

Giving Class Unit Plan

Day One to Day Five students work individually. From Day Six on they will be partnered up. This will take some thinking on the teacher's part in order to have all pairs work well together.

Day One

Ask students to write about things that they are thankful for.
Remind them that quality work is expected.
Use the provided worksheet if wanted.
Have students volunteer to share their writing and have a short discussion.
Have students make a "giving folder" that they will keep all of their paperwork in. I used a piece of construction paper folded in half and asked them to decorate it with a picture that represents what giving means to them.

Day Two

Have students write about giving. What does it mean to them? How does it make them feel to give?
Use provided worksheet if wanted.
Have students volunteer to share their responses and have a discussion.

Day Three

Have students look up the word "charity" and write it down on their paper and then write what they feel it means to them.
Have students volunteer to share their responses and have a discussion.
You can use the worksheet provided to wanted.

Day Four

Pass out the quote below or choose one of your own about giving.
Read the words to the class.
Go over why you chose it and what it means.
Help students understand what a great gift they have been given as well as the great gift that they will be giving.

Day Five

Talk about "Philanthropy". What is it and what do they do?
Let students know that they will become philanthropists at a very early age and what a blessing this is. Share feelings and possible things that philanthropists do. (who they give to, how they find charities to give to etc.)

Day Six

Hand out the a work sheet that has a list of categories of charities that students might want to give to. See below.

Have them fill out this sheet and then take it home and talk to their families about their choice and get their input.

They should narrow their choices down to three.

Day Seven

Set students up in partners.

Explain to students that they will be working with their partner through the rest of this project.

Since they are now partners they need to merge their paperwork now.

As a team they will have to create a new folder that will hold both of their papers.

I had them choose one of their folders and then turn it inside out and recreate another picture that represents their view of giving.

Day Eight

Have students take out their charity choice worksheet.

Have students discuss their choices with their partner and then use the “charity choices pro and con” worksheet (see below) to decide which category of charities to give to.

Day Nine

Give students the “research cheat sheet”.

Go to the computer lab or use other source of computers in order for partners to research charities that they might want to give to.

After filling out the information sheet on this site they will be given charities that meet their criteria and then their job is to click on them and decide which charity they will give to and why.

Day Ten

Repeat day nine.

Provide other sources of information for students to research charities .

If you want to give locally usually chamber of commerce has a social services directory. I also used the telephone book. If you do this you will need to have students call or you will call for them in order for them to get some good information about the charity in order for them to know how the charity uses the money and what they actually do.

Day Eleven

Have students sit together and fill out a worksheet stating their charity and three reasons why they chose it.

Hand out a business letter template.

Explain that they will be writing a letter to their charity explaining why they chose them and what they are giving.

Have students complete a rough draft and then put it in their folder.

Day Twelve

Allow students to take out their rough draft and reread it. Have them edit as needed.

If it looks good have them go to the computers and type it out using the same format.

When they have spell checked and reread it for errors have them print it out.

Day Thirteen

Prepare students for what will be coming as representatives come to your class to present the checks.

Have them prepare to fill out the checks and address envelopes. Model what an addressed envelope looks like. Having an overhead of this is very handy.

Day Fourteen

Have students organize their "giving folders". Post them on the bulletin board for all to see and be proud of all the work that they have accomplished.

Day Fifteen

This is it! You made it! Get ready for the representatives to come to your class. Have Fun!

Have space for the students to sit together so that they can fill out their checks and envelopes.

Added Extras: Ask a school official to come to your school and have students explain what being a "giving class" was like and how they hope that this directory will help other students in becoming philanthropists one day.

Make a child friendly directory of local charities. Have students draw an icon for their specific category that they chose to give to. (ie. Families, animals). Use this Icon as a header for the page. Type up all of the local charities in your area under the corresponding icon. Make a few copies. Bind it together.