear hug. Imagine giving a hug to the person who loves you. [PE]

4. Label a bulletin board “People Caring!” and post pictures of people showing kindness and caring. Add an envelope full of paper slips and ask children to add names of people at school who act in a kind and caring way. Option: draw or write what they do. (Don’t forget custodians, cafeteria workers, principal . . .) [SS] [ART]

5. Learn and sing “I love you a bushel and a peck.” [MUSIC]

6. Share stories of caring and being cared for. Illustrate and make an album. [LA] [ART]

Mama, Do You Love Me?

Barbara M. Joosse
Illustrated by Barbara Lavallee
1991
San Francisco: Chronicle Books

LOVE
North American/Inuit
Reading Time: 4 minutes

CONCEPTS

Love
Caring

SUMMARY

A mother’s unconditional love reassures a child who is testing her limits in this tender story set in the Arctic. This carefully researched narrative will introduce young children to a distinctly different culture, showing that the special love between parent and child is a bond that transcends all boundaries. Vibrant watercolors enhance the lyrical text.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to define and discuss love and caring as they apply to this story. The student will recognize words and actions that show love from caregivers and recall times they gave love to others.
2. Recall the story at home. Think of a creative way to tell someone how much you love him/her.

Child:
1. Ask a grown-up to tell about the kindest most caring person they know as a child.

EXTENSION

3. Look at the patterns on clothing in the book. Create a design of your own using crayons, patterns blocks or stamps. Make a bookmark by copying one of your designs on a strip of paper. Glue to someone you love (someone if possible).

However, it might be as much as a robin loves a worm or as much as a bunny loves a flower. Our friends, our families and our children might use if someone asked, “How much do you love?” Examples our mothers would talk about having or doing or where to find things with animals. If a child asked, “How much do you love?” Our friends, our families and our children might use if someone asked, “How much do you love?”

WRAP-UP

In My Heartwood Journal draw a picture of yourself with someone you love very much.

AC TIVITIES

1. Write “I love you” on a card or paper. Cut a piece of yarn as long as you.

2. Wrap around someone you love.

3. How many times do you like to hear someone say, “I love you”. Write in your journal.

After the Story

Mama, Do You Love Me?

Discussion

1. What is happening in the story? Why do you think the little elephant is sad? How would you feel if you were her?

2. Look at the picture of the elephant in the park. How would you feel if you were her?

3. How much do you think the elephant is happy on his or her own and still love her mother and his friends?

4. How could Mama be happy if she lost her baby elephant? How would you feel if you were her?
The Attribute of Love

Love - a strong, affectionate concern for another person; self-sacrificing regard that seeks the well-being of others

Love, like compassion, is a virtue of action as well as emotion, something not only felt, but done. It is a feeling that needs to be educated and formed, so as not to be confused with sentimentality. Love is giving with no thought of getting. It is tenderness enfolding with strength to protect. It is forgiveness without further thought of that which is forgiven. It is understanding human weakness with knowledge of the true person shining through. It is quiet in the midst of turmoil. It is refusal to see anything but good in our fellow men and women. Love is the one thing we can give constantly and become increasingly rich in the giving.

The Kindergarten Child and Love

Your kindergartner already has an understanding of Love based on experience. Types of Love include but are not limited to:

- feeling fond of people and pets
- hugging relatives and friends
- taking care of someone or something
- helping someone
- giving, materially or not, to another
- giving up something for another person
- wanting to be with the loved one

Stories that teach...

Love

In school, we're reading these books:

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge, by Mem Fox
New York, Kane/Miller, 1985

Wilfrid finds many friends at the old people's home next door. When he learns that his favorite, Miss Nancy, has lost her memory, Wilfrid gathers a basket of treasures and lovingly restores Miss Nancy's own fond memories.

Mama Do You Love Me, by Barbara M. Joosse

A mother's unconditional love reassures a child who is testing her limits in this tender story set in the Arctic. This carefully researched story introduces young children to a distinctly different culture, showing that the special love which exists between parent and child is a bond that transcends all boundaries.

Food for Thought

"The heart learns what the hands do." — Gandhi

Recommended Books

Parenting by Heart
Dr. Ron Taffel with Melinda Blau
1991, Addison Wesley

"How to be in charge, stay connected, and instill your values, when it feels like you've only got 15 minutes a day."

Things you can do at home:

- Tell your child about or show a picture of an older person you loved when you were young.
- Take your child to visit an elderly person.
- Take a special drawing or small gift.
- With your child and other family members, think up new ways of telling each other that you love one another.

COURAGE • LOYALTY • JUSTICE • RESPECT • HOPE • HONESTY • LOVE
Additional Resources for Love

Songs

"A Bushel and a Peck"

"The Way You Do the Things You Do"

"Hush Little Baby"

Poems


More books

The Keeping Quilt
by Patricia Polacco
New York: Simon & Schuster, 1988
Russia/U.S.A.
In a warm family story, Polacco tells of a patchwork quilt made from scraps of her Russian ancestors' clothing, and how this treasure was passed down through generations as a wedding canopy, baby blanket, etc.

The Legend of Scarface: A Blackfeet Indian Tale
by Robert San Souci
New York: Doubleday, 1978
Native American

Love You Forever
by Robert Munsch
Ontario: Firefly, 1986
Canada
A mother professes her unconditional love for her son, reassuring him that she will love him no matter how old he gets or how far away he goes.

Mrs. Katz and Tush
by Patricia Polacco
New York: Bantam Books, 1992
U.S.A.
An elderly Jewish woman and a young African American form a close friendship when they jointly care for a new kitten.

My Mother Is the Most Beautiful Woman in the World
by Becky Rehel, illus. by Ruth Gannett
New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1945
Little Varya becomes frightened when she is separated from her mother, whom she describes to the other villagers as "the most beautiful woman in the world."

Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs
by Tomie dePaola
New York: Putnam, 1973
U.S.A.
Young Tommy's close-knit family - including his Nana Downstairs (grandmother) - comforts him when his beloved Nana Upstairs (great-grandmother) dies.

Now One Foot, Now the Other
by Tomie dePaola
New York: Trumpet, 1981
U.S.A.
When his grandfather suffers a stroke, Bobby helps him relearn how to walk, just as his grandfather taught him years ago. A tender, intergenerational story of love.

Sachiko Means Happiness
by Kimiko Sakai, illus. by Tomie Arai
San Francisco: Children's Book Press, 1990
U.S.A./Japanese American
Five-year-old Sachiko realizes that even though her grandmother who has Alzheimer's disease can no longer recognize her, they can still have happy times together.
Additional Resources for Love (cont.)

The Wednesday Surprise
by Eve Bunting, illus. by Donald Carrick
New York; Clarion Books, 1989
U.S.A.
Every Wednesday night when Grandma comes over, she and Anna plan for Dad’s surprise party. As an even bigger surprise, Anna also helps Grandma learn to read.

Loving
by Ann Morris, illus. by Ken Heyman
New York; Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1990
This photo-essay provides tender examples of how families around the world express their love for each other.

The Bear That Heard Crying
by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock and Helen Kinsey, illus. by Ted Rand
New York; Cobblehill Books/Dutton Books, 1993
U.S.A.
When three-year-old Sarah Whitcher gets lost in the New Hampshire woods, a black bear protects her for three days until a search party finds her.

When I Am Old With You
by Angela A. Johnson, illus. by David Soman
New York; Orchard Books, 1990
U.S.A.
A boy pictures all the wonderful things – fishing, playing games, going to the beach – he’ll do with his grandfather years from now. And guess what – they’re the same wonderful things this loving pair already share with each other.

Gemma and the Baby Chick
by Antonia Barber, illus. by Karin Littlewood
New York; Scholastic, Inc., 1992
U.S.A.
Gemma tenderly cares for a baby chick that is reluctant to hatch.

My Little Brother
by Debi Gliori
Cambridge, Mass.; Candlewick Press, 1992
After trying everything she can imagine to get rid of her pesky little brother, a girl has second thoughts when the boy actually goes missing.

In Daddy’s Arms I Am Tall: African Americans Celebrating Fathers
illustrated by Javaka Steptoe
New York; Lee & Low, 1997
U.S.A.
This poetry collection highlights the loving bond between children and their fathers.

Guess How Much I Love You
by Sam McBratney, illus. by Anita Jeram
Little Nutbrown Hare and his father express a deep love for each other that stretches “as far as the river,” and “up to the moon – and back.”

The Runaway Bunny
by Margaret Wise Brown, illus. by Clement Hurd
New York; Harper & Row, 1942
A mother rabbit reassures her little bunny that she will love him no matter what and would even follow him to the ends of the earth.

The Crystal Ball
by Marie Scheidl, illus. by Nathalie Duroussy
New York; North-South Books, 1993
Kindness works better than any weapon when a princess suggests that her father the king befriend a giant who has been menacing the kingdom.

Gifts
by Jo Ellen Boggart, illus. by Barbara Reid
New York; Scholastic, Inc., 1994
Wherever Grandma goes as she travels...
Additional Resources for Love (cont.)

the world, she always remembers to bring back a very special memory – and memento – for her granddaughter.

Resources

Group Experience Stories

For each Heartwood attribute, write a dictated class story on newsprint. Children may illustrate the border. (Use a marker that is the color of the attribute.)

Laminate the completed story chart, if possible. Hang laminated Heartwood attribute stories with metal rings from plastic coat hangers. Use a coat rack or clothesline to store charts for easy retrieval. Let students "shop" for favorites as a culminating activity.

Prop Boxes

Props related to each story provide for spontaneous creative play. You may wish to place them in a dramatic play center.

Story Follow-Up Activities

1. Provide a tape recorder for children to retell the story and play it back for themselves. (An egg timer will help monitor this activity.)
2. Use puppets to retell the story.
Creative Drama Activities
by Ellen R. Rodwick

Creative drama and role-playing are some of the suggested activities in the Heartwood Kindergarten program. Dramatization of a situation or story presents students with the opportunity to be actively involved in the exploration of the attributes. The teacher often sets the scene, guides the actions, and assigns the roles. Through the recreation of story situations, the students may develop a better understanding of the character’s feelings. Just as children participate in dramatic play when they pretend in a housekeeping corner or at block play, the drama is spontaneous. However, the teacher initiates the action and sets the guidelines for the students.

Creative drama allows students to succeed through active participation. Often, children can explore alternative solutions to problems in the safety of a dramatic activity. In whole group drama, all children are involved simultaneously. As the lesson plans explain in detail, the children will listen to the teacher’s “side-coaching” or verbal interaction, or be asked to verbally interact in pairs or small groups. Occasionally, volunteers role-play in front of the class. Never force a child to take a role as this could be quite threatening. Select those who are responsive and verbal for the first demonstrations, in order to set the tone.

Establish a specific “cue” which indicates when action/talking should begin or end. You can utilize a piano chord, drum beat, lights off signal or just the verbal cues “Begin” and “Freeze.” Practice these cues with the class until you have an INSTANT and total response.

Stress believability in actions. Positive verbal comments reinforce what you want to see. For example, “Johnny really looks as if he is holding a book in his hands, I can almost see the pages being turned one by one” or “I believe that Sally feels sad right now, I can tell by the way she walks and the look on her face.” This type of reinforcement can often tone down over-exuberant students who “act out” for attention or have little self-control.

Begin any session by establishing boundaries for movement (Where is the playing area? How far does it extend?). Ask children to find their own “self space,” a small playing space surrounding each person which allows for movement without bumping into other people or furniture.

Review your rules. All must remain in their self space. All children should focus on their own activity without disturbing others. Talking occurs only when the teacher directs students to interact. Work begins when the teacher has everyone’s attention and all are quiet.

If you need to move tables/chairs to make space for movement, make it a part of the lesson. It is surprising how quietly and carefully furniture is moved when it “becomes” precious jewels, or fragile items! You can begin with simple activities.
Creative Drama Activities (cont.)

involving children in their seats, or on the floor, until you’re comfortable with more movement. For example:

- Children can close their eyes and imagine a movie plot to accompany various sounds created by rhythm instruments.
- Standing in one spot, children can become:
  - Leaves slowly falling from a tree
  - A seed growing into a plant
  - A snowman melting slowly into a puddle
  - A marionette manipulated by strings.

When you’re comfortable with beginning movement activities, ask children to imagine moving through various environments:

- Searching through tall grass
- Stepping gingerly in gooey mud
- Proceeding cautiously on hot cement
- Slipping on icy sidewalks.

Use a drumbeat to regulate speed of motion.

When you are ready, move on to simple pantomime. As you side-coach students through an entire exercise, modulate your voice to control the action. Pause to allow children to respond, and reinforce the behaviors/concentration that you hope to observe. You will be the storyteller as children respond. Try to make your directions specific. For example, rather than stating, “Walk around the room and be happy,” structure your instructions so that each detail is emphasized.

“Find a self space. When I say ‘Begin,’ I want you to imagine that you and your friend at school had fun playing today. You are walking home alone, from your bus stop. I want to see what you’re carrying and how heavy it is. Is it a book-bag? A folder? A lunch box? It’s a fall day, and there are piles of leaves that you will crunch underfoot as you walk. Show me with your face, your arms, your shoulders. I want to see how happy you feel. When everyone is ready, you’ll move in your own self space. Imagine that there is no one else around you. Ready — Begin.”

Afterward, have students “evaluate” the experience as a closure to each activity. They will discuss their personal experience, not the effectiveness of others’ dramatizations. You could ask “How did it feel when you imagined that…?”

If you find students have difficulty beginning, you may need to show how to “pretend” or pantomime. You can take on a role to help direct the action, but be sure to withdraw when students become comfortable. They should be encouraged to use their own imaginations, rather than mimic someone else.
Creative Drama Activities (cont.)

Above all, enjoy the experience of observing the children's creativity. Everyone can participate, and each child's experience will be unique. As you do more dramatic activities, you will need to spend less time on setting the stage and you will find the children able to spend more time "in character." Depth and concentration will increase as time goes on. You may wish to explore various situations which you have observed in the classroom, in order to improve social behavior! Children will enjoy becoming story characters, and will eventually wish to apply skills to enactment of real situations involving the attributes. Explore the possibilities together!

Teacher Statements for Creative Drama:

- "Here is our play space." (Show boundaries for movement.)

- Everyone should find their own self space away from other people and furniture.

- When you are quiet, we can begin. (Wait until all are concentrating and quiet.)

- Today, let's imagine that... (Give specific instruction.)

- When I begin (say "Begin," hit the drum, play the piano; whatever cue has been selected), start working.

- Stop whenever I say "Freeze" (hit the drum, etc.).

- Make me believe you! Show me with your body, without using any voices. Pretend you are all alone. Ready, begin.
Extended Activities across the Attributes

You can involve your entire school or child care center by utilizing one or several culminating activities. This will also provide your students with an opportunity to apply their new knowledge by sharing it with others. The audience may be other classes or parents.

- Have students make puppets (stick puppets, paper bag or sock puppets) which represent the story characters. Tape record each story, or create your own group story synopsis which include the main events. Have students practice and present their “puppet plays.”

- Create an ongoing mural which represents favorite parts of each story. Label the mural with the story title, and student’s dictated captions. For example, “I learned that everyone is afraid sometimes” or “Now I know that everyone has to do his/her job.”

- Create a banner for each attribute which can be displayed in the hallway or front entrance. Have students use iron-on crayons to draw story characters and transfer these to the cloth banner. Large felt letters can spell out each attribute.

- Create a multi-media presentation by taking slides of children as they participate in each activity. Coordinate with a tape recording which contains students describing each story, or sharing what they learned about each attribute. Videotape a Heartwood lesson and share it with parents at an evening meeting.

- Take photographs of children at entrance time, snack time, play time, etc., engaging in prosocial behavior. Continue throughout each unit, and display on a posterboard under headings such as, “Super Sharing” or “Cooperating Classmates.” Or create a weekly “honor roll” simply listing the names of students under these headings.

- “Shop” for stories by selecting favorite stories and re-reading with the class.

- Create a Heartwood T-shirt using fabric crayons. Each child can create his/her own design (make sure any printing is backwards), and an adult may be willing to help transfer the design using an iron. (See directions on fabric crayon box.)
Suggestions and Resources for Reading Aloud

“The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.”

– Richard Anderson
Becoming a Nation of Readers

When You Read Aloud

1. The mood should be one of relaxed listening.

2. Cultivate a sense of humor.

3. Know your material well. It is essential that you read material prior to presenting aloud.

4. Look at your listeners frequently while you are reading.

5. Practice clear enunciation, pleasant tone, and pacing that captures the rhythm and conveys the mood.

6. Practice pausing and timing.

7. Practice expression and feeling.

8. Use your imagination to create a picture and feeling.


Additional Books on Reading Aloud


Tips for Storytellers

1. Begin with a short tale that you love. If you are moved by a story then you will be able to affect others with it.

2. Identify your strengths. Listen to yourself tell a story. Know what you can do with your voice.

3. Think about the setting of the story — a storyteller must bring a place to life.

4. Be brave enough to use silence. Build suspense, indicate lapse of time, and anticipate the next action.

5. Tell your story over and over until you are comfortable with it (practice).

6. Respect your audience — don’t speak down to them or over their heads.

7. Don’t rush into a story — compose yourself.

8. Trust your tale. If you’ve chosen one you love and it has moved you, it will move others. As you concentrate on it, your nervousness will lessen and the tale itself will grow.

9. Know the story. Memorizing is not as important as a feel for the key elements.

10. Enunciate words correctly.

11. Regulate the pace of the story. Some stories move quickly from start to finish. Others need pauses.

12. Use simple props.

13. Use gestures. They should be natural and spontaneous. You can’t force gestures to fit.

14. Watch yourself in a mirror. Do you repeat the same movement too often? Do you use facial expressions to portray moods of character?

15. Tape yourself. You can hear whether you make good use of voice interactions and pauses, and whether the voices of different characters are easily told apart. Don’t be sing-songing.

16. Use descriptive words that make vivid and clear the intended picture. Sound, taste, smell, and other senses help make the picture; e.g., “He banged down the hall sucking a tart, juicy lemon.”
Casting a Spell: How to Read Aloud Effectively to a Group of Children
Dr. Margaret Mary Kimmel and Dr. Elizabeth Segel

You will be well rewarded for polishing your skills — by the clamor for “just one more” or the nearly silent sigh of satisfaction.

Essentially these suggestions on how to read aloud are directed to readers outside the home, because family members and guests need not be skilled readers to hold even the most restless listener spellbound. Keeping the attention of a group of children is more of a challenge, however. We offer here a few tips that will help the more reluctant or inexperienced reader to gain confidence and the veteran reader to perfect his or her technique.

A word about the audience. Reading aloud, although not a theatrical experience, is a performance. The reader must be aware of audience reaction; of creating a mood that allows the listener to respond to the story. This interaction between reader and listener; between story and audience, is a key to success. This doesn’t mean that one needs a stage, or even a fireplace and a deep leather chair, but it does mean that the reader has to pay attention to the atmosphere and physical setting of the session as well as the interpretation of the story. Too much heat or polar cold may distract listeners. With a little thought about which corner of the room to use, a quiet place can be created in a busy classroom or library. One librarian found that merely seating a group with their backs to the main activity of the room helped enormously with the problem of distraction.

One teacher sat in front of a window that looked out on a pleasant hill but found that the class, facing the bright light, was restless and uncomfortable. The wiggling decreased when she merely switched her chair around and sat the group at an angle from the window.

If the children will be sitting on the floor, try to mark out in some way where they are to sit. Otherwise, all through your reading, children will be inching forward, each jockeying for the best position, closer to you and the book. Tape or other marks on the floor can be helpful, or place carpet squares (often obtainable from rug stores) in a semicircle at the right distance. Tell each child to sit on her or his bottom on a square. This will rule out sprawling or kneeling for a better view, which blocks other children’s view, of course.

Timing is important, too. Experienced day-care and nursery-school staff know that reading a story following a strenuous playtime allows everyone a chance to simmer down.

Make sure that listeners can hear you. Volume control is often difficult for a beginner, but a simple question like “Can everyone hear me?” does much to reassure fidgety listeners. Since reading out loud is a shared experience, one must look at the audience now and then. Besides confirming the bond between reader and listener; this helps to gauge audience response and thwart rebellion in the back of the room.
Casting a Spell (cont.)

Sometimes an epidemic of wiggling is your clue that you have reached the end of children's attention spans; the point at which they cannot keep still, no matter how much they like the story. When this happens, it's best to break off (without scolding) at the next lull in the action, saving the rest for another time. If you are within a page of two of the chapter's end, however, you might just let your audience know that the story is almost over. This often helps the wigglers muster a bit more patience. Then plan to cover less material in subsequent sessions. Groups of toddlers or inexperienced listeners may need to begin with sessions as short as five or ten minutes. Ten- to fifteen-minute sessions suit most preschoolers, fifteen to twenty minutes is a reasonable length for primary school groups, and thirty minutes is about right for middle-graders.

Some preschoolers and even children of five, six, and seven can't sit still for anything. Don't assume that such children aren't enjoying being read to. If you can let these active ones move around (something that is admittedly more feasible at home than in school groups), you will probably find that they never wander out of earshot and are, in fact, taking it all in. In many cases they are enjoying the story as much as the child who sits motionless and clearly enthralled.

When you finish reading, don't break the spell by asking trivial questions ("What was the pig's name who won first prize at the county fair?" or "How long was Abel stranded on the island?"). Children get plenty of reading for information in their school careers. For the greatest benefit, most reading aloud should not be associated with testing of any sort; its goal should be simple pleasure.

If children have been moved by a story, they often do not want to discuss it at all right away. Later they may be happy to talk about it—or sing or dance or paint something that expresses how they feel about the story. The important word is "feel." Young children are not equipped to analyze literature. To press for such a response can reduce a complex and deeply felt experience to a chore.

Purists may be shocked, but we have been known to skip sentences, paragraphs, even an occasional chapter that we judged would lose the children's attention. Sometimes this means simply omitting a few nonessential phrases in order to reach the end of a chapter before a restless six-year-old's attention span expires. Or one may find that an author has indulged in digressions making a book that otherwise has great appeal for children too long. Even adults who read Watership Down silently may find themselves skipping over some of the discursive essays that begin certain chapters, and we recommend doing so when reading the book to children (unless you have very philosophical listeners and all the time in the world).

Occasionally you may want to omit a whole
chapter that you judge dull or offensive. This kind of omission can be made only if the narrative is episodic with one adventure following another but not depending on it for plot development. Such omissions of paragraphs or chapters must be carefully planned, so skim the material in advance and mark what you want to skip. You don’t want to discover later that you’ve left out a piece of information that’s essential to understanding the book’s conclusion. We have suggested a few omissions of nonessential material in our annotations of the recommended titles.

Most children are bored, we have found, by “The Lobster Quadrille” chapter of Alice in Wonderland, with its several long parodies of poems unfamiliar to children today, and by the inane recitations in chapter twenty-one of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer.

This kind of editing has a long and distinguished history from the days when oral storytellers, passing on the old tales, left out what didn’t please their audiences and elaborated on what did. It should be sparingly used but it is a legitimate expression of a good reader’s sensitivity to the needs of her or his audience.

Many of the books we recommend have illustrations that you will want to share with your listeners. The illustrations of picture books are in fact an essential component of the story, so try to hold a picture book facing the children as you read. This means that you have to crane your neck a bit to read from the side or develop the ability to decipher upside-down print, but these are talents that can be mastered. For books that are mostly text with occasional pictures, we suggest that you wait to show the illustrations until you have read aloud at least part of the book. (Of course, this won’t be possible when you are reading to one or two listeners who are sitting right next to you.) We make this suggestion because children in this age of television have many fewer opportunities to form their own mental images than earlier generations did. Experts feel that this impoverishment of the visual imagination is one of the most serious penalties of television viewing. By oral reading, we can provide children with the chance to create their own stormy seas or king’s palace. They can collaborate with Stevenson in imagining the terrifying blind pirate Pew, and the ingratiating yet treacherous Long John Silver. Wyeth’s illustrations for Treasure Island are classics, loved by generations of readers, but they are Wyeth’s images, his interpretations. Children can enjoy them all the more if they have first developed their own vivid mental pictures with which to compare them.

Children will probably object to this strategy. Their experience with picture books as well as with television has persuaded them that they can’t follow the story if they can’t see the pictures. But the illustrated book — unlike the picture book
— is not dependent on the pictures for meaning, and children can be led to understand this. If you don't train them, you'll find yourself having to interrupt your reading frequently to hold the book up for inspection. And nothing breaks the spell of a story faster than impatient squirms and cries of "I can't see," "Hey, teacher; I can't see!"

How dramatic should your reading be? Some readers are very straightforward. Others sway with the blowing wind and gasp in awe as the heroine saves the day. One bit of advice — keep it simple. Sometimes one is tempted to change the quality or pitch of the voice with different characters. In a short book with one or two characters, this isn't too difficult, but in a book like Queenie Peony it would be a mistake to attempt voice characterizations for the many people Queenie encounters. Even the most experienced reader can mistake one character's tone for another when the reading involves several sessions. Furthermore, such voice characterization often complicates the listening process. On the other hand, one does not want listeners to fall asleep — at least, not usually. A soothing, almost monotonous tone that would be fine at bedtime may lose an audience in the middle of the day.

An overly dramatic reading can frighten very small children or those new at listening to stories. Elizabeth was once reading Cops for Sale to a group of preschoolers. She doesn't think of this as a scary book, but when she got a bit carried away reading the peddler's part — "You monkeys, you! You give me back my caps" — one adorable little boy burst into tears. He seemed to think that the reader was angry at him!

For older children, whether or not the reading is a dramatic rendition is partly a matter of taste and experience. A more experienced reader can sense when a moment demands a grand gesture or a bellow of rage and perform accordingly. Do be careful with such actions, however. Just such a "bellow" once brought both the principal and the school nurse to the library on the run, and an exuberant father we know knocked a bowl of buttered popcorn sky-high with a sweeping gesture. Dramatization should sound spontaneous but needs to be carefully planned, especially by beginners. In the annotations for each book, we have tried not only to indicate possible difficulties for the reader, but sometimes to suggest occasions where one might wax eloquent.

Gauging the proper pace of a story is another essential ingredient. If the reading is too slow, the listeners may lose track of the action and become fidgety. "Get on with it, Dad" was one family's complaint. Too fast has some of the same problems — the listener simply can't keep up, can't savor the story. While the reader has some control of the overall pace, there are often parts of the narrative that have an internal rhythm of their own. For instance, Lucinda's pell-mell flight to find Policeman McGonegal and save Tony Coppino's fruit stand from the bullies in Roller Skates is a breathless race, and Ruth
Casting a Spell (cont.)

Sawyer built that breathlessness into her phrases and sentences. In *Tuck Everlasting*, Mae Tuck's violent confrontation with the man who is after the water of immortality is a dramatic scene that moves as swiftly as the blink of an eye. The pace of life in the humid, hot days suddenly quickens for both reader and listener. The beginnings of *The Iron Giant,* on the other hand, unfolds at a slow and dignified — even portentous — pace, dictated by Ted Hughes's careful choice of word and syntax. Many of our recommended books were chosen in part because the accomplished writers have such control of their material that the reader can't go wrong.

Yet it is through your voice that the author's words reach the listeners. Its tone and pitch color the experience. Music teachers coach their voice students to breathe from the diaphragm, and this admonition certainly applies to those who read aloud — whether just beginning or with hours of experience. Good breathing technique gives substance to a voice that otherwise may be light or high-pitched. It supports the voice and builds the listeners' confidence that you know what you're doing. A breathless quality may be all right when you're reading about the Elephant's Child, breathless with curiosity, as he approaches "the banks of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River." A group may get nervous, however, if you periodically appear to be in danger of falling off your chair because you haven't "caught your breath."

Above all, aim for an understandable delivery. Some regional accents, for instance, can confuse listeners not used to hearing such patterns. A high- or very low-pitched voice sometimes accents regional differences and makes it hard to listen. A reader may be unaware of such voice qualities, but a session or two with a tape recorder will certainly identify problem areas. More careful enunciation will modify most problems. Clear enunciation, in fact, helps with all aspects of reading aloud. This does not mean such exaggerated pronunciation that words "hang like ice cubes in the air," as critic Aidan Chambers describes it. Careful attention to the endings of words and sentences, however, helps the listeners to pay attention to the story, not to your reading style.

Finally, there is that bit of polish that makes reading sessions something special. It is the confidence that comes with practice and experience. There is no substitute for enthusiasm and preparation — but it does get easier with practice. One gradually becomes more aware of a story's possibilities and of an audience's subtle reactions. The experienced reader knows that a pause just before Hobberdy Dick makes his choice between the green suit of antic mirth and the red suit of humanity heightens the drama and allows the audience just that second to anticipate the satisfaction of the "right choice." The skilled reader knows that a lowered voice can emphasize the foreshadowing
of events as Old Da tells Robbie the legend of the Great Selkie in A Stranger Came Ashore.

You will be well rewarded for polishing your skills — by the clamor for "just one more" or the nearly silent sigh of satisfaction.

Used with permission of authors Dr. Margaret Mary Kimmel and Dr. Elizabeth Segel. For more direction in reading aloud, along with detailed and thoughtful descriptions of recommended books, see the book For Reading Out Loud! A Guide to Sharing Books with Children by Margaret Mary Kimmel and Elizabeth Segel, New York: Delacorte Press, 1988.
Conflict Resolution for Kindergarten
Dr. Martha Harty

To Kindergarten Teachers:
Your nursery school, daycare center, or preschool is a micro-community. Children are its citizens and you are their leader and admired role model. Your attitude can create a climate of cheerfulness, joy and stability, and your approach to conflict can empower the children to solve their problems constructively. Below are some basic concepts and guidelines for creating a safe, cooperative environment and for handling conflicts as teachable moments.

Conflicts are a normal and natural part of life. Minor skirmishes provide young children with valuable opportunities to practice and gain skills in expressing their feelings and negotiating to achieve their goals. Some adults with good intentions or low noise tolerance try to prevent all conflict—but end up depriving children of chances to learn key skills.

Your first strategy: don't intervene unless it's really necessary.

Some adults step in and try to dispense justice without knowing full details of a situation. They may blame a particular child and call the child naughty or bad, which causes the whole group to judge that child as the teacher did. Instead, focus on the causes of the conflict and the feelings it generates in the children. Ask them to talk about it, using the process below. You may find ways to improve your organizational system and reduce problems. You will often find opportunities to teach children important lessons about feelings and ways to solve conflicts.

If you have to intervene, help children use a process of talking and listening respectfully to others' viewpoints to solve conflicts.

1. Calm down.

2. Take turns listening and telling your stories and feelings.

3. Think of ideas for solving the problems that children think are fair.

Calming down may require "time out," used not as a punishment, but a chance to quiet strong feelings. You may need to stay with a child, or provide another calming influence, and let them return to the group when they feel ready. In step 2, taking turns means discouraging interruptions, perhaps using the concept of a Peace Table or other object that has to be touched or held by whoever is speaking. The children should explain what they want and why. If you can, summarize each child's main points. Finally, get everyone involved in creating a fair solution, even if it isn't one adults would have chosen. Doing it their way empowers children. Outcomes the children see as fair lead to peaceful classrooms.

Young children are open to new ways of settling differences, and they will quickly
Conflict Resolution for Kindergarten (cont.)

learn, use and enjoy this process. The best responses will come when they see you follow and respect the same approach and ground rules.

Teach children conflict resolution by modeling the process and by discussing basic concepts of feelings and conflict outcomes.

Children experience lots of feelings. How many different ones can they think of? (mad, sad, glad, etc.) They may draw a picture of a feeling or tell a story of a time they felt it. Show them a picture of a face that expresses a feeling and ask them to act it out.

Focus more clearly on anger and fear. Talk about what makes people get angry at others.

What are some different ways people act when they’re angry or afraid? Talk about how it is normal and natural to feel anger, even towards people you like and love. Anger in children is usually short-lived. Have children talk about someone they were mad at but they now like.

Conflicts can have different outcomes. Help children imagine several outcomes for a simple conflict (example — two children want to play with one toy. One may get it and the other loses it. They may fight and neither get it. Someone may get hurt. They may agree to share it or take turns or find another good toy so both are satisfied.)

Many Heartwood stories provide good opportunities for discussing strong feelings or imagining different outcomes. Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel, Amazing Grace, Ira Sleeps Over, and Too Many Tomates are examples. You will find many opportunities to use the Heartwood attributes all through the day: to draw the story plots into the children’s lives to make the words more meaningful. Children love to solve the puzzle of conflicts once they catch onto the empowering process. The more they use the Heartwood words are used, the more the children will “own” them.

Dr. Martha Harry teaches and designs training materials in conflict management and diversity at Carnegie Mellon University’s Center for Advancement of Applied Ethics. She is a community mediator for the Pittsburgh Mediation Center and managing director of The Heartwood Institute.

Resources


The Class Meeting

Each classroom is a community within the larger school community. Students learn about functioning in the larger community by participating in the classroom. The climate of the classroom community is influenced by many factors: students, teachers, physical surroundings, how decisions are made, and how problems are solved.

The class meeting is a strategy that helps students and teachers build a sense of community, enhance self-esteem, enrich the class climate, and manage problems. The class meeting enlists the entire group as a decision-making body by emphasizing interactive discussion.

Class meetings foster the attitudes, approaches, and skills needed for citizenship and provide experiences in democratic decision-making. To maximize the strategy, meetings should be held at regularly scheduled times. The length will vary depending on the meeting's purpose and the students' age level. Usually between ten and forty minutes is adequate.

A class meeting format might begin with a brainstorming session to generate a list of positive comments about the class (its physical environment and the way it functions). These comments should be recorded on newsprint (for later review) by the teacher or teacher's aide.

Second, a list of needs, problems, or concerns can be brainstormed and recorded on a separate sheet. After the second step, suggestions for how to meet the needs, how to solve the problems, and how to make the class a better place to learn and grow are listed.

At this point, the class can choose, by voting, two suggestions or ideas to be tried for a week (or until the next class meeting). The teacher keeps a record (Class Meeting notebook or folder) of ideas and suggestions. These can be posted on a bulletin board.

The meeting may be conducted with a cooperative group scenario. The class is divided into groups of five to seven students with an adult or older student recorder in each. The teacher or class leader assigns the brainstorming activity of positive comments, gives three to five minutes for groups to work together, and has recorders from each group read lists. The leader may post each list on newsprint. Groups then tackle the next step of listing needs or problems within the five to seven minute time limit.

For the voting, or third step, groups vote, then report their two choices. The two choices with the most votes are the solutions/suggestions that the entire class uses.

At the next class meeting, the class evaluates the effectiveness of the suggestions and votes to continue with those choices or to choose two others. The evaluation may be made by discussion and voting; by discussion and ranking; or by consensus.
The meeting then proceeds with other positive items, concerns, needs, and suggestions. The teacher's role is to emphasize continually the positive nature of class climate and decisions and to draw all class members into decision-making discussions.

Class meetings may be held for a variety of reasons. For example:
- Goal setting
- Problem solving
- Rule setting
- Ethical and social issues
- Classroom climate improvement

Students energized by this process often share the strategy in family meetings. The class meeting provides a forum for students' thoughts, as well as self-esteem building opportunities. Meetings help to nurture a caring citizenry.
This section contains a *My Heartwood Journal* cover and activity pages related to the Heartwood attributes, including many for gifted and older children. All of the pages in this section may be reproduced, and teachers are encouraged to do so.
Children's responses to the Heartwood stories are often profound. Keeping a Heartwood Journal helps them process and remember the lessons. On the next page we have provided a sample cover that may be reproduced and decorated by the children.

Kindergartners should be encouraged to draw their responses. If, in addition, the children dictate a sentence or two to an older child or adult, their acquisition of communication skills is enhanced.

Creating a book or portfolio during the year will provide a record of early thoughts about important character attributes and will serve as a meaningful reminder of the beautiful stories and gentle lessons learned in kindergarten.
My Heartwood Journal
Name: __________________________
The Seven Heartwood Attributes

Courage
Loyalty
Justice
Respect
Hope
Honesty
Love
Nature Hunt
Please adapt for your local environment.

Things to see

___ A feather 
___ A hole in a tree 
___ A yellow leaf 
___ A red & black bird 
___ An ant 
___ A squirrel 
___ A butterfly 
___ A pine cone (or spruce) 

Things to hear

___ A bee 
___ Trees in the wind 
___ A bird 
___ Dry leaves under feet 
___ A farm animal 

Things to Smell

___ The mud 
___ Pine or spruce needles 
___ A yellow flower 
___ A hole 
___ Green grass 
___ Old leaves 

Things to Feel

___ Wet mud 
___ Prickly plant 
___ The wind on a hill 
___ Rotten wood 
___ A worm 
___ Tree bark 
___ Leaves 

Things Happening

___ An ant moving something 
___ A spider web with a bug in it 
___ A leaf falling 
___ An animal eating 
___ A turtle swimming 
___ A frog jumping
Thinking It Over

List the characters of the story.

What would each character say about the attribute? (Write one sentence for each one.)

Character:

Comment about ____________________________

(attribute)

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

How Things Changed:

When the story first started:  When the story ended:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Attribute Recipe Cards

Ideas, feelings, and things of value can have recipes as do food dishes. If you were to “cook up” some “loyalty,” what ingredients might you use? How about “honesty”? Think of some recipe words like mix, bake, grill, broil, butter, saute, cup, tablespoon, teaspoon, dash, pinch. Write a recipe for some of the attributes.

Example:

Honesty

1 heaping cup of truth
1 tablespoon of integrity
A dash of friendship
A generous portion of courage

Simmer until needed.
Serves everyone.
Story:

Discovery:

Attribute:

Things I'll remember:

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
Draw the characters in the story. Write what they would say about the attribute in the speech bubbles.
Love Tree (People Who Love Me)

Name | Name
--- | ---
| Relationship | Relationship
Name | Name | Name | Name
| Relationship | Relationship | Relationship | Relationship
Name | Name
| Relationship | Relationship
SISTERS
Name | Name | Name
YOU
Name | Name | Name
BROTHERS
Name | Name | Name
Something to think about before presenting the attributes:

Values, standards, ethics, and moral decisionmaking are not learned overnight. They are conceptual. Seeds are planted. The role of the teacher is to nurture the seeds. The seeds will not mature in one season, like acorns or lupines, but will mature as the child develops, even as an acorn becomes a giant oak over the passage of time, gathering strength from the earth, the sun, and the rain.

It is a mistake to say, "Today education ends; tomorrow life begins." The process is continuous; the idea into the thought, the thought into action, the action into the character. When the mulberry seed falls into the ground and germinates, it begins to be transformed into silk.

Henry Van Dyke
"The School of Life"
*Harper's, October 1904*
The Heartwood Institute
425 N. Craig Street
Suite 302
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Send us your ideas!

Many talented, creative and caring teachers have used the Heartwood ideas, suggestions, and materials with enthusiasm and dedication. We would like to fill this section with some of these contributions, and we're interested in what you do! Simply complete this form, listing your successful activities, and examples of memorable children's responses. Then, fold this page (see back), and mail it to us!

Name ____________________________
Grade(s) ____________________________
School ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Idea/Activity/Comment ____________________________


Teacher Contributions

Honesty

“How can I be honest with myself?”

1. Cut out girl (page 4) and boy (page 5) dolls.

2. List (or draw) 3 things that you like about yourself.

Natalina Trunzo
Teacher, Grade 1
Pittsburgh, PA
Teacher Contributions

Any/All Attributes

Children draw a picture and write a sentence or more about their picture.

Evelyn Weiss
Teacher, Grade 1
Pittsburgh, PA

Hope

Book Title: Angel Child, Dragon Child

After reading and discussing the book the class drew and colored a beautiful Vietnamese dragon on large posterboard. We then invited Mrs. John Brownlee (Nguyen Lan) to visit our class and tell stories of her own life in Vietnam, for she too, had to leave her mother when she came to the U.S. with her sisters, just like the child in the story. We had a question-and-answer period and refreshments of rice cakes and iced tea. Another interesting point is that Mrs. Brownlee's maiden name, Nguyen, is the same last name as Angel Child in the story. Mrs. Brownlee told the class that Nguyen is a very common last name in Vietnam.

Marietta Doher
Teacher, Grade 1
Pittsburgh, PA

Respect

Expand upon the Heartwood idea: “Develop an advertisement for respect.”

We developed a commercial for respect. I had the students watch TV commercials to examine the elements of a commercial. Next, we decided upon slogans to be used. The students did all of the original wording. We used Aretha Franklin's “R.E.S.P.E.C.T.” as our theme song. Children were divided into groups. The groups included: speakers, prop makers, singers, etc. The result may be recorded on film — either still or video.

This idea was used across several “Respect” stories as a unit along with the S.T.A.R. program.

Cathy Perich
Teacher, Grade 2
Pittsburgh, PA

Respect

Book Title: Miss Rumphius

We planted seeds today. We did it to make the world more beautiful, but also as a culminating activity for several attributes. Some are marigold plants which should be ready by Mother's Day, to show love. Some are sunflower seeds, because they grow so tall. We hope they reach six feet. Each child will take one home to transplant. The growth of the plants will be charted and documented.

Also, as a culminating activity, we pick one child per day to be the V.I.P. The other students write what they like about the V.I.P. and he/she gets a book.

Mary Hanlon
Teacher, Grade 2
Pittsburgh, PA
Teacher Contributions

Respect

Semantic mapping as a group worked well with all attributes. Example:

Penny Levy  
Teacher, Grade 3  
Pittsburgh, PA

Any/All Attributes

For entire program, we used the Heartwood tree and put students' names on branches. As each attribute was discussed, we placed on the tree a color-coded apple with the attribute name on it. We kept the tree displayed on our classroom inside door.

M.E. Barringer  
Teacher, LD. 3, 4, 5  
Pittsburgh, PA
Teacher Contributions

Video

*Knots on a Counting Rope*
Spoken Arts, Inc.
Box 289
New Rochelle, NY 10802
Running Time, 13:27

Plays

*Instructor’s Big Book of Plays* (1983)
545 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10802
“The Travelers Lantern” is a play about kindness, loyalty, and self-sacrifice. (Upper Elementary)

“Goldilocks Spends a Day in Court” is a play about justice and fairness.
(Intermediate)

“Washday Soup” is a play about sharing, based on a Belgian folktale. (Primary)

“High-Flying Valentine” is a play about a confused woodchuck who wants to show his loyalty and caring to his friends on Valentine’s Day with a special Valentine surprise.

“The Reluctant Dragon” is a wonderful play that points out: “Never be too hasty for a fight. All creatures on earth deserve man’s respect.” The play is adapted from a television script written by Kenneth Grahame and published in partnership with the International Reading Association and WGBH-TV, Boston. Reprinted in the Creative Classroom Magazine.

Barbara Lanke, Teacher
Pittsburgh, PA
Jerome taught his class to count to 10 in Japanese.

- 1 (ichi) = 1
- 2 (ni) = 2
- 3 (san) = 3
- 4 (shi) = 4
- 5 (go) = 5
- 6 (roku) = 6
- 7 (nana) = 7
- 8 (hachi) = 8
- 9 (ku) = 9
- 10 (jyu) = 10