



EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES

Human Connection (45-60 min.)

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Florida Standard(s):

ELA.K12.EE.4.1 – Use appropriate collaborative techniques and active listening skills when engaging in discussions in a variety of situations

ELA.K12.EE.5.1 – Use the accepted rules governing a specific format to create quality work.

ELA.K12.EE.6.1 – Use appropriate voice and tone when speaking or writing.

MA.K12.MTR.1.1 – Actively participate in effortful learning both individually and collectively

Essential Question:

How can we show empathy and compassion to others?

Learning Intention(s):

We are learning about different ways to show empathy and compassion others. We will:

- Observe, think, and discuss a work of art that displays human connection
- Define the term “Empathy” and why it’s needed
- Listen to a story about kindness
- Learn what makes our peers happy through an interview
- Write about what happened before and after the painting if the artwork was a photograph

Resources / Materials Needed:

- Human Connection PowerPoint presentation
- ActivInspire or chart paper/markers
- Writing paper or writing journal and pencil

Online Video / Resource Links Used:

- Book: *Be Kind* by Pat Zietlow Miller - Click [here](#)

Before Instruction:

- Read and become familiar with the book.
- Gather all materials needed (chart paper, writing paper/journals and pencils)
- Have ActivInspire (or chart paper), YouTube and PowerPoint on computer ready to display

Direct Instruction:

Slide 1 (2-3 min.): What do you notice and wonder about this painting?

- Give students one minute of think time and reflect on the artwork.
- After think time, call on students to respond.



Slide 2 (3-5 min.): Turn and Talk

- What emotions would you use to describe this painting?
- Have students discuss with their partner or group their thoughts.

Slide 3 (2-3 min.): If We All Held Hands

- Read the quote and ask students to think about what they think that means.
- Call on students to share their responses.

Slide 4 (5 min.): Turn and Talk: Empathy?

- Read the definition of empathy.
- Students turn and talk to their partner to discuss a time when someone showed them empathy.
- Call on students to share their responses.

Slide 5 (7-10 min.): *Be Kind*

- Click on book in the slide and listen to the story.
- Discuss and share examples of empathy from the story.

Slide 6 (10 min.): Interview Classmates

- Have students walk around with a journal or piece of paper, clipboard and pencil and interview at least 10 classmates (or teacher discretion) and record their classmates answers about how they would like to be shown empathy or comforted when they are sad or upset.
- Discuss their findings and graph the data.

Slide 7 (5 min.): Colors and Emotions

- Discuss the colors of the painting and the emotions it elicits.

Slide 8 (15-20 min.): Discussion Questions

- Choose some or all of the discussion questions to have the group reflect on and answer. Teacher discretion on how to discussion (small groups, whole groups, partners).

Slide 9 (2 min.): Artist's Thoughts

- Read the description by the artist and briefly talk about how it was similar or different to their own thoughts.

Slide 10 (15 min.) Write About It: What Happened?

- Read the question on the slide and have students write their answers in their journal. (Teacher discretion on length of writing).

Extensions:

- Do a class project to show kindness to your home, school, neighborhood, and/or planet.
- Show kindness/empathy to three people over the next week and discuss in class.
- Create your own picture, painting or photograph of empathy and what it means to you.