

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

SOCIAL SKILL: SHOWING APPRECIATION  
CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

### BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *Ten Thank You Letters*  
Author: Daniel Kirk  
Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books  
Year: 2014  
ISBN Number: 978-0-399-16937-3  
Number of Pages: 32 pages  
Reading Level: Kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

### BOOK SYNOPSIS

This book is about Pig writing a thank-you letter to his grandma. While he is writing the letter, his friend, Rabbit, comes by to ask him to play catch. Pig tells Rabbit he is writing a thank-you letter to his Grandma. Rabbit begins writing several thank-you letters to people he knows while he waits for Pig.

### LESSON OBJECTIVE

The students will be motivated to show appreciation, and will show their gratitude by writing one thank you letter to a school adult.

### LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

**Materials:** poster board; tape; 3 manila envelopes; paper (1 sheet for each student); pencils/crayons

**Preparation:** Select at least 3 school adults who are familiar to all the students (librarian, school nurse, lunch lady, custodian, principal, PE teacher, school secretary, helper in the classroom, etc.). Clearly label an envelope for each adult. Tape the envelope on the poster board and display in front of the room.

### KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

**Deserves** - when something gets someone that they have worked hard for

**Envelope**- what you put your letter into when you are mailing the letter to someone

**Stamp** - the small sticker (represents money paid to the post office) you put on an envelope so it can be mailed

**Deliver** - to take something or drop something off to someone

**Inspiring** - a strong feeling that moves you to do something to make things better

**Generous** - being kind

**Chores** - jobs your parents expect you to do at home, such as cleaning your room or feeding your dog

**Borrow** - when someone lends you something that is not yours, and you need to return it back to them

## PRE-READING ACTIVITY

If possible, watch this preview video that gives a good synopsis.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldyOVDHui8>

Show the front cover of the book. Ask the children, “What do you think this book is about?” Ask the children if they have ever received a “thank-you” letter. Ask them if they have ever written a thank-you letter to someone.

## READ THE BOOK

## POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- Why was Pig writing a thank-you to his grandma?
- Why did Rabbit start writing thank-you letters?
- Why is it important to say “thank you?”
- How do you feel when someone says “thank you” to you?

## POST READING ACTIVITY

### Thank You Letters

Talk about the three school adults you have selected. Why would we want to say “thank you” to these individuals? Ask to students to show their appreciation by writing a thank-you letter (older students) or drawing a picture (younger children) for one of these individuals. After students have finished writing their letters, ask them to put their letters into the identified envelope. During the week students may want to add more thank-you letters. At the end of the week, identify who will take the thank-you letters to each individual or if the letters will be sent in the mail.

## CLOSURE

Let the students know that collected thank-you letters will be delivered to the identified individuals. Each week, you may want to identify a new set of school adults. Encourage the students to write additional thank-you letters to these adults and to place their letters in the envelope.



**GIVE THANKS**



