

Potential Integration:

ELA

|   |
|---|
| <b>Health</b>   |
| 2.ICR.1.5<br>Exemplify how to communicate with others with kindness and respect |

**Materials:**

- Appendix A – List of statements
- *The Prince and the Rhinoceros*, An Indian Tale of Speaking Kindly (available online or for free through Teaching Tolerance)

**Focus Step:**

Have students stand in a circle on the edge of the carpet or meeting area. The teacher will read aloud a series of statements (Appendix A) to the class, while the class listens and observes how it feels to step inside and outside of the circle. This is a silent activity. If the student thinks those statements are true, they will silently step inside the circle. If they are not true for the student they will stay where they are standing in the circle.

Discuss as a class how they felt stepping inside and outside of the circle. How did it feel when there were a lot of people in the circle? How did it feel when you were alone or there were only a small number of people in the circle?

**Teacher Input:**

Everyone likes to be treated kindly and with respect. Ask students to define kindness. What is respect? What does it look like and sound like when we treat others with kindness and respect?

Read aloud the story *The Prince and the Rhinoceros: An Indian Tale of Speaking Kindly*. Ask students to recount the story and discuss what feelings they think Great Joy had when the prince spoke unkind words to her. Why do they think the prince said such mean things to Great Joy? In the story how did Great Joy and the prince try again? If someone says something unkind to you, how can you try again? How could you tell that the prince was sorry about what he said?

**Assessment:**

Option 1

While seated in a circle, ask students and the teachers to think of a single word about how they feel when someone says kind words to them and when someone says unkind words to them. Go around the circle and ask students to share their word as quickly as possible. Encourage students to use as many different descriptive words as possible. We know it makes people feel good to hear kind things that are said to them.

Ask students share examples of kind things that people have said to them. What kind words do you like to hear? Teacher leads and then records the list of kind things people like to hear. Post the list in the classroom as a reminder of being friendly and using kindness and respect.

## Potential Integration:

ELA

### Option 2

Give students a list with all of their classmates names listed on it. Ask students to write one kind word or phrase about each person on the list. It can be anonymous and it cannot be the same sentence listed for each person. Encourage students to think of as many unique examples as possible. Students can use the list generated by the class during the guided practice as a reference.

### Example:

- Julie – Julie is athletic.
- Josh – Josh is funny.
- Ben – Ben is smart.
- Ashley – Ashley makes me smile.

### **Closing:**

Remind students that sometimes all it takes is a kind word or smile to brighten someone's day. The list posted in the classroom will serve as a reminder and continue to add to the list as you hear kind words being used in the classroom.

When students have completed their lists, the teacher will compile and type the complete list of kind words for each individual student. The teacher will give each student the list of kind words written about them without other students names written, so each student will have an anonymous list of 20+ words of kindness about themselves. Watch your students' faces light up and sit a little straighter as they read through the list.

Potential Integration:  
ELA

## *Appendix A*

1. I have brown hair
2. I have blonde hair
3. I have brown eyes
4. I have blue eyes
5. I play sports
6. I have a dog
7. I have a cat
8. I have a brother
9. I have a sister
10. I wear glasses
11. I have been teased by someone at school
12. My brother or sister is mean to me sometimes
13. I have had someone I thought was a friend say mean things to me
14. It hurts my feelings when someone says mean things to me
15. I say kind things to my friends
16. It feels good when my friends are nice to me