

Grade Level: Kindergarten-Grade 2

Topic: Caring School Climate

Unit Goal(s): Students study Article 1 (Right to Equality) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and explore issues of kindness, equality and brotherhood. Students distribute kindness coins to friends and family and create a flower quilt and Unity Book.

The students:

1. Discuss why Article 1 (Right to Equality) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is important and why it is a human right.
2. Role-play equality
3. Role-play kindness
4. Describe and/or respond to the concept of "Right to Equality" in a reflection journal.

The students:

1. Participate in a read-aloud story.
2. Discuss the story using the Think/Pair/Share strategy.
3. Respond to and describe the story in the reflection journals.

The students:

1. Make a kindness sharing time in class each day.
2. Make the Unity Book into a slide show for multi-media and/or online display.

G. Communicate and demonstrate your human rights learning

How can we share what we learned within our schools, families, and communities?

F. Reflect and draw conclusions on what you have learned about promoting and protecting human rights

What did we learn? Did our action have the intended impact?

The students:

1. Share experiences about showing kindness to others, the kindness coins, the quilt and the Unity Book.
2. Review Article 1 of the UDHR.
3. Revisit the class quilt and Unity Book.

E. Interview community members and collect information about the impact of your human rights action

What happened when we took action? Whose lives did we impact?

The students:

1. Collect information about treating others with kindness.
2. Collect information about the kindness coins.
3. Collect information about the class quilt.
4. Collect information about the Unity Book

A. Observe and identify the human rights issue

What is at the heart of this human rights issue?

Human Rights Process Model

D. Select a human rights response and take action

What is the best response or position?

The students:

1. Practice ways to show kindness in the classroom and other places.
2. Obtain kindness coins and distribute them.
3. Create class quilt and display it.
4. Create a Unity Book.
5. Hold a kickoff celebration for the Unity Book before beginning circulation.

B. Describe and share human rights stories

How have our ancestors worked to promote and protect this human right? Who within our schools, families, and communities promote and protect this human right?

C. Generate human rights responses and make predictions about their impact on the community

What could we do? What will happen if we do that?

The students:

1. Discuss possible ways (solutions) to treat people with kindness every day and make predictions about their effectiveness.
2. Role-play the solutions.
3. Discuss the concept of kindness coins and make predictions regarding how people will respond to being given such a coin.
4. Discuss the idea of the flower quilt.
5. Discuss the creation of a Unity Book.