

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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**SOCIAL SKILL: WORKING TOGETHER**  
**CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS**

### BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *Hooray for Hat!*  
Author: Brian Won  
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin  
Year: 2014  
ISBN Number: 978-0544159037  
Number of Pages: 40 pages  
Reading Level: 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

### BOOK SYNOPSIS

Elephant wakes up grumpy, but finds a box on his doorstep. Inside he finds a bunch of hats stacked on top of each other and exclaims "Hurray for Hat!" Elephant goes to show all of his friends his hats, but they are all grumpy too. However, to cheer them up, he gives each of them hats as well. Near the end of the story, Lion is sad because he wants to help his friend Giraffe feel better. Then, they collect all the hats together and generously give them to Giraffe, hoping to spread the good cheer to their friend.

### LESSON OBJECTIVE

We can all work together to spread happiness and help others feel good about themselves. The things we say and do help others feel happy and important.

### LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCED PREPARATION

**Materials:** strips of construction paper (various sizes, shapes, and colors; minimally make about 4 strips per student); pre-cut one head band of poster board for each group of students (approximately 2" wide and 24" long); glue; stapler or tape; other craft supplies (such as glitter, feathers, stickers, stick-on jewels, etc.)

**Preparation:** Cut up strips of paper, set up craft supplies. As an example for the students, create one homemade hat (see pictures below).

### KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

**Working together** - to cooperatively complete a task or make something

**Grumpy** - not happy, might be grouchy, upset, or frustrated

## PRE-READING DISCUSSION

Show the front cover of the book and ask the students what they think the book is about. Ask the students to think about what it means to work together and how the animals in this book might work together.

## READ THE BOOK

## POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- How do you think giraffe felt when all his friends worked together to help him feel better?
- How does it feel to work together with others?
- Why is it important to work with others?

Talk about how working together is fun and helps us accomplish new things and helps others feel happy.

## POST READING ACTIVITY

### Hat Activity

Have the students get into groups (four or five to a group). Explain that each group will make a fun hat for their teacher. Show them the example of a hat (one you previously made). Use a thick strip of poster board paper (thicker than paper) to make the round part of the head band for the hat. Students can glue strips of paper, glitter, feathers and other craft supplies to their hat to create something fun and exciting. Have the teacher wear each of the hats and take a picture. Display/post the pictures for all to enjoy.

Examples:



## CLOSURE

Post Helen Keller's statement: "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." Also display the hats as a reminder of the social skill. Possibly the teacher could wear a hat when he/she notices students working together for the good of the group or for the good of another student. Review the social skills steps with your class.

### **Steps for Working Together**

1. Look and listen.
2. Show your interest.
3. Use kind words.
4. No arguing, whining, or pouting.
5. Do your part.

**"Alone we can do so  
little, together we  
can do so much."**

**Helen Keller**

