SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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SOCIAL SKILL: JOINING IN AND INVITING OTHERS TO JOIN IN
CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: Each Kindness
Author: E. B. Lewis
Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books
Year: 2012
ISBN Number: 978-0-399-24652-4
Number of Pages: 32 pages
Reading Level: 3rd grade - 6th grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

A new girl, Maya comes to school one day wearing old, ragged clothes. Although Maya smiles at another student, the other student ignores her and moves away from her. Maya tries to play with other girls but they do not want to play with her either. Some girls even call her mean names because she doesn’t ever wear new clothes. One day Maya doesn’t come to school. The girl who had previously been unkind notices her absence and feels badly. She regrets her unkind ways and wishes that she had behaved differently toward Maya. She regrets the lost opportunity to be Maya’s friend.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

The way we treat others can have a good or bad effect on them. We need to make sure we help others feel included and part of our classroom. If we say mean things about people it can make them feel sad and unimportant. They might feel like they do not belong.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCED PREPARATION

Materials: lined paper and pencils
Preparation: None needed.

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Exclude - to not include another person and making them feel unwelcomed and unwanted

Gossip - talking negatively about someone behind their back
**PRE-READING ACTIVITY**

Show the front cover of the book. You might comment about the beautiful art work. Then ask the students why they think the author titled the book "Each Kindness." Also ask the students what they think this book is about.

**READ THE BOOK**

**POST READING DISCUSSION**

Ask the following questions:

- How do you think Maya felt when she heard people calling her names?
- How did she feel when others left her out of activities?
- How would you treat Maya?
- What can you do to include people in your play?
- At the end of the story, what could the girl do to make things better with Maya?

**POST READING ACTIVITY**

**Letter to Maya**

Pass out a piece of lined paper and a pencil to each student. Have them write a letter to Maya as if they were the girl at the end of the story. Boys might write a letter to Maya expressing how they felt about what happened and what they would do if Maya came back to school. Tell them to think about what they would say to help Maya feel important and loved. After they are done writing, bring the class back together and discuss their letters. Talk about what they wrote and what they could do to help Maya feel included.

**CLOSURE**

Remind the students that it is important to help each person feel welcome and important. Help them to recognize how the girl at the end of the story felt and how she wished she could have changed what she did. Help the students finish the story on a positive note. As a reminder for students, leave the poster hanging in the front of the classroom.
Kindness begins with ME.
I will include others.