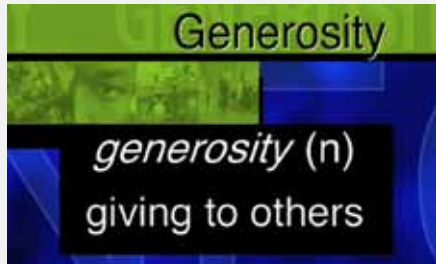


Character and Life Skills: Generosity

Lesson Title: Memorable Mentors

Grade Level: 3-5



Project and Purpose

Students identify a mentor in their lives and compose a brief description of their mentor.

Essential Question

How can we show generosity through mentorship?

Materials

- Pens, pencils, crayons, markers
- Paper, construction paper, card stock, poster board

Procedure

Introduction

1. Begin this lesson by defining the word “generosity” together.
2. Explain to your students that in this session they will focus on how generosity is shown in relationships between mentors and mentees.
3. Discuss the definition of mentor (**Merriam Webster**: *someone who gives advice, guidance, and help to a less experienced or younger person*). Be sure to emphasize that a mentor volunteers and give generously of time, talent, and energy.

Direct Instruction (I do)

1. Share a story involving someone who mentored you in your lifetime. Be sure to touch on how influential your mentor was and the different ways your mentor showed generosity.
2. Share a different time when you mentored someone else. Touch on how you showed generosity in this relationship.

Guided Exploration (We do)

1. Share the following scenarios.
 - **Scenario 1:** James and Micha want their favorite soccer player, Davor Suker, to autograph their posters. The two boys really admire the hard work and commitment that Davor exhibits during each game. They think he’s a really cool guy and would love the chance to meet him one day.
 - **Scenario 2:** Alexis and Mai Fen are working on Alexis’ science project. Mai Fen is older than Alexis and can offer suggestions on how to make the project even better. Alexis loves to spend time with Mai Fen because she always learns something new.

2. Discuss the following questions with your students:
 - Which scenario describes a role model?
 - Which scenario describes a mentor?
 - How are role models and mentors alike?
 - What are the differences between a role model and a mentor?
 - What are the characteristics of a good mentor?
 - Do you have a role model or a mentor in your life? Who?
 - How has this person affected your life?
 - Do you feel that one day you would be a good mentor for someone else? Why or why not?
 - Which requires more generosity: being a role model or being a mentor? Explain.

Independent Practice (You do)

1. Explain to your students that in this session they will work independently to write a brief description of someone who has served as a mentor to them. Their job is to write about who this person is, how they have affected them and how they have showed generosity in their mentorship. They should also draw a picture of their mentor to accompany the description.
2. As students finish writing their description, have them pair and trade their papers with a partner to proof read and edit their work.
3. Use the rest of class time to work on the “Memorable Mentors” wall. Encourage students to think back to the questions you discussed together about what makes a good mentor and how someone can show generosity.

Conclusion

As you put the wall together, have each student share his/her work aloud. Discuss what makes a good mentor with your students and encourage them to be mentors to other people in their lives.

Vocabulary

characteristic (n.)

Definition: a special and easily recognizable quality or feature of someone or something

Context: A good school counselor should possess the following characteristics: kindness, compassion and helpfulness.

generosity (n.)

Definition: the act of giving to others; willingness to give money, time, etc., in order to help or please someone

Context: Yvette’s generosity is clear when you realize the amount of time she volunteers each week.

mentor (n.)

Definition: an experienced person who advises, encourages and helps someone less experienced

Context: Roberto’s mentor spends hours teaching him how to fish and play the guitar.