

Hands Around The World

Grade Level: 1-5
Time: 45 minutes

Objectives:

- Identify values, beliefs, and interests.
- Begin to think about global interdependence,

Curricular Connections: Civics, Visual Arts

Materials: Construction paper, scissors, markers, crayons, other art materials, paper punch, long piece of ribbon or string, tape.

Procedure:

- 1) Begin by asking students to describe a time that they wished for something.
- 2) After a brief discussion draw a birthday cake on the board and ask students for examples of things they might wish for when blowing out the candles on their birthday cake and write their responses on the board around the cake.
- 3) Ask students to describe a time a wish came true and who made it possible
- 4) Ask students to imagine what a fictional character might wish for and how that wish might be fulfilled. Provide an example: “Fred Flintstone might wish for a pair of shoes and Wilma made him a pair”.
- 5) Expand the conversation by getting the students to think of real people. You can begin with celebrities but then ask students to think of people in their community or other countries. Challenge students to think about wishes people might have for their children, for the planet, for the future, etc. as well as things we all can do to make wishes come true
- 6) Have each student trace their hand on a piece of construction paper, cut them out, and punch two holes, one at the base of the pinky and one at the base of the thumb.
- 7) Ask students to write down five wishes on their thumb and fingers.
- 8) When students finish have them place their “hands” on the string. The string should go in one of the holes, behind the hand, and out the other hole. Overlap hands and tape them to the string.
- 9) Hang string of hands.

Adaptation: Create a “wish tree”. Give each student an index card and have them write their wishes for the country, school, world. Hang the cards on a tree shape bulletin board.

Reflection:

- If Students feel comfortable they can share their wishes with the class and discuss the possibilities of it becoming true.
- Students can discuss what they can do to make their wishes come true.

Assessment:

1. Student participation and quality of ideas.

Source: Adapted from Deb and Jim Delisle 1996, p.119; *Shaking Hands With The World*