

# Caring Lesson

## Care Packages

### Introduction:

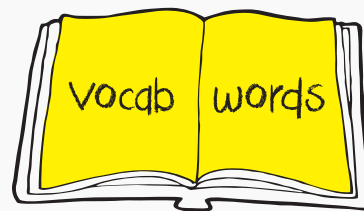
The caring nature of family and new friends helped Hallie and Elena Ricardo cope when their family moved to another state.

Essential  
Question:

How do we show people  
we care about them?



- Shoe box/es or small box/es (depending on how many care packages you wish to fill)
- Have an already created letter and/or picture that you can put in the care package (should be created by YOU)
- Caring letter template (provided)
- Caring art template (provided)
- Paper and art supplies to create original artwork and letters for soldiers
- Envelopes of different sizes and colors



caring

correspond

# Pre-viewing:

The following can be asked/done before watching video.

- In the video “Caring,” we are about to see elementary students talk about the word caring. They say, “Caring is being kind and loving,” and “Caring is showing affection,” and “When you care you say things like ‘I’m there for you.’”
- What are some other ways we might show we care for a person?
- What are some phrases or words we might say that show we care?
- How do actions show we care?
- What are some other things or people we might care about or care for in our lives? (Facilitate a discussion about pets, the earth, the school, etc.)

Notes:

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# Discussion Questions:

The following can be asked/done after watching video:

- Who demonstrates caring behavior in this video segment? How?
- Why is it difficult to leave behind someone you care about?
- What are some ways you can help someone who is having a difficult time in his or her life? How does it show that you care about that person?
- How does it make you feel when someone cares enough to help you with a problem?
- What are some other ways to show we care about people, pets, or other living things?

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# Procedure:

## Introduction:

- Hold up a box and introduce the idea of a care package. A care package is a container that people fill with things to give to someone who needs them. It shows how much you care for the people.
- Explain how students are going to create a care package for American soldiers who are far away from home. They care for all Americans — even students in schools! This care package will show them how much we care for them and how much we appreciate what they do for us.
- Some people fill care packages with things like candy, playing cards, books, or stamps, but you don't have to spend money to let someone know you care.
- We are going to fill our care package with letters and pictures.

## Direct Instruction (I do):

The following “I do” section is a script you can use to explain how you have created something to put in the care package.

- I don't know the soldiers that will receive my letter or my picture, so I'm going to write a note that anybody would like to get. It might be a man, it might be a woman — I don't know. But I know that soldier cares for me, and I want to show I care for them.
- I have a letter I wrote (read it to students)/this picture I created (show to students).
- I'm going to fold it neatly and put it in an envelope. (Do not seal the envelope; the letters will need to be inspected before being shipped overseas.)

# Procedure Continued:

## Direct Instruction (I do): *continued*

- ✦ Since I cannot put a name on the envelope, I will write, “Somebody Cares.” (Write this phrase on the board so students can copy if they wish.)
- ✦ Then I will put my envelope in the care package. When our care package is full, we can close it up, seal it, and mail it. If we need to, we can start a new care package.

## Guided Exploration (We do)

- ✦ Ask each student to suggest something they might draw and/or write that would make a soldier far away from home feel happy and cared for.
- ✦ Write some of their phrases on the board/on big paper.
- ✦ Collect ideas of things to write on the envelopes.
- ✦ Ask students about other items might they put in the care package.

## Independent Practice (You do)

- ✦ Give students the choice of using the templates provided or of creating something original.
- ✦ Encourage students to do their best work just as the soldiers are doing their best work to keep us safe.
- ✦ When their letters and artwork are ready, ask students to write a message on the envelopes and then fold the papers to fit inside the envelopes. (Do not seal.)
- ✦ Allow students to put their caring letters and pictures in the care package.

# Procedure Continued:

## Conclusion:

- Ask students how it felt to create a care package.
- How do they think the soldiers will feel when they open the care package?
- Seal the care package and write the address on the outside.  
(Note: there are several organizations that will send care packages including Operation Care Packages, Support Our Troops, Operation Gratitude, Any Soldier, etc.)
- Take a picture of the class with the care package/s and post in school newsletter and/or other places in the school.

Notes:

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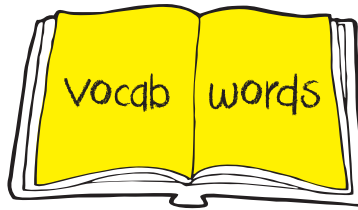
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# Vocabulary & Definitions



**caring (adj.)** Definition: being kind and loving; being concerned about someone because a person likes or loves him or her

Context: T.J. shows his caring nature by taking the neighborhood kids to the park to spend the day together.

**correspond (v.)** Definition: to send and receive letters

Context: After the family reunion in Florida, Shameka began to correspond with her distant cousins.

Source: Longman Advanced American Dictionary. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited, 2000.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Your friend,



A Picture Just for you!

Your friend,

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