

Andy and the lion - Gratitude

EXPLANATION:

Andy and the Lion by James Daugherty is a great book about a boy named Andy who creates a friendship with a wounded lion. Students can discuss why the lion was grateful to Andy and explore what gratitude feels like making meaningful personal connections.

YEAR LEVELS: Grades 1 - 3

STUDENT GROUPING: Whole group and individual drawings

ACTIVITY LENGTH: 30 - 45 mins approx.

LINK TO CURRICULUM:

English: Sequence of content F-6

Strand: Literacy

- Listening and speaking interactions - Purposes and contexts through which students engage in listening and speaking interactions
- Listening and speaking interactions - Skills students use when engaging in listening and speaking interactions
- Creating texts - Creating different types of spoken, written and multimodal texts, using knowledge of text structures and language features

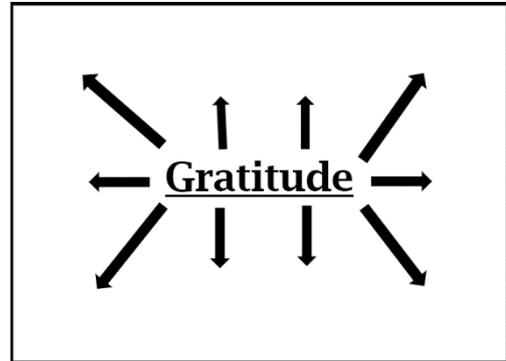
See also Personal and Social Capability learning continuum sub elements:

- Appreciate diverse perspectives
- Communicate effectively
- Understand relationships
- Work collaboratively

SCOPE OF TASK:

The benefits to children of gratitude include increased feelings of wellbeing and increased personal connection to others. This activity encourages children to think critically about how they appreciate others and connect with gratitude.

1. Activate students' prior knowledge by exploring their understanding of gratitude. Conduct a brainstorming activity.
2. Create an initial list of words that align with gratitude (e.g., thankful, grateful, appreciation)
3. Introduce the book *Andy and the Lion*. Look at the cover and ask the children what they know about lions.
 - Where do you see lions?
 - Are lions' wild animals?
4. Read *Andy and the Lion* or read a narrated version of the story which can be found on the internet.
5. Tell the students that together we will try to identify if any of the characters feel in the story gratitude. On completion of the story ask children to recount what happened.
 - Was there an example of gratitude in the story?
 - Who felt gratitude?
 - What was it that the character felt?
 - What happened?
6. Connect with student's own feelings and experiences of gratitude by asking:
 - Have you ever felt gratitude?
 - What happened that made you feel this way?
 - Who made you feel that way?
7. Create a mind map listing the feelings associated with gratitude that the students have identified
8. Students can then each draw a picture depicting a gratitude event that they have felt and write a short explanation of the event.
9. In conclusion the students can share their pictures and stories with the whole group. These narratives and drawings can be displayed in the classroom.



RESOURCES:

Daugherty, J. (1939). *Andy and the Lion*, Puffin Books.

A narrated version of the story can be found:

