

The Domino Effect: Community Kindness

(Year 5 - Ages 10-11):

Lesson 8 of 9

Lesson Summary

This lesson consolidates the entire unit by focusing on the community impact of altruism, adapting the senior curriculum's "Audience" theme. Using the visual and dynamic metaphor of a domino effect, students explore how the singular act of kindness—the donor's Hero's Pledge—creates a chain reaction of positive outcomes that reaches far beyond the recipient (the "first domino"). Students will visually map this effect, recognizing that the gift brings joy, hope, and renewed life not just to the patient, but to their family, friends, and the medical community. This lesson frames the donor as the catalyst for community kindness.

Learning Intentions

Students will

- Understand the "domino effect" as a metaphor for how one act of altruism creates widespread community benefit.
- Consolidate all metaphors learned in the unit (Pledge, Echo, Treasury, Story) by seeing their combined positive outcome.
- Analyze who makes up the broader "audience" (family, friends, community) that benefits from a single donation.
- Recognize the profound impact of the gift on the recipient's family (their renewed hope and freedom).

Success Criteria

Students can

- Explain the "domino effect" metaphor in the context of donation.
- Identify at least four people/groups (e.g., recipient's sibling, friend, parent, doctor) who are positively impacted by the gift.
- Map out the chain reaction of kindness starting from the donor and reaching the community.
- Articulate why the gift is not just "life-saving," but "community-changing."

Lesson Details

Time:	60 minutes
Year Level:	Year 5 (Ages 10-11)
Unit:	This is Lesson 8 of 9 in the series.
Educational Partner:	This lesson is adapted from resources provided by DonateLife

General Capabilities

Personal and Social Capability; Ethical Understanding; Critical and Creative Thinking; Literacy



Curriculum Mapping and Links

Australian Curriculum (v9.0)

Subject	Strand	Content Descriptor
Health and Physical Education	Personal, Social and Community Health	<u>AC9HP6P02</u> : Describe and apply strategies that demonstrate consideration for others' feelings, needs and rights.
HASS (Civics and Citizenship)	Knowledge and Understanding	<u>AC9HS5K07</u> : The roles of groups and individuals in communities and how they contribute to community life and cohesion.
English	Creating Texts	<u>AC9E5LY06</u> : Plan, create, edit and publish imaginative and informative texts, using language and visual features to suit the purpose and audience.
The Arts (Visual Arts)	Creating	<u>AC9AVA6C01</u> : Develop and apply techniques and processes in art making to express ideas, perspectives, and/or feelings.

Queensland Curriculum (QCAA)

Subject	Syllabus	Content Description
Health and Physical Education	Year 5	Describe and apply strategies to promote their own and others' health, safety, and wellbeing.
HASS (Civics and Citizenship)	Year 5	How individuals and groups contribute to the communities to which they belong and the importance of civics and citizenship.
English	Year 5	Create written and multimodal informative texts, selecting and using text structures, language, and visual features to suit the purpose and audience.
The Arts (Visual Arts)	Year 5	Create and display visual artworks for different purposes and audiences.



Resources Required

- Resource: "The Domino Chain Reaction" (A large, simple visual diagram for the board showing Donor → Recipient → Family → Community).
- A set of actual dominos (optional, for the hook).
- Student Worksheet: "My Kindness Domino Effect" (A template with connected boxes for mapping the chain reaction).
- Markers and coloured pencils.

Skills

- Empathy (understanding multiple perspectives)
- Systems Thinking (understanding chain reactions)
- Visual Communication
- Consolidation and Synthesis (of unit concepts)

Teacher Preparation

- Crucial: Prepare the "Domino Chain Reaction" visual. This is the central metaphor and must be clear. It should show how the impact ripples outwards from the donor to the wider community.
- Focus: This lesson synthesizes Lessons 1-7. Ensure you have the confidence to recap core ideas: the 8/10 vs 4/10 statistic, the Hero's Echo, the Treasure of Time, and the positive recipient story.
- Safety: The discussion must remain focused on the positive impact of the donation on the community, not the circumstances of the donor's passing.

Additional Information

This penultimate lesson serves as the powerful finale to the unit's emotional arc. By showing the students the "Domino Effect," they understand that the single choice to be a Hero is not a private matter but a powerful act of community kindness that touches countless people they will never meet. This reinforces the ethical and social relevance of altruism and the importance of the Hero's Echo for the well-being of the entire community.

