

# The Community Message Mission

(Year 4 - Ages 9-10):

## Lesson 2 of 9

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### Teacher Preparation

#### Introduction for Teachers

This lesson adapts the core concept of "Understanding Your Audience" from the 16+ curriculum into an engaging and age-appropriate metaphor: "The Community Message Mission." For Year 4 students, the abstract idea of "audience" is transformed into a fun, hands-on "Communication Detective" mission.

The goal is for students to discover why we adjust our communication style for different groups. They will learn that to share a big idea successfully, they must first understand what matters to the people they are talking to. This lesson builds on the "Helping Heroes" theme from Lesson 1 by exploring how we talk about heroic and important ideas.

This builds a respectful and empathetic foundation for the most important "mission" of all: the family conversation. It gently frames talking about organ and tissue donation as a respectful and loving act of sharing, where the "key" is understanding and listening to your family's values.

### Teacher Resources

- A large "Top Secret: Mission Files" envelope.
- Resource: "Audience Profile Cards" (e.g., Classmates, Principal, Parents).
- Resource: "Mission Scenario Briefs" (e.g., Start a school garden, Clean up a local park).
- A "Mission Debrief" worksheet for each student/group.
- Poster paper, markers, and pencils.



## Key Concepts & Language for Teachers

- **The "Communication Detective" Metaphor:** This is the central theme. Frame the lesson as a fun, important mission.
  - **Say:** "Hello, Communication Detectives! Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to figure out the best way to share important messages with our community. Every good detective knows you need a plan! Today, we're going to learn how to create the perfect communication plan."
- **Defining "Audience":** Translate this term into simple language.
  - **Say:** "The 'audience' is simply the person or group you are trying to talk to. Is your audience your best friend? Your principal? Your parents? Each audience is different!"
- **Defining "The Strategy":** This is the part of the plan that changes. The goal is to make the audience want to listen.
  - **Ask:** "Let's say our mission is to start a new school garden. What's our strategy for getting your classmates (Audience 1) excited? What would they care about? (e.g., 'Getting to play in the dirt!' 'Growing food for a pizza party!')
  - **Ask:** "Great! Now, what's our strategy for convincing our principal (Audience 2)? Would they care about the same things? (e.g., 'Making the school look beautiful,' 'Learning about science,' 'Being responsible.')
- **Connecting to the Bigger Idea (The Family Discussion):** This is the most crucial part of the lesson. Frame this as the most important, special, and respectful "mission."
  - **Say with a caring, thoughtful tone:** "Detectives, there is one mission that is more important than all the others. It's the 'Family Mission.' Your family, or the grown-ups who care for you, are your most important team."
  - **Say:** "When we want to share a really big, important, heroic idea—like the idea of being a Helping Hero and a donor—the strategy is different. It's not about 'convincing' anyone. The strategy is simply love and respect. The mission is to share what you think, and to listen to what they think. That's it. The mission is complete just by having the conversation, because that's how your family team works best—by sharing and listening."



## Safety and Sensitivity Considerations

- **Inclusive Definition of "Family":** When discussing "family," be mindful of diverse family structures. Use inclusive language like "your family or the grown-ups who care for you" to ensure every student feels included.
- **No "Right" or "Wrong" Strategy:** In the group scenarios, the goal is exploration. Emphasise that all ideas are good and that the aim is to think why one strategy might work better than another. This is about creative problem-solving, not a test.
- **Focus on the "Talking," Not the "Topic":** The connection to donation is about how to talk, not what to decide. Gently reinforce that the goal is simply sharing your wishes and listening. Reiterate that this is an idea for "much, much later in life" but that "talking is the first and most important step."
- **Acknowledge All Perspectives:** When discussing the final "Family Mission," make it clear that all families and all people have different values and beliefs, and that is completely okay. The goal is understanding those values, not changing them.

## Magical Body Facts for Year 4 (Ages 9-10)

- Your amazing brain generates enough electricity to power a lightbulb!
- The human eye can distinguish between about 10 million different colours.
- Your body produces about 25 million new cells every second. That's more than the entire population of Australia!
- If you stretched out all the DNA in all your cells, it would reach to the sun and back... more than 600 times!
- Your liver is an incredible 'repair shop'—it's the only organ in your body that can regrow itself if part of it is damaged or removed.
- Your kidneys are amazing filters! They filter all the blood in your body about 300 times a day (over 180 litres) to keep it clean.
- You are taller in the morning! Throughout the day, gravity gently compresses the cartilage in your spine, making you a tiny bit shorter by evening.
- Your heart is so powerful that its beat can squirt blood over 9 metres (30 feet)!
- The acid in your stomach is strong enough to dissolve zinc, but the special lining of your stomach wall protects it.
- Your small intestine, where your body absorbs food, is over 6 metres long—that's as long as a giraffe is tall!

