

# Sharing Our Kindness Stories

(Year 1 - Ages 6-7):

## Lesson 5 of 9

### Lesson Overview

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Lesson Title:     | Sharing Our Kindness Stories   |
| Year Level:       | Year 1 (Ages 6-7)  |
| Lesson Duration:  | 30 minutes   |
| Key Focus Areas:  | Understanding kindness, helping, and the positive impact of our actions.   |
| Curriculum Links: | <p>Australian Curriculum – Health and Physical Education (Foundation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>AC9HP2P02</u>: Describe how respect, empathy and compassion can be expressed to build positive relationships.</li><li>• <u>AC9E1LY06</u>: Create and edit short texts for familiar audiences, using text structure, sentence-level grammar, punctuation and word choice</li><li>• <u>AC9AVA2C01</u>: Use materials, techniques and technologies to explore art making, and represent ideas and experiences.</li></ul> |

### Learning Intentions

- Recall the main ideas from our kindness lessons.
- Understand that sharing positive stories is an important way to be kind.
- Create a tool to help us share our kindness story with others.

### Success Criteria

- Name one important kindness story we have learned.
- Explain why it is good to share positive stories.
- Design a "Kindness Story Stone" that shows the story I want to share.



## Teaching Sequence

Work through this lesson in the following sequence:

| Duration   | Part                                  | Focus   |
|------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 5 minutes  | Part A. Becoming Kindness Ambassadors | Review and Introduction to Sharing Stories                  |
| 10 minutes | Part B. What's Our Big Story?         | Brainstorming Key Kindness Ideas & Introducing the Activity |
| 10 minutes | Part C. Creating Our Story Stones     | Creative Activity & Connecting to the Big Idea              |
| 5 minutes  | Part D. The Story Circle              | Reflection and Sharing                                      |

### Part A. Becoming Kindness Ambassadors (5 minutes)

#### Step 1. Review and Introduction

- Gather students on the floor. Hold up the "Wishing Well" from the previous lesson.
- Say: "Hello everyone! Last time, we filled our wishing well with all of our hopes for our happy 'tomorrows.' Today, we're going to learn how to share the story of kindness with others, so we can help give them hope for happy tomorrows, too. We are going to become Kindness Ambassadors!"
- Ask: "What do you think an ambassador does?" (Guide them to understand it's someone who shares an important message with others).
- Say: "That's right! And our message is the most important one of all: the message of kindness and helping."

#### Step 2. Story Time

- Introduce a picture book about the power of stories or sharing messages, like *The Word Collector* by Peter H. Reynolds.

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- Say: "This story is about how powerful and special words and stories can be. Let's see how the character collects and shares his words."
- Read the story aloud, focusing on the joy of sharing ideas with others.

## Part B. What's Our Big Story? (10 minutes)

### Step 1. Brainstorming Our Key Kindness Ideas

- Say: "Okay, Kindness Ambassadors, what is the big story we want to share? Let's think about all the important ideas we've learned."
- On the whiteboard, create a mind map or list of the core concepts from the unit, using simple icons.
  - Kindness Ripples: (Draw concentric circles).
  - Our Caring Circles: (Draw overlapping circles).
  - Our Amazing Bodies: (Draw a simple person with a heart).
  - The Gift of More Tomorrows: (Draw a gift box or a sun).
  - The Kind Choice to Say 'Yes': (Draw a big thumbs up).

### Step 2. Introducing the "Story Stone" Activity

- Show the students the smooth, flat stones.
- Say: "To help us remember our story, we are each going to create a special Story Stone. A story stone is a small, smooth stone with a picture on it that represents a big idea. It's a tool that ambassadors can use to help them share their message."
- Distribute the "My Kindness Story" worksheet.
- Instruct: "On your worksheet, you have a big stone to design. Your mission is to choose your favourite and most important idea from our list and draw a simple picture of it on your stone. This will be the symbol of the kindness story you want to share."

## Part C. Creating Our Story Stones (10 minutes)

### Step 1. Creative Activity

- Students move to tables to design their story stone on the worksheet.
- As they work, circulate and talk to them about their chosen symbol.
  - "What a great choice! Why is the 'Kindness Ripple' the most important part of the story for you?"
  - "Tell me about the 'Caring Circles' you are drawing."

### Step 2. Connecting to the Bigger Idea

- As they finish their designs, reinforce the purpose of sharing.



- Say: "Your story stones are so powerful. They hold a very important message. When you share your story with your family, you are being a true Kindness Ambassador. You are helping them understand the gift of donation in a positive and happy way. You are not telling them what to do, you are just sharing a beautiful story of kindness, and that is a very brave and important job."

## Part D. The Story Circle (5 minutes)

### Step 1. Sharing Practice

- Gather the students back to the floor with their completed worksheets.
- Say: "Let's practice being ambassadors. I want you to turn to a partner, show them your story stone design, and tell them the story it represents."
- Allow a few minutes for students to practice sharing their chosen story with a peer.

### Step 2. Reflection

- Ask: "How did it feel to be a Kindness Ambassador and share your important story?"
- Say: "You all have a very special message to share. When you go home, you can use your story stone design to help you tell your family about the wonderful things we have learned. You are all officially ready to spread the ripple of kindness!" (Optional: You can create the real story stones with paint as a follow-up art activity).

## Differentiated Learning

- Extension:
  - Challenge students to write a key word on their worksheet that matches their story stone (e.g., "HELP," "LOVE," "TEAM," "GIFT").
  - Ask them to think of one person in their family they would like to share their story with first.
- Learning Support:
  - Provide a small sheet of pre-drawn icons of the key ideas that students can choose from to copy or trace onto their worksheet.
  - Work with a small group to help them choose their most important story and talk through their drawing.



## Teacher Reflection

- Did the "Kindness Ambassador" and "Story Stone" metaphors work to empower the students?
- Were students able to recall and choose from the key concepts learned throughout the unit?
- Did the partner-sharing activity help build their confidence to share their stories at home?
- How did this lesson successfully adapt the idea of "having a conversation" into a positive, child-led storytelling activity?

## Assessment

- Observation of participation in the brainstorm of key kindness ideas.
- Ability to choose a key concept and represent it visually on their worksheet.
- Engagement in the partner-sharing activity, showing a basic ability to retell a concept.
- Verbal expression of what it means to be a "Kindness Ambassador" (someone who shares a kind story).

## Additional Notes:

Ensure the lesson frames the take-home activity as a fun and voluntary act of sharing, not a mandatory conversation. The "Story Stone" is a low-pressure tool that allows the child to be in control of how and when they share what they've learned.

This lesson is a crucial step in moving students from being receivers of information to becoming confident sharers of the positive messages of kindness and donation. It provides a safe and creative bridge for these important ideas to travel from the classroom to the home.

