



TODAY'S ACTIVITY: "PIE OF GRATITUDE"

- Students will collectively use awareness to identify someone in their school community they all appreciate. Students will contribute their appreciations for create a PIE OF GRATITUDE for their identified person.
- Pen, pencil and/or coloring supplies; copy of lesson handout for each student; butcher paper or poster paper to place the pie slices
Prep time: 5-10 minutes
- As this is the LAST Monday of the month, please consider sharing or reviewing highlights from the Monthly Launch lesson (MONDAY GETS THANKFUL) and/or lessons from Week 1- Know What Matters Most, Week 2 - Love the Little Things, or Week 3 - Go with Grace to build background and reinforce this month's theme MONDAY GETS THANKFUL. ***This activity could potentially be a multi-session activity.

LEARNING MODALITIES		SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING		4 C's	
•	Visual		Self-awareness		Critical thinking
	Auditory		Self-management	•	Communication
	Kinesthetic	•	Social-awareness	•	Collaboration
	Verbal	•	Relationship skills	•	Creativity
•	Interpersonal		Responsible decision-making		
	Intrapersonal				
	Logic				

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- 1 DISCOVER** how meaningful it can be to share genuine gratitude and appreciation for yourself and others.
- 2 UNDERSTAND** the importance of taking the opportunity to **EXPRESS** our appreciation and gratitude for yourself and the wonderful people in your life.
- 3 ENGAGE** in a variety of ways to actively share your **THANKS** for the people around you and in your community.



LAUNCH: (3-5 minutes)

*Consider asking one or more questions below to engage students in this week's strategy.



What is it like to receive someone's THANKS?

What is it like to EXPRESS our gratitude to someone?

What do you appreciate about some of the people in your life?

How does sharing our appreciation and THANKS affect our relationships?



Most everyone likes to be appreciated and THANKED. It warms the heart and soul. A thoughtful expression of THANKS can help someone feel important and valued. When we take the opportunity to THANK others, we create a space for gratitude.



INQUIRY: (3-5 minutes)

Select 1-3 questions from the list below to help build background for the activity. *NOTE: Consider modifying the questions pending students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Consider having students share their responses in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.



Why might it be important to express appreciation for others?

How can expressing thanks create a more connected community?

Is it easy or challenging to express THANKS? Why might that be?

Why might people be shy to receive THANKS or appreciation?

When you feel THANKFUL, do certain people come to mind?

What might it be like for someone to receive THANKS from a group of people?



ENGAGE: (1 minute)



Think about the amazing things that happen at our school and in our community. Big things, small things are all important things that make our community vibrant and safe. There are so many people who do what they do to create it. Our custodians, school nurse, librarians, classroom aides, coaches, office staff cafeteria staff, bus drivers and administrators, and so many more people create our school community for you. Together, let's take the opportunity to EXPRESS our THANKS and show them how much we appreciate and value them.



Are you ready to EXPRESS IT with a PIE OF GRATITUDE?

Icon Key



- Ask



- Explain



- Say



- Brainstorm



- Slide #'s



START ACTIVITY: (10-15 minutes)

Directions: There are three parts to this activity. Part one is a brainstorm session with students to identify and thoughtfully discuss recipients for their PIE OF GRATITUDE. Encourage students to think of people in your school community who may not necessarily receive a regular “thank you” but significantly impacts students and the school community. Part two is pie decoration time! Using the PIE OF GRATITUDE template, students will create notes or draw pictures of THANKS and appreciation on a piece of the pie. Then have students collectively place their PIE thank you notes on a poster or butcher paper. Part three is presenting the pie to the recipient. If possible, organize a time for students to present the recipient with their PIE OF GRATITUDE!



As a class and school community, WE MATTER, together. There are incredible people in our school community who brightens everyone’s day, who helps anyone in need, who makes sure we have supplies and textbooks, who helps us feel safe and enjoy our days. Our school would not be the same without them.

Today, we are going to EXPRESS our THANKS by decorating a PIE OF GRATITUDE for someone we all appreciate.

*Consider asking one or more questions to help students identify someone they collectively agree they would like to THANK.



Who are some people in our school community you appreciate? What do they do that you appreciate?

Who is someone in our school community who positively impacts others?

Who is someone in our school community that you feel truly cares and shows it?



We are going to create a PIE OF GRATITUDE together and then present it to our special recipient. There are three parts to our activity: identify who will receive our PIE OF GRATITUDE, identifying why we appreciate them, and finally present our PIE OF GRATITUDE to our special person.

We will select a person in our school or program who we would like to THANK. We each will decorate a piece of the gratitude pie with words of thanks and appreciation.

Finally, we will find a time to EXPRESS our THANKS and present our PIE OF GRATITUDE to our special recipient.



Together, let’s GET THANKFUL and EXPRESS our appreciation.

Icon Key



- Ask



- Explain



- Say



- Brainstorm



- Slide #'s



REFLECT: (3-5 minutes)

After the activity, consider asking 1-3 of the following questions to help students reflect, evaluate, and make connections to the lesson. *NOTE: Think about modifying the questions based on your students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Consider having students share their responses in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.



What was it like as you were writing/decorating your piece of our PIE OF GRATITUDE?

What might it be like for our special person to know how much we appreciate them?

How is expressing our thanks differ from saying thank you?

How might collective gratitude be received?

How does GETTING THANKFUL together remind us of how much and why WE MATTER?



WRAP UP: (1 minute)

Thank you for taking the time to EXPRESS your thanks for someone in our school community who truly deserves it. We know that being THANKFUL is important, and even more important to share with others! Sharing appreciation for others matters.

Icon Key



- Ask



- Explain



- Say



- Brainstorm



- Slide #'s

EXTEND

Think about doing more EXPRESS IT activities with your students with one or more of the activities below.

- 1 SPACE FOR THANKS:** Have students create a video montage of THANKS. Have students record members of the school community what they are THANKFUL for. Then stitch the video clips together and have students and the school community watch. Encourage students to be open to all of the thing and people they are grateful for in their school or community.
- 2 PIE TIME:** Have students EXPRESS their gratitude on slices of pie (lesson handout) and post them through the school. EXPRESSING thanks, matters.
- 3 BEAR SAYS THANKS:** Read aloud “Bear Says Thanks” by Karma Wilson. Video read aloud link: <https://video.link/w/7bWDd> Discuss how all of the characters of the story come together to show much and why they MATTER.

“**THANKFULNESS IS THE
QUICKEST PATH TO JOY.**”

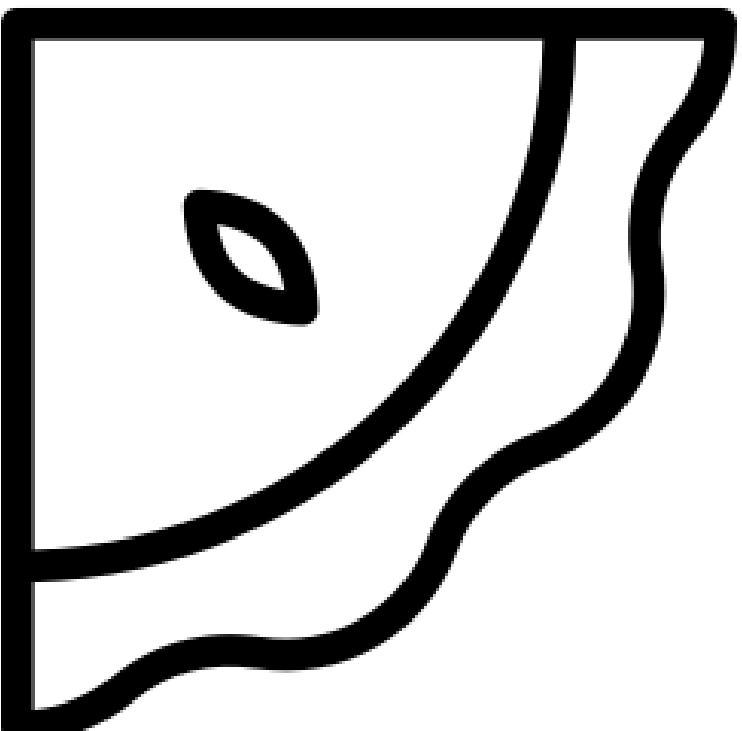
- JEFFERSON BETHKE, NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

PIE OF GRATITUDE



"EXPRESS IT"

Directions: EXPRESS your appreciation and gratitude for the person your class identified as the recipient to the PIE OF GRATITUDE.

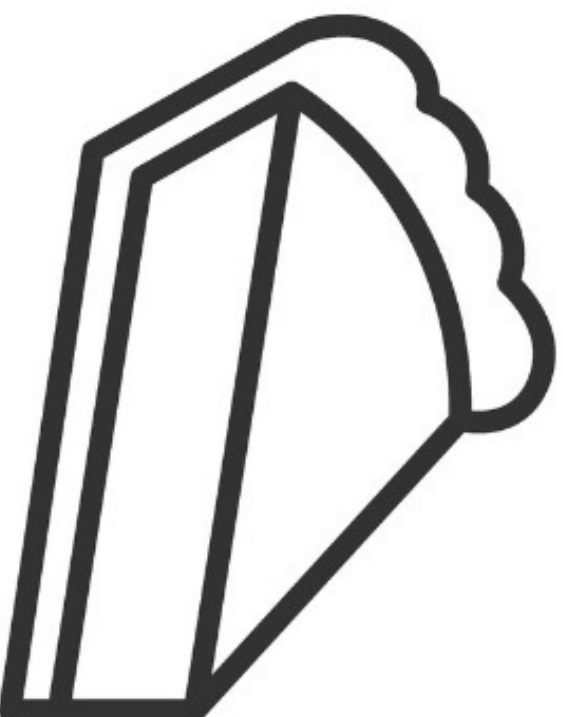
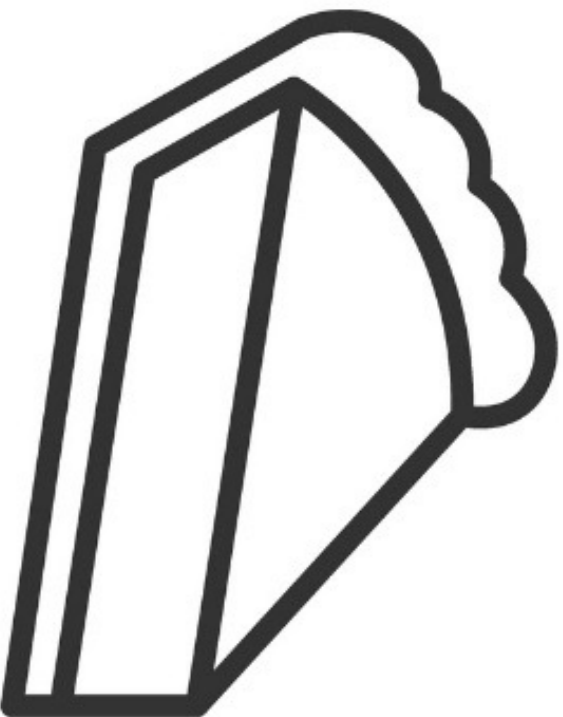


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