

# Thankless jobs - Humility

## EXPLANATION:

There are many jobs that are very important but largely go unnoticed in the community and people who perform thankless jobs often make our lives easier. This activity asks students to identify jobs that they think are selfless, overlooked and often thankless. Helping students to see how they benefit from others humility, can help build altruistic behaviours. The digital notice board Padlet will be used for students to share their reviews of 'thankless jobs'.

**YEAR LEVELS:** Years 1–3

**STUDENT GROUPING:** Group discussion and individual submissions to Padlet

**ACTIVITY LENGTH:** 40–60 mins and time with a teacher aide or parent to log an act

## LINK TO CURRICULUM:

### **Personal and Social Capability**

#### ***Social awareness***

This element involves students recognising others' feelings and knowing how and when to assist others.

Students learn to show respect for and understand others' perspectives, emotional states and needs. They learn to participate in positive, safe and respectful relationships, defining and accepting individual and group roles and responsibilities. Students gain an understanding of the role of advocacy in contemporary society and build their capacity to critique societal constructs and forms of discrimination, such as racism and sexism. In developing and acting with personal and social capability, students:

- appreciate diverse perspectives
- contribute to civil society
- understand relationships.
- show an awareness for the feelings, needs and interests of others

#### ***Appreciate diverse perspectives***

- acknowledge that people hold many points of view

#### ***Understand relationships***

- identify ways to care for others, including ways of making and keeping friends

## SCOPE OF TASK:

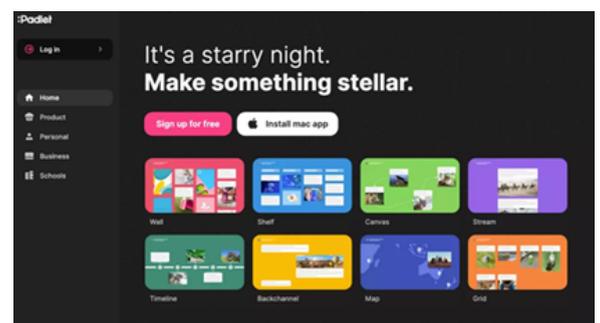
1. Begin this activity by asking students their understanding of humility? Write students thoughts and ideas on the whiteboard to record their thinking. Questions could include:
  - What words do you connect with humility? (e.g. humbleness, modesty, down-to-earthness, not self-focussed, sharing, thinking about others)
  - How do you describe humility – what does it look like?
  - Can you describe an act of humility that you have carried out?
2. There are many jobs that people undertake that are selfless and thankless – and largely go unnoticed. Ask students if they can think about jobs that people do that support others but are unnoticed. Some examples: teachers, cleaners, nurses and other medical people, canteen staff, bus drivers, traffic controllers, delivery people, garbage collectors, office staff etc. Prompt students to think about jobs/occupations in their school, homes, and community. Questions to consider include:
  - What jobs do you think humble people do?
  - Are there humble jobs or people?
  - What humble acts are involved in the job?
  - How do the jobs (being discussed) help/assist others?



3. Inform students about the task:
  - Students are to choose a job that is undertaken humbly or a humble person that undertakes a particular job
  - What does this job/person do that makes a difference to others?
  - Why is it humble?
4. Once students have chosen the job and the reasons why it is thankless and requires humility tell students that they can post their ideas and reflections on the Padlet platform. Students can upload text, photos and images.

What is the Padlet platform (<https://padlet.com/>):

- Padlet is an online notice board tool
- An interactive space easily accessible from nearly any web browser-capable device



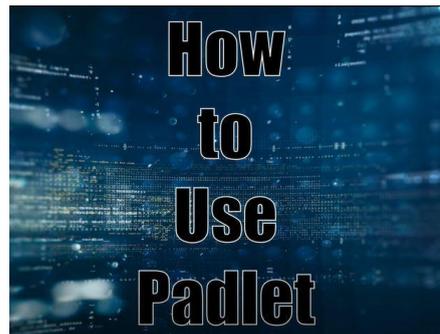
- Suitable for use as a brainstorming board to a live questions bank
- Users can post text, images, links and documents to a 'wall' viewable via a password protected log in
- Padlet has a free basic plan that educators can access

Teachers can pose the questions on the Padlet to led students respond. Some suggestions include:

- What is a job that is thankless?
- What does the person in this job do to selflessly help others?
- Do you know anyone who humbly does this job?
- Do these people expect you to thank them?

5. Provide time for students to upload their reflections to Padlet. Students will need access to the computer and App and should be reminded of safe internet practices. Depending on student's skillsets teachers/ teacher aides or parents can conference and assist.

**Information about to use Padlet:** There are many online short video tutorials providing information on how to download and use Padlet for teachers and students. Examples include:



6. Once students have completed their uploads conduct a whole class discussion time. The posts that the students have created can be projected onto a whiteboard and the teacher can read student reflections. Encourage students to discuss the jobs and the acts that suggest humility.
7. To conclude the activity, reiterate the characteristics associated with humility: modesty, sincerity, kind and generous, selfless, and supportive.

## RESOURCES:

- Computers
- Internet
- Padlet app
- Whiteboard