

LESSON PLAN 3

Grade 1-2
The Importance of Working
Together

Lesson Plan 3.1: Grade 1-2

The Importance of Working Together

Lesson Title	The Importance of Working Together - Wishing Tree
Lesson Summary	Students will be introduced to working collaboratively and how small acts of kindness can have a big impact, and how we can support each other in the community. The session will introduce the concept of working together and its role in overcoming challenges, drawing inspiration from the Make-A-Wish Australia's work in granting life changing wishes to children with critical illnesses.
Year Level	This lesson is for Grades 1-2
Curriculum Links	• Personal and Social Capability: Introduce students to the idea that their actions can impact others. • Critical and Creative Thinking: Encourage students to think about how when the leaves are joined together they make a tree • Ethical Understanding: Promotes moral reasoning as students reflect on how they can work together. • Intercultural Understanding: Introduce how kindness and working together on a shared goal, can build a stronger community/classroom.
Lesson Duration	50-60 minutes
Learning Intention	Students will learn how their actions can make a positive impact on others, and learn how they can work together towards a shared goal.
Success Criteria	By the end of the lesson, students will be able to: • Understand that everyone's contribution matters when working as a team. • Participate in decorating their leaf. • Understand why kindness is important.
Assessment Criteria	• Participation: Engagement in the leaf decorating activity. • Reflection: Students demonstrate understanding of working together and how a small thing can contribute to something big. • Creativity: Students will decorate their leaf, and express creativity.
Things you will need	• Make-A-Wish story (video) Adam's 'DIG IT' Wish  • Digital device to play the Make-A-Wish video (optional) • Large sheets of paper or card • Markers, crayons, coloured pencils, and stickers for creative design • Reflection worksheet (prompts for reflection on their experience and emotions)
Teacher Preparation Notes	• Review the Make-A-Wish video or story Adam's 'DIG IT' Wish  • Print off Wishing tree leaf templates • Ensure craft materials are ready and organised for the activity • Allow students to share their leaf but ensure that sharing is optional to maintain a safe and respectful environment.



- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draw a trunk of a tree on A2/A3/A1 paper for the leaves the students will decorate• Teachers should adapt this lesson to meet the diverse needs of students, including those with varying abilities and those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) |
|--|---|



Grade 1-2 Lesson Plan 3.1

The Importance of Working Together – Scripted

Introduction & Icebreaker (15 minutes)

“Hello everyone! Today we're going to learn about how we can work together to create something special!”

“Every single one of us has different ideas, dreams, and wishes. Some might be big, some might be small, but all of them are important because they tell us something about who we are.

“When we share our ideas and work together, we can make something even better than we could on our own.”

“Who likes helping their friends?” (pause for show of hands/responses)

“That’s fantastic! Helping others makes our classroom a happy and safe place.”

“Turn to the person next to you and tell them one way you can help a classmate.” (give 30 seconds)

“Who wants to share?” (write a few responses on the board)

Icebreaker activity: get students to form a line and pass a soft object

“We are now going to see how we can help each other, because we are a team!”

“Can everyone please stand/sit in a straight line.” (allow time for moving)

“Great, now the goal is to get this soft object safely from the first student to the last.”

(Ask the first student to travel all the way to the last student.)

“Was that working together?” (pause) “Correct, that was working alone.”

“Now, please pass the object safely down the line, making sure everyone holds the object.” (let the



students pass the toy)

"This is working as a team. Could student 1 (gesture to the original person) carry it by themselves? Yes?"

"But which was easier and included everyone?" – (guide towards second option)

"Exactly. It's important that we work together as a community and that everyone feels included."

Introducing Make-A-Wish

"Now I want to tell you about Make-A-Wish Australia. They grant wishes to children who are sick by making their wishes come true."

"Every wish is different, just like each of you. One child might wish for a puppy, while another might wish to go on a holiday."

"Working together is important for granting wishes, and I want to share Adam's wish with you today."

Lots of people came together to make Adam's wish come true, so let's see."

Play Adam's Wish Video: [Adam's 'DIG IT' Wish](#) 

Discussion:

- "Who can see how everyone worked together to make Adam's wish come true?"
- "Could you see how happy Adam was in the video?"
- "Who here like's camping?"

"So, just like Make-A-Wish needs lots of people working together to bring wishes to life, we also work together in our classroom."

"Just like in our classroom we need to work together and help each other, especially on shared goals."

"We can help someone tie their shoes, put on their coat, or help them with their learning."

"Just like in our classroom we need to work together and help each other, especially on shared goals."

Link to activity:



“Today, we’re going to create something together that shows all our different wishes in one place. We are going to make a **Wishing Tree**.”

(Use hand gestures to help demonstrate) “Every part of the tree works together. The roots hold it steady, the branches reach out, and the leaves make it full and beautiful.”

“Each of you will decorate and colour your own leaf. I’d like your leaf will show your ideas, your wishes, or something that is important to you.”

“Each leaf will be different, but when we put them together, they will create one big, beautiful tree.”

“Our Wishing Tree will show how all our unique dreams and ideas come together to make something special as a class.”

Activity: Wishing Tree (25 minutes)

(Hand out leaf templates to the students)

“Now it’s your turn to create your leaf.”

“You can draw, colour, and decorate your leaf in a way that shows something about you, your wishes, your ideas, or something that makes you happy.”

“Remember, your leaf is important, because every leaf has a role to play, and helps make our tree whole.”

Prompts:

- Think about shapes that you love
- Favourite colours
- Things you love – hobbies, family, pets, friends

(Students work to create their leaf)

Walk around and prompt:

- “Tell me about your leaf.”
- “What does it represent?”



Sharing and Assembly of Wishing Tree

“Wow, these look amazing!”

“Who would like to share their leaf with the class?” (select a few students to share)

“Let’s start building our tree.”

(Add leaves to the classroom display either on the piece of paper, noticeboard or display of your choice)

“Look at our tree now.”

“Are all the leaves the same or different?” (pause for responses)

“Yes, they are all different and that’s what makes it so beautiful.”

“When we bring all our unique ideas and wishes together, we create something bigger and more special than we could alone.”

Wrap up and Reflection (10 minutes)

“Put your hand up if you enjoyed making your leaf.” (pause for responses)

“Put your hand up if you enjoyed working together to build the tree.” (pause for responses)

“That’s wonderful.”

“Great work today everyone. Remember that we can support and help each other in the classroom, and it’s important to be kind to each other.”

“Today we learned that:

- Everyone has different dreams and wishes
- Every contribution matters
- When we work together as a team, we create something BEAUTIFUL

“Let’s keep helping each other every day.”

“Now let’s fill out our reflection worksheets to see what we’ve learnt. Please answer the following questions (write them on the board)



1. Why is it good to work together?
2. List 2 ways we can help someone at school or in the classroom
3. List 2 ways you can help your parent/guardian at home

“Just like our Wishing Tree, our class is stronger when we are kind, include each other and work as a team.” **(Remind the students that all their leaves may be smaller individually, but together they help create the BIG tree)**

Grade 1-2 Lesson Plan 3.1

The Importance of Working Together - Unscripted

Introduction & Icebreaker (15 minutes)

- Greet the students and explain that today's lesson is about working together to create something meaningful and beautiful.
- Share that everyone has different ideas, dreams and wishes, and that these differences make each person unique.
- Emphasise that when we combine our ideas and efforts, we can create something bigger and better than we could have on our own.
- Ask the students for some examples on how they can help each other in the classroom and write them on the board
- Ask students if they enjoy helping others (show of hands) and discuss how helping others makes them feel
- Reinforce that helping builds a kind, safe and supportive classroom

Icebreaker

- Introduce idea of helping each other and being a team.
- Organise students into a line. Ask everyone to stand/sit in a straight line. (allow time to move)
- Explain the goal is to get a soft object safely from the first student to the last.
- Demonstrate working alone.
 - Ask the first student to take the object all the way to the last
 - Ask: "Was that working together?" (pause)
 - Clarify: "Correct, that was working alone."
- Try again as a team

- Ask students to pass the object safely down the line ensuring each student holds the object. (allow time for this)
- Compare the two
 - Point out: “This is now working as a team.”
Ask if student 1 could do it alone
 - Guide discussion: which was easier and included everyone?
- Emphasise: Everyone has an important role to play, and working together helps us succeed

Introducing Make-A-Wish

- Explain that Make-A-Wish Australia helps children who are really sick by making their wishes come true
- Emphasise:
 - Each wish is unique which means different and personal
 - Wishes bring happiness, hope and joy
- Play Adam’s dig it video: [Adam's 'DIG IT' Wish](#) 
 - Visiting Thunderbird Park
 - Using diggers and machines
 - Camping with his family

Discussion prompts

- Ask the students if they can see how everyone worked together, making Adam’s wish come true.
- Ask if Adam looked happy getting his wish.
- Ask students if they like camping.

Link to activity:

- Explain that lots of people work together to make wishes come true

Connect this to the classroom:

- Students help and support each other every day

Ask students:

- Why is helping others important?

- What are some ways we can help in our classroom?

(pause for responses)

Introduce the Activity:

- Students will create a Wishing Tree
- Each student will design a leaf that represents:
 - A wish
 - A hope
 - Something important to them

Activity: Wishing Tree (25 minutes)

(Hand out leaf templates to the students)

- Students decorate their leaf to represent their own ideas or wishes, something that makes them happy, anything they like.
- Hand out wishing tree worksheet with leaf for students to decorate, encourage different colours, patterns, pens, creativity etc.

Prompts:

- Think about shapes that you love.
- Favourite colours.
- Things you love – hobbies, family, pets, friends.
- Make crayons, glitter glue, coloured pencils or paints available .
- Remind students that their leaf is important, because every leaf has a role to play, and helps make our tree whole – just like the classroom.

Assembly:

- Combine leaves on a large tree display (poster or noticeboard)
- Highlight as the tree builds:



- Variety of ideas
 - Differences in design
 - How each leaf adds to the whole
- Ask the students if they liked decorating their leaf.
- Compliment their work and ask if any students want to show their leaf/leaves and tell the other students about them (**select a few students**).

Wrap up and Reflection (5 minutes)

Congratulate the students on their hard work!

Ask students

- Did you enjoy making your leaf?
- Did you enjoy building something together?
-

You can have the students to answer the following prompts on their reflection worksheet

1. Why is it better to work together?
2. List 2 ways we can help someone at school or in the classroom
3. List 2 ways you can help your parent/guardian at home

Reinforce the message

- Everyone has unique ideas and wishes.
- Every contribution matters.
- Working together as a team creates something bigger and more beautiful.
- Being a team creates a safe and supportive classroom.

“Just like the Wishing Tree, our class grows stronger when we work together, support, include and be kind to each other!”