



WEEK 4



**15+
MIN**



Students create a set of thank-you cards to have available to use both now and in the future.



Copies of the “Thanks a Bunch!” Handout (optional); Cardstock paper, both white and colored, enough for each student to create six cards total; Coloring materials (Markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils); Scissors; Glue; Tape; Embellishments such as stickers, glitter, ephemera, etc.; Quart-size sandwich bags or brown paper bags to hold completed cards.

Total Prep Time: 15 mins.



As this is the last Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity, and if appropriate, video at www.everymondaysmatters.org. Additionally, a three-minute recap of the previous weeks may add extra context to this week and help connect the dots around the monthly theme.

4 C's	SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING	SERVICE LEARNING
● Critical thinking	● Self-awareness	● Integrated learning
● Communication	● Self-management	● High quality service
● Collaboration	● Social-awareness	● Collaboration
● Creativity	● Relationship skills	● Student voice
	● Responsible decision-making	● Civic responsibility
		● Reflection
		● Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Discover how etiquette makes a difference in our world, and learn specific ways to implement it
- Identify how active listening helps us to “HONOR” and thoughtfully interact with others
- Practice the art of gratitude and respect toward those who help, serve, and support our lives
- Understand how “MIND YOUR MANNERS” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS HONORABLE”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: **“THANKS A BUNCH!”**

1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “THANKS A BUNCH!”

2) ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY’S FOCUS:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **When was a time that you really felt appreciated or noticed for something you did?**
 - What do you remember most about that experience?
- **When was a time that you went out of your way to “THANK” or appreciate someone else for something they did?**
 - How did you choose to “THANK” them?
 - How did they respond to your gesture?
- **What are some different methods we can use to “THANK” people for their kindness or service?**
- **Who do you know that could use a note of “THANKS” or appreciation?**
 - Can you think of anyone who regularly goes unrecognized for their kind words or actions?
- **Do you think “MINDING YOUR MANNERS” includes saying “thank you”?**
 - Why is saying “thank you” important?
- **What other words or phrases can you use to show you have good “MANNERS”?**
- **How does giving “THANKS” to someone show them that we “HONOR” them?**
- **In what ways could writing a “THANK YOU” note change someone’s day or even life?**
- **What would it be like if you had “A BUNCH” of cards that could be used whenever the opportunity arose?**
- **How might your day look different if you were actively looking for people to “THANK”?**
- **How would giving out cards to people who do good remind them, YOU MATTER?**

3) SET UP THE “THANKS A BUNCH!” ACTIVITY:

- **Explain:**
 - We have an abundance of people who help us from day to day
 - From the people who prepare our food (starting even before it gets to our plates!) to those who make sure we are taken care of physically and emotionally, we all have someone who deserves our “THANKS”
 - In fact, there are so many people who do service for us that it would be almost impossible to write “THANK YOU” notes to all of them
 - But in a moment, we will make cards to “HONOR” and say “THANKS” to some of those people who help us daily
- **Ask:**
 - Do you have someone in mind that you could write a “THANKFUL” card to?
 - How will that card show them that they MATTER?

4) START THE “THANKS A BUNCH!” ACTIVITY:

- **Set out supplies: Paper, tape/glue, coloring materials, scissors, and embellishments, leaving enough space for students to work independently**
- **Explain:**
 - Today we’re each going to make “A BUNCH” of cards so we have them on hand
 - We’ll aim to have a set of six cards per person
 - And we’ll decorate them as nicely as we can, so the recipient really knows that they MATTER
 - These cards can be used anytime in the future, whenever you want to give your “THANKS” to someone
 - For example, you could give it to the owner of your local laundromat

- Or you could leave it for a server at a restaurant you enjoy
- If you look, we promise you will find someone to appreciate and say “THANKS” to
- **Remind students that these are “THANK YOU” notes, but that if they prefer to make some more generic ones (without words on the front or inside), that is okay too**
- **Tell them the goal is to have six cards completed or at least started today so they have “A BUNCH” to choose from when the time is right**
- **Remind them that these cards will be for any gender and any age, so they can have varied colors, patterns, and designs on each**
- Students may also include the phrase YOU MATTER in their cards
- **Students may fold their cards in different ways, as shown in the “Thanks a Bunch!” Handout (use this Handout as helpful, and pass out to students if desired)**
- **Encourage students to do their best work and to be as creative as they can**
- **Allow about 10 minutes for this activity**
- **When activity is completed, ask students to “MIND THEIR MANNERS” by helping to tidy up their work space, and have them put their set of cards into a quart-size sandwich bag or a brown paper bag**
- **Encourage students to give out their “THANKS A BUNCH!” cards whenever they want to say “THANKS” to someone for their kindness, actions, or words**

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

**NOTE: Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **Were you able to complete all six cards today?**
 - If not, when will you have them completed by?
- **What are some ways you can have personal safety as you give people their “THANK YOU” cards?**
- **While you interact with the recipient of your card, what can you do to let them know that they MATTER?**
 - What can you verbally say to help them feel that way?
 - What are some nonverbal things you can do to show them that they are valued?
- **Which card are you the proudest of?**
 - Would you be willing to show it to everyone?
- **What were some thoughts you had today as you made your cards?**
- **What, to you, is “HONORABLE” about noticing the good in the world and in others?**
- **What are some other ways, apart from making and giving cards, that you can show gratitude and “HONOR” for others?**
- **In what ways did you “MIND YOUR MANNERS” with your peers today?**
- **What about today’s activity reminds you that YOU and your actions MATTER?**

6) THANK STUDENTS FOR MAKING “A BUNCH” OF “THANK YOU” CARDS FOR OTHERS. REMIND THEM THAT RECOGNIZING KINDNESS AND SERVICE IS “HONORABLE,” AND THEIR CARDS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN ANOTHER PERSON’S DAY.

7) CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO FIND RECIPIENTS FOR EACH OF THEIR CARDS, AND TO DO THEIR BEST TO CONVEY THE “YOU MATTER” MESSAGE DURING EACH INTERACTION. ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE “MANNERS” IN ALL THAT THEY DO, AND TO FIND NEW WAYS TO “GET HONORABLE” THIS MONTH.

8) CONTINUE TO EXPLORE HOW “MINDING YOUR MANNERS” “MATTERS” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION IDEAS.



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) Card Storage Box:** Instead of putting the cards in a bag to store, let students create a box for their “THANK YOU” cards, and increase the number of cards from six to ten.
- 2) Creative Cards:** Give students more options for card designs, like the ones found in <https://www.allfreepapercrafts.com/Card-Making/Fancy-Fold-Cards>, or use more ornate art supplies like watercolor paints, masking fluid, or washi tape.
- 3) Personal Awards:** In addition to “THANK YOU” cards, allow students to make awards for each other or their teachers to really “HONOR” them. Awards can include things like “You have a lovely smile,” “You really take care of others,” etc. Encourage students to make several awards, some specific and some more broad, and to give them out whenever it’s appropriate.

“**GRATITUDE IS THE SIGN OF NOBLE SOULS.**”

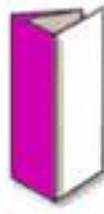
- AESOP

THANKS A BUNCH!

Instructions: Use these folding techniques to help students create and fold their “THANKS A BUNCH!” appreciation cards.



Half Fold



Roll Fold



Tri-Fold



Z Fold



Gate Fold



Accordion Fold



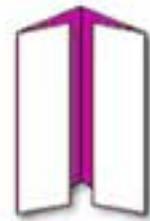
Half & Half



Double Parallel Fold



Half Fold to Tri Fold



Double Gate Fold

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