SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

SOCIAL SKILL: SHOWING APPRECIATION  
CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *All for Pie, Pie for All*  
Author: David Martine  
Publisher: Candlewick  
Year: 2008  
ISBN #: 0763638919  
# of pages: 32 pages  
Reading Level: Kindergarten - 6th grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Grandma Cat makes an apple pie. After Little Brother, Big Sister, Momma, Poppa, and Grandma each eat a slice, the cats contentedly take naps. While they sleep, the Mouse family carts off the last piece of pie to its own snug home. After Little Brother, Big Sister, Momma, Poppa, and Grandma Mouse share their pie; the mice snuggle down for naps, too. While they sleep, the ant family carries off the crumbs, polishing off all the remaining pie. Meanwhile, Grandma Cat awakes and makes another pie, this time with help from all the cats, mice, and ants.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

We should be grateful for what we have, even if our things are not the same as others’ things.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCED PREPARATION

**Gratitude Pie**

Materials: Brown/tan construction paper  
Preparation: Make round cutouts (the size of a plate) from light brown/tan construction paper. Cut the circular pieces into quarters for “gratitude pie.” Make a “pie piece” for each student.

**Gratitude Quilt**

Materials: Colored construction paper  
Preparation: Cut white paper into 5” X 5” squares (paper quilt pieces), one for each student. Cut colored pieces of paper 6” X 6,” one for each student. Use varied colors for the 6” X 6” squares to make the quilt colorful.

**Gratitude Cards**

Materials: white paper; envelopes; crayons or markers  
Preparation: None needed.

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

**Gratitude** - the quality of feeling thankful  
**Appreciation** - thankful recognition

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Show the front cover of the book. Discuss what gratitude means and how it can be expressed. Let the students discuss how sharing is a way of expressing gratitude.
POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- What kinds of things can we be grateful for?
- What kinds of things can we share with our friends and families?
- How can we show more gratitude in our classroom?

POST READING ACTIVITY

Gratitude Pie

Pass around the pie shaped pieces of paper. Have each student decorate a piece. Once it’s been decorated, pass the piece of pie to another student. Then have the student write the words “I am thankful for” then leave a space. Pass again. The last student will write something they’re thankful for. Assemble your gratitude pies.

Gratitude Quilt

For the gratitude quilt, cut white paper into 5” X 5” squares (paper quilt pieces). Each child decorates one square. In small classrooms, you might want to have 2 squares for each student so there are enough to make a paper quilt. After the students draw on their quilt pieces, paste each square in the center of a colored piece of paper (6” X 6”) and then connect all the pieces together into a classroom gratitude quilt. Use varied colors for the 6” X 6” squares to make the quilt colorful. Give each child a 5”X 5” blank piece of paper on which to draw something he or she is thankful for. Mount each square on a 6”X 6” colored piece of paper (creating a colored edge around each quilt piece) and then piece the squares together to create a classroom gratitude quilt.

Gratitude Cards

Give each child a blank piece of paper they can fold into quarters. Have them make and decorate a thank you card. Place the card in an envelope and address the envelope to someone they’re thankful for. Offer examples of something the card might say---such as a short poem, or simply “thank you for....”

CLOSURE

Display the pies and/or quilt and remind the students of the importance of being grateful. If the students made “gratitude cards,” discuss how the person will feel when they receive the card. Talk about how it feels when you make a “thank you” card.

Hang the poster (provided) in the classroom.
What am I thankful for?