

Vedder – Gratitude – Thank You Notes

Aligns to the following Common Core Standards for K-5

(ELA = English Language Arts)

! **ELA Speaking and Listening** - Standards 1, 4 & 6

! **ELA Writing** – Standards 3 & 8

Aligns to Social Emotional Learning Outcomes

! **Self Awareness:** Identifying emotions, thoughts and values

! **Self Management:** Self-discipline - Impulse control

! **Social Awareness:** Perspective-taking - Empathy - Respect for others - Diversity

! **Relationship Skills:** Communication - Relationship building

! **Responsible Decision-making:** Identifying problems - Analyzing situations - Solving Problems - Ethical responsibility - Reflecting

OBJECTIVE: To inspire children to feel Gratitude. Children will develop vocabulary and writing skills while they critically think of ways they can choose to live with gratitude.

PREPARATION: Students will meet Pawfessor Vedder, watch his video and participate in a group discussion about what they are grateful for. Discuss the staff at your school and how they help make everyone's school days better. Allow students to come up with examples but also guide the discussion to think about the teachers, aides, custodians, food service, office staff, speech specialists, tutors, coaches, after school staff and why they appreciate them.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Give students paper and pencils/markers/crayons and ask them to write a thank you note to a person on campus that they are grateful for.

Materials: Pencil, paper, crayons or markers for illustrations

Concepts: Building Character, helping children think about reasons to be grateful.

CONCLUSION: Allow students to hand deliver their thank you notes.

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