

How Full is Your Bucket?

Lesson Plan (preschool)

Objective: Students will learn to demonstrate how kindness, compassion, and respect are so important in our classroom, school, and world. Students will understand that the positive things they do for others show respect and will no doubt come back to them. Students will also understand that when they are unkind to others they hurt themselves as well.

Materials: How Full is Your Bucket (for kids)
by Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer and illustrated by Maurie J. Manning

Materials to make classroom bucket/ mini student buckets

Assessment:
Child responses/ interactions

Explore:
In the story, is the bucket real or invisible? *Invisible*.

What if we all had an invisible bucket over your head? Is your bucket empty or full? How do you feel?

What does it mean to have a FULL bucket? What filled Felix's bucket? How did Felix feel when his bucket was full?

What happens to the bucket when someone says unfriendly words?

THEMES: Encourage Others, Kindness/ friendliness, Bucket Filling, Bucket Dipping, Pay-It-

Launch:

Let's pretend that we have an invisible bucket on top of our heads (show them book pictures). Sometimes it's full and sometimes it feels really empty. You would feel amazing when your bucket is full but not so great when your bucket is empty. In this story, Felix begins to understand that his friendly words and actions can fill someone's bucket but unfriendly words can empty the bucket.

Vocabulary: Invisible – not seen/ not really there

Summary:

What are some ways YOU can encourage others in your classroom and around your school? Let's make a classroom bucket and when it gets full of friendly actions and words we can celebrate with chocolate milk at lunch! (kids can make individual buckets to take home too if they want to)

Notes/ reflection:

While children are making buckets make sure to check in on each student for understanding. Be sure to use the classroom bucket as a consistent motivator for positive behavior.

Extension: Make a visual chart of Bucket Fillers and Bucket Dippers to hang in classroom.