

# 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - 6<sup>th</sup> 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 ADVANCE 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 activities?
- 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. The students 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.**

