NYPL After School

Activity Guides

Kindergarten–3rd Grade

APPRECIATE – CARE – COLLABORATE

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NYPL After School

APPRECIATE

On the next few pages you'll find tips, books we love, and activities all about appreciation. Appreciation can mean showing gratitude or thinking about what you respect and value.

BOOKS WE LOVE

These books show characters learning how to appreciate parts of their life that they might not have valued before as well as how we can appreciate different identities and experiences. To check them out, place a hold online at nypl.org or call Ask NYPL (917-275-6975). If you are at a branch, ask a librarian how to place a hold. Books marked with a 📚 are available as e-books.

- Brick by Brick by Heidi Woodward Sheffield
- Black Is a Rainbow Color by Angela Joy, illus. by Ekua Holmes
- The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander, illus. by Kadir Nelson
- Gracias/Thanks by Pat Mora, illus. by John Parra
- My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith, illus. by Julie Flett
- Saturday by Oge Mora
- Everything Naomi Loved by Katie Yamasaki & Ian Lendler, illus. by Katie Yamasaki
- All the World by Liz Garton Scanlon, illus. by Marla Frazee
- Here and Now by Julia Denos, illus. by E. B. Goodale

QUICK TIPS

- Find a way to say thank you and show appreciation to the people who help your community such as grocery store workers, mail carriers, and sanitation workers.
- Name three things you appreciate about yourself! What are you good at? What makes you special?
SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION IN A MINI SCRAPBOOK

Think about what the word “appreciate” means: to value, admire, or respect something. Now think of three things (people, places, or objects) you really appreciate. In your mini scrapbook below, describe why you appreciate these things. Then either draw a picture or find photos that remind you of these things! With the help of an adult, cut the squares below into four separate pieces, then glue or staple them together.

MY APPRECIATION SCRAPBOOK

I appreciate _________________________
because _____________________________.

I appreciate _________________________
because _____________________________.

I appreciate _________________________
because _____________________________.

I appreciate _________________________
because _____________________________.
Cut out the item below along the solid outer lines. Then fold the dotted lines inward. Using a hole punch or scissors (with the help of a grown-up), make small holes at the top of each triangle. Take a few moments and think about someone you appreciate. Write or draw something that you appreciate about them on each of the four triangles. Turn the paper over and decorate the outside of the pyramid however you want!

When it's decorated, it's time to assemble. Flip the paper back over so you can see what you wrote. With the help of an adult, run a piece of string or ribbon through the holes, gently pulling the triangles together so that the lettered flaps are hidden inside and tie into a bow. Now it's time to share it with the person you appreciate!

For extra appreciation, put a small item or sweet treat inside the pyramid before tying the bow.
APPRECIATION BOARD GAME

Play a game to practice appreciating things around you and staying positive, either by yourself or with friends and family!

First find a toy or small object to play with and put it at the start of the game board. You could also draw yourself or a character and move that along the board.

Next, write the numbers 1, 2, and 3 on three separate slips of paper. Shuffle them and pick a number to decide how many spaces to move each turn.

When you land on a frown, do something to turn that frown into a smile like . . . saying something silly or singing or dancing to a favorite song. If you're ever feeling sad or down in your real life, this is a trick you can try!

For every blank space, say something you appreciate out loud! It could be a person, an experience, an object, or something else!

Play until everyone reaches Appreciation Success!
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CARE

On the next few pages you’ll find tips, books we love, and activities all about showing care. Caring means paying attention to the needs of others (as well as your own) and then doing something to help.

BOOKS WE LOVE
These books give us examples of how to show care to others and to ourselves. To check them out, place a hold online at nypl.org or call Ask NYPL (917-275-6975). If you are at a branch, ask a librarian how to place a hold. Books marked with a 📚 are available as e-books.

- **We Are Water Protectors** by Carole Lindstrom, illus. by Michaela Goade
- **I Walk with Vanessa: A Story about a Simple Act of Kindness** by Kerascoët
- **Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away** by Meg Medina, illus. by Sonia Sánchez
- **You Matter** by Christian Robinson
- **The Rabbit Listened** by Cori Doerrfeld
- **Be Kind** by Pat Zietlow Miller, illus. by Jen Hill
- **Each Kindness** by Jacqueline Woodson, illus. by E. B. Lewis
- **Last Stop on Market Street** by Matt de la Peña, illus. by Christian Robinson
- **Malala’s Magic Pencil** by Malala Yousafzai, illus. by Kerascoët

QUICK TIPS

- Showing care for others means understanding what they need and how you can help them. One of the easiest ways to do this is by asking a question: Is there anything I can do to help you today?
- Notice the feelings and emotions of characters in the books that you read. What could you do to show care for them when they need help or are scared or sad?
SHOW CARE BY CREATING A FAMILY CARE CHAIN

The kind actions we take show how much we care about others. Track your family's impact by creating a chain of things you have done to help others. What results is a beautiful celebration of CARE in your home—the longer the chain, the greater your impact!

1. Cut along the dotted lines to create the strips that will make your chain.

2. On each strip of paper, write some of the things you and your family members have done for each other, and for the people around you. Big or small, every action matters! (Examples: helped to set the dinner table, said hello to our neighbor Mrs. Cole.)

3. Join the two hearts at the end of the first strip. This creates the first loop. Next, put the second strip through the first loop and join the hearts. Keep going!

Continue making your caring chain by using recycled paper for new strips! How long can you make it?
**TIC-TAC-SHOW...CARE!**

Choose to be X or O and do the “caring act” in order to take that space. The winner is the player with three in a row. Grab a pencil, paper, and a book and get ready to GO!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Say something nice about your opponent</th>
<th>Ask your opponent how they are feeling and why</th>
<th>Make your opponent laugh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draw a picture of your favorite thing to do together</td>
<td>Read a book together</td>
<td>Smile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give your opponent a high five</td>
<td>Tell your opponent why they are awesome</td>
<td>Think of your own caring act and do it</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How are you feeling?

- **Upset**
  - How is the weather outside?
  - It's not nice out.
  - Do you like to draw?
    - It's beautiful!
      - Go outside and get some fresh air!
        - Observe your surroundings and explore.
    - Not really
      - Pick a window in your home and draw what you see.
        - Is it daytime or nighttime?
          - Do you see any people or animals?

- **Scared**
  - Do you love to dance?
    - I do!
      - Read a good book!
        - Take your favorite book off the shelf or borrow a new title from the library!
    - That's not really my thing.
      - Time for a dance party!
        - Put on your favorite tunes, get up, and move!

- **Sad**
  - Is there anyone you can spend time with?
    - I'd rather be alone right now.
      - That's OK!
        - Find a special place to take a seat, close your eyes, and think about a place you would like to be.
        - Try to focus on taking deep breaths.
    - There is!
      - Play a game together or take a nice walk.

Bonus: The activities at the bottom can be done at any time no matter how you feel!
ON THE NEXT FEW PAGES YOU'LL FIND TIPS, BOOKS WE LOVE, AND ACTIVITIES ALL ABOUT COLLABORATING. COLLABORATING MEANS SHARING A COMMON GOAL AND WORKING TOGETHER WITH OTHER PEOPLE ON PROJECTS, IDEAS, AND TASKS.

BOOKS WE LOVE
These books are some of our favorites titles that give us examples of collaboration in action. To check them out, place a hold online at nypl.org or call Ask NYPL (917-275-6975). If you are at a branch, ask a librarian how to place a hold. Books marked with a 📚 are available as e-books.

QUICK TIPS
- Try acting out a story with a friend or a family member. You can act out the story you write on page 4 of this activity packet or a story from one of your favorite books. Work together to assign roles, find costumes, and gather props!
- Helping a family member with a home project or a chore can make you feel good. Working as a team also makes the chore go faster! Try saying, “Can I help you with that?”
WRITE A COLLABORATIVE FAMILY STORY

Follow the simple prompts to get started, then let your imagination lead the way! When you have completed your line, pass this page to a family member (or friend!) and see what they come up with.

Once upon a time,

One day,

On the way,

Suddenly,

Then,

And

They saw

They heard

Finally,

THE END!
CREATE A COLLABORATIVE DRAWING

Help us complete our drawing of our lion friend, Patience! Next to them is a space where you and a friend can create your own collaborative creature. One of you can draw the bottom and one of you can draw the top. Don’t forget to give them a name!

Now, you can write a story about Patience and the new companion that you have both created for them. Hint: If you need more room, you can always use a blank sheet of paper to continue their adventure!

Patience and ______ wanted to go on an adventure!

They decided to ______

Then, ______

But then, ______

Finally, ______

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Think about what collaboration means: working together, sharing thoughts and ideas, combining, and uniting. With the help of an adult, cut out the four square patches below and hand out each square patch to a friend or family member, keeping one for yourself. Together you will collaborate to create one quilt. If you want to include more people in your quilt, cut out additional squares from a new piece of paper.

Decorate your square, or write things on it that represent you. Here are some ideas: What is a hobby you like? What do you love about yourself? What is something that you believe in? When everyone has finished decorating and writing, glue or staple the square patches together. Each square will represent something about you and your family and friends.