

The Legacy Gift: Honoring the Donor Family

(Year 6 - Ages 11-12):

Lesson 7 of 9

Lesson Overview

Lesson Title:	The Legacy Gift: Honoring the Donor Family
Year Level:	Year 6 (Ages 11-12)
Lesson Duration:	60 minutes
Key Focus Areas:	Empathy for Loss/Grief, Legacy, Emotional Comfort/Consolation, and Reflective Writing (Writing for a sensitive purpose/audience).
Curriculum Links:	<p>Australian Curriculum – Health and Physical Education (Foundation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>AC9E6LY06</u>: Plan, create, edit and publish imaginative, informative, and persuasive texts, selecting text structures, language features, and visual features to suit the purpose and audience.• <u>AC9HP6P04</u>: Describe and demonstrate how respect and empathy can be expressed to positively influence relationships (linked to expressing deep empathy for the family).• <u>AC9HS6K07</u>: Explain the key roles and responsibilities of key institutions and processes in Australia's democracy and legal system (linked to the legal process of legacy/gifting).

Learning Intentions

- Investigate the concept of Legacy and how a person's life and kindness can continue to positively impact the community after they are gone.
- Use empathy to understand the complex emotions of the Donor Family (grief combined with pride and comfort).
- Analyse how the choice to honor the Ethical Pledge (L6) provides the family with emotional comfort (consolation).
- Practice high-level reflective writing skills by crafting a respectful, anonymous letter of gratitude that celebrates the donor's heroic decision.

Success Criteria

- Define "Legacy" in terms of kindness and lasting positive impact.
- Identify the two core emotions a Donor Family often experiences (loss/grief and comfort/pride).
- Explain how the act of donation provides comfort to the family (by honoring a wish and knowing lives were saved).
- Draft an anonymous letter of gratitude that is respectful, non-intrusive, and focuses solely on the heroism of their loved one's decision.



Teaching Sequence

Work through this lesson in the following sequence:

Duration	Part	Focus
10 minutes	Part A: The Legacy Hook	Introduction, defining Legacy (kindness living on), and setting the empathetic tone.
15 minutes	Part B: The Donor Family's Story	Active Listening to "The Legacy Story" and analyzing Grief vs. Comfort (Worksheet Activity 1).
20 minutes	Part C: The Gift of Consolation	Group Analysis of how honouring the Ethical Pledge (L6) provides Pride and Peace (Worksheet Activity 2).
15 minutes	Part D: The Anonymous Letter	Legacy Writing Activity: Students craft a respectful, anonymous letter of gratitude (Worksheet Activity 3).

Part A: The Legacy Hook (10 minutes)

Step 1. Review and Introduction

- Say: "We know donation gives back Time (L4) and starts with a Pledge (L6). Today, we look at the ultimate heroes: the Donor Family. We investigate their profound gift—the Legacy of their loved one."

Step 2. Defining Legacy

- Ask: "What is a person's Legacy?" (The good they leave behind, how they are remembered). Introduce a simple symbol of Legacy (e.g., image of a growing tree).
- Say: "The donor's kindness is their Legacy; the family is the guardian of that kindness."

Part B: The Donor Family's Story (15 minutes)

Step 1. Reading The Legacy Story

- Say: "This story is about a family balancing sadness with incredible pride. Listen with deep empathy." Read "The Legacy Story" (teacher resource), focusing on the family's process of making the decision and the comfort they found.

Step 2. Analyzing Dual Emotion (Worksheet Activity 1)

- Students complete Activity 1 (The Legacy Log), identifying the family's two core emotions: Grief (the loss) and Comfort (honouring the wish/saving lives).



Part C: The Gift of Consolation (20 minutes)

Step 1. Group Analysis: Comfort vs. Guilt (Worksheet Activity 2)

- Students discuss and complete Activity 2. Say: "When the family knew the Ethical Pledge (L6), they avoided the burden of guessing, which helped them find Comfort. The scale of the gift (saving 7 lives) transforms grief into Pride."

Step 2. Setting the Letter Rules

- Establish the rules for the letter: Anonymous, Respectful, Focus only on Gratitude and Heroism. Emphasize this is a practice in writing for a sensitive, appreciative purpose.

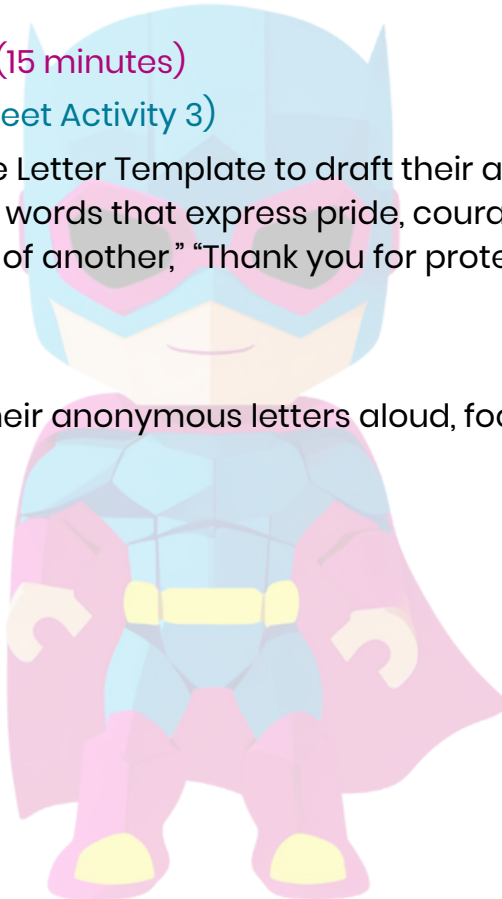
Part D: The Anonymous Letter (15 minutes)

Step 1. Legacy Writing (Worksheet Activity 3)

- Students use the Gratitude Letter Template to draft their anonymous letter. Circulate and guide students to use words that express pride, courage, comfort, and life (e.g., "Your courage echoes in the life of another," "Thank you for protecting your loved one's kind wish.").

Step 2. Sharing

- Ask 2-3 students to read their anonymous letters aloud, focusing on the respectful and empathetic tone.



Differentiated Learning

- Extension:
 - Challenge students to create a "Legacy Symbol" for the Donor (e.g., a shield, a candle) and explain why that symbol perfectly represents the family's source of comfort.
- Learning Support:
 - Provide a simplified sentence structure for the letter (e.g., "We are grateful that your loved one made the kind choice. We know it took great courage to honour their wish. Your family's decision created a lasting legacy of life.").

Teacher Reflection

- Did the lesson successfully address the complex dual emotions of the Donor Family with sensitivity and respect? Did students focus on Legacy/Comfort rather than dwelling on loss?

Assessment

- Worksheet (Activity 2): Assess the explanation of how honouring the wish provides comfort/pride.
- Worksheet (Activity 3): Evaluate the respectful tone and focus on the Legacy/Heroism in the anonymous letter (English/HPE links).

Additional Notes:

This lesson is a key empathetic highlight, completing the unit's emotional block (L4-L7). It fulfills the English and HPE learning intentions by requiring students to write sensitively for a specific, complex audience. The ultimate goal is to validate the Donor Family's decision as the peak of altruism and a lasting source of comfort through the creation of an eternal Legacy.

