



Responsibility

Sub-Concepts Covered: Self-discipline, Kindness

Kindness in the Classroom lessons teach kindness skills through a step-by step framework of Inspire, Empower, Act, Reflect and Share. Each lesson starts with the ‘share’ step to reinforce learning from previous lessons. The ‘act’ piece is woven into the lessons but really takes place in the projects.

The Responsibility Unit is our fifth unit in a series of six. It focuses primarily on giving students strategies to help them make responsible choices and to be responsible with regard to themselves, to others, and to the environment. There is a large science component to this unit, so if you are studying animals, habitats, conservation, etc., you may be able to pair these lessons with your regular content lessons. As with other units, we hope to connect the concepts in this unit back to kindness, which is integral throughout the series.

Unit Objective

Students will:

- Explore how we can make responsible decisions regarding our own bodies and minds.
- Explore how we can make responsible decisions regarding our shared spaces with others.
- Explore how we can make responsible decisions regarding the environment.
- Evaluate how different decisions impact habitat, especially the environment.
- Discuss the impact of responsible decision making on quality of life.

Student Introduction

Welcome to the Responsibility Unit! Over the next few weeks, we are going to build some superpowers around responsibility, which means we learn how we are responsible for many things, including ourselves, the spaces we share with others (like our classroom!), and the environment. We will talk about real-life situations where we evaluate how we can make responsible decisions to keep ourselves, others, and the environment healthy and happy. We are going to focus on these important areas:

- Making responsible decisions regarding our own bodies and minds!
- Making responsible decisions regarding our shared spaces with others (like our homes and school)!
- Making responsible decisions regarding the environment!

Let's get started with our first lesson!

Unit Lessons

Lesson Title	Lesson Objectives	Materials Required
Lesson 1 I am Responsible for ME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore responsible decisions with regard to taking care of our bodies and minds. • Identify parts of their body (physical body, mind, heart) and evaluate ways to keep them safe and healthy. • Explore how we can make responsible decisions regarding our bodies and minds. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper doll handout (see lesson)
Lesson 2 Everyone is Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify both responsible and irresponsible behaviors in shared spaces and environments. • Consider what might happen if we all acted irresponsibly. 	<input type="checkbox"/> “What if Everybody Did That?” by Ellen Javernick
Lesson 3 Every Drop Counts!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify ways children can be responsible for the environment through personal actions. • Accurately read liquid measuring devices to track water usage during a science experiment. • Practice using the scientific method during a water conservation activity. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Why Should I Save Water!</i> By Jen Green <input type="checkbox"/> 1 graduated cylinder OR 1 glass liquid measuring cup <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils <input type="checkbox"/> 1 basin (must fit in a sink under the faucet) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 new toothbrush <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> 1 timer or stopwatch <input type="checkbox"/> 1 record sheet
Lesson 4 We Can Make a Difference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the impact of plastic bags on the environment and economy. • Evaluate how different decisions impact habitat, especially the environment. • Discuss the impact of responsible decision making on quality of life. • Create recycled bracelets using plastic bags. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bags <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape <input type="checkbox"/> Regular tape <input type="checkbox"/> “One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia,” by Miranda Paul

Unit Projects

Project Title	Project Overview	Materials Required
Project 1 Responsibility Scavenger Hunt Bingo	This project has students scouring magazines or other print media for examples of people being responsible. See how many examples of “responsibility in world” students can find.	<input type="checkbox"/> Magazines, newspaper, or other visual print media - enough for one per team or two per groups of 3-4 students
Project 2 Signs of Responsibility	Students will remind themselves and others to make responsible choices by designing creative posters that can be hung both around the classroom and the school.	<input type="checkbox"/> Basic art supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Poster paper