

# The Greatest Gift: More Time to Play

(Prep - Ages 5-6):

## Lesson 4 of 9

### Lesson Overview

Lesson Title:	The Greatest Gift: More Time to Play
Year Level:	Prep (Ages 5-6)
Lesson Duration:	30 minutes
Key Focus Areas:	Understanding kindness, sharing, and helping others
Curriculum Links:	<p>Australian Curriculum – Health and Physical Education (Foundation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>AC9HPFP06</u>: Identify actions that promote health, safety and wellbeing</li><li>• <u>AC9HSFK02</u>: Sequence familiar events in order to recognise that time passes and to identify the past, present and future.</li><li>• <u>ACAVAM107</u>: Use and experiment with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks.</li></ul>

### Learning Intentions

- Identify happy activities that we enjoy doing over time.
- Understand that being healthy helps us have time for these activities.
- Recognise that the "magical gift" of donation gives people the gift of more happy time.

### Success Criteria

- Name a happy activity I like to do.
- Explain that the "magical gift" helps people have more time to play and be happy.
- Draw a picture of a happy activity to give as a "gift of time."



## Teaching Sequence

Work through this lesson in the following sequence:

Duration	Part	Focus
5 minutes	Part A. What is Happy Time?	Introduction, Story Time & Understanding Time
15 minutes	Part B. Collecting Happy Moments	Brainstorming & Creative "Gift of Time" Activity
5 minutes	Part C. The Greatest Gift of All	Connecting Happy Time to the Big Idea
5 minutes	Part D. Sharing Our Gifts of Time	Reflection and Celebration

### Part A. What is Happy Time? (5 minutes)

#### Step 1. Review and Introduction

- Gather students on the floor. Hold up the decorated "The Gift of Time" box.
- Say: "Hello Kindness Superheroes! Today we are going to talk about the most precious, most magical, and most wonderful present anyone can ever receive. It's called the Gift of Time." (Place the box in the middle of the circle).
- Ask: "What do you think 'time' means?" (Listen to a few ideas). Say: "Time is all our special moments. Yesterday was a time, today is a time, and tomorrow will be a new time!" (Point to a simple class calendar or timeline).

#### Step 2. Story Time

- Introduce a picture book about waiting for a special event or seasons changing (e.g., Waiting by Kevin Henkes).
- Say: "This story is about waiting for special moments to happen. Let's read and see what happy times the characters are waiting for."



- Read the story aloud. Afterwards, connect it to the theme.
  - Ask: "What were the characters in the story waiting for? Were they happy times?"
  - Ask: "What is a happy time that you have had to wait for?" (e.g., your birthday, a holiday, a visit from family).

## Part B. Collecting Happy Moments (15 minutes)

### Step 1. Brainstorming Our Favourite Times

- Say: "Our lives are full of so many happy times! What are some of your favourite things to do? What makes you feel happy and full of energy?"
- Brainstorm a list of happy activities with the class. Write or draw simple icons of their ideas on the board (e.g., playing at the park, eating ice cream, reading a book, getting a hug, celebrating a birthday).
- Say: "These are all wonderful happy moments! To do all these things, our bodies need to be **healthy** and **strong**. Being healthy gives us the gift of time to play and have fun."

### Step 2. Introducing the "Gift of Time" Activity

- Distribute the small cards (the "My Gift of Time Worksheet") and crayons.
- Instruct: "Your job is to draw a picture of one of your most favourite happy times on this special card. This will be your 'gift of a happy time'. When you are finished, we are going to put all our happy moments into our special 'Gift of Time' box to keep them safe."

### Step 3. Creative Activity

- Students move to tables to draw their happy moment.
  - As they work, circulate and talk to them about their drawings.
  - "Tell me about this happy time you've drawn."
  - "That looks like so much fun! Who are you playing with?"

## Part C. The Greatest Gift of All (5 minutes)

### Step 1. Connecting to the Bigger Idea

- Gather students back to the floor, asking them to bring their finished drawings.
- Say: "You have all drawn such beautiful happy moments! These are all such precious gifts of time."



- Say with a gentle, caring tone: "Sometimes, a person's body gets very sick, and they don't have the energy to do their favourite things. They might be too sick to go to the park, or play with their friends, or even celebrate their birthday. They are missing out on their happy times."
- Continue with a sense of wonder: "The most wonderful, magical gift anyone can ever receive is the gift of more time. When a kind family makes the superhero choice to share the 'magical gift' of a healthy body part, they are giving someone more time for everything. More time for birthdays, more time for playing, and more time for hugs. It truly is the greatest gift of all."

## Part D. Sharing Our Gifts of Time (5 minutes)

### Step 1. Filling the Box

- Say: "Now, let's fill our box with all these precious gifts. As you put your drawing in the box, I want you to whisper the happy time you drew."
- One by one, have each child come up and place their card into "The Gift of Time" box.

### Step 2. Reflection and Celebration

- Hold up the now-full box.
- Ask: "Our box is full of so many happy moments! How does it feel to know that the greatest gift we can give someone is more time to do things like this?"
- Say: "You are all such kind superheroes for understanding how precious the gift of time is. Let's give a clap for all our happy times!"

## Differentiated Learning

- Extension:
  - Ask students to write one word on their card that describes their happy time (e.g., "fun," "love," "play").
  - Challenge them to think of a happy time they would like to have "tomorrow" or "next week."
- Learning Support:
  - Provide pre-drawn simple images of activities (e.g., a ball, a birthday cake, a book) that students can choose from and colour in.
  - Use verbal prompts to help them choose an activity: "Do you like playing outside or reading inside more? Let's draw that!"



## Teacher Reflection

- Were the students able to understand the simple concept of "time" as a collection of happy moments?
- Did the "Gift of Time" box work well as a visual and interactive prop?
- Did the connection between the "magical gift" and "more time to play" make sense to the students?
- How can I refer back to this lesson when discussing routines, schedules, or upcoming special events in the classroom?

## Assessment

- Observation of student participation in discussions about "happy times."
- Ability to name a favorite activity and connect it to the idea of having "time" to do it.
- Creative expression in the "Gift of Time" drawing activity.
- Verbal understanding that the "magical gift" gives someone more time for happy moments.

## Additional Notes:

Ensure the abstract concept of "time" is always linked to concrete, positive, and familiar events (birthdays, playing, holidays). The "Gift of Time" box is a key prop; treat it as a special treasure chest for happy memories to reinforce the value of the "gifts" being collected.

This lesson powerfully reframes the "magical gift" of donation into its ultimate outcome: giving someone the chance for more life and more joy. Keep the focus on this positive result.

