

	EBS CHARACTER EDUCATION	Page 1 of 4	CEACT067 Rev C	Date: 04/16/13
	TITLE: JUST A LITTLE BIT			

Recommended Grade Levels: K-1

Applicable Character Traits: Generosity, Cooperation

Objective:

Students listen to a story about cooperation and learn that they can accomplish a lot and be generous even at a young age when they cooperate because “every little bit counts.” Students are introduced to the Kids Against Hunger project- Generosity Month Only.

Time Frame: (Approximately 30 minutes)

Approximately how long the entire lesson should take to complete. It’s nice to let the teacher know, so you are both on the same page.

Materials/ Preparation:

- Character Trait Statement (attached)
- “Just a Little Bit” book by Ann Tompert
 Summary from Publishers Weekly -A new spin on a timeless theme as two friends deal with their dissimilar statures. Elephant and Mouse try to balance a seesaw in the park, with obvious results. Along come a giraffe, zebra, lion, bear, crocodile, mongoose, monkey and ostrich. One by one they climb onto Mouse’s side of the seesaw, "grunting and groaning and grimacing" as they push down as hard as they can in an attempt to get Elephant off the ground. Just as they're about to give up, a small brown beetle flies down from the sky and perches atop Mouse's nose, adding the needed weight to move that seesaw. "Every little bit helps!" declares Elephant as a crowd of animal spectators cheers. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.
- Kids Against Hunger collection box
- Bag of Kids Against Hunger rice mixture food (from parent room or some teachers have them in their classrooms)
- Optional- one coin per student to put into collection box
- Copies of letter to parents to send home- one per student
- Reference material- **Introducing the Kids Against Hunger Boxes Lesson- see website**
- 4-5 plastic grocery bags
- Hand sanitizer

Opening Statements: (5 minutes)

- Greet students and tell them they are going to listen to a funny story.
- Ask students if they know the character trait for the month.
- Ask students, What does it mean to be generous/ (show cooperation)?



- Read the appropriate Character Trait Statement.

Activities: (15 minutes)

- Read “Just a Little Bit” by Ann Tompert
- Stop before the end to ask students to predict what might happen.
- After you read the book, ask the students: What is the author’s message or messages? (cooperate, work together, don’t give up, don’t let people tell you can’t do something, every little bit counts)
- Tell students: There are problems in the world where we all have to cooperate and where “every little bit counts.”
- Discuss with students the following problems and have them suggest solutions, emphasizing what they can do and that “every little bit counts.”
 - Litter/ pollution- don’t litter, pick up trash, reduce, reuse, recycle,
 - Hunger- donate food, donate money to charity like Kids Against Hunger
- For generosity, emphasize being generous with your time, attitude, actions, money.
- For cooperation emphasize working together, etc.

For Generosity:

- Show the students the collection box and tell the students they have an opportunity to be generous by donating money to the Kids Against Hunger project which collects money and then buys and packages food to be given to hungry kids here in San Diego, and around the world. 25¢ feeds a child in Tanzania one meal. \$20 feeds a child in Tanzania for four months! “Every little bit counts.”
- Students can also participate in the food packaging events and be generous with their time. Encourage kids to bring in their own money that they earn by doing a chore or by giving up an ice cream, etc. Also, you may want to suggest that they set up Friday, EBS Spirit Day, as the day to bring in what the students want to donate to their Kids Against Hunger box. Ask the teacher’s help in acknowledging the students’ donations throughout the year and thus encouraging more donations.

For Cooperation:

- Please remind our students of our on-going project, Kids Against Hunger, where students donate money to help alleviate hunger locally and worldwide. Each classroom has a collection box. Also, FFCC holds several food packaging events throughout the year where students have the opportunity to volunteer their time.
- Have students get into groups of 4-5. One person per group gets to hold a plastic bag. Take the students out for a short walk to pick up little bits of trash around the school and put them in the bag.
- Return to the classroom and say, “We can keep our school really clean if we all do our part and pick up trash, not just today, but whenever we see it.”
- Have students wash their hands after picking up trash or use hand sanitizer.

**Wrap up and Reflection:** (5 minutes)**For Generosity:**

- It is a good idea to let the parents know about the Kids Against Hunger Boxes and the charity partner- Friends and Family Community Connection. Below is a sample letter to customize, copy and send home with the students. You can also make sticker labels to put on the younger students' shirts. Stickers can say "ASK ME ABOUT KIDS AGAINST HUNGER." or "ASK ME ABOUT HOW I CAN BE GENEROUS."

Character Trait Statements:**Generosity**

At EBS we practice Generosity.

We give freely without expecting anything in return.

We share our things, our time, our talents.

We show kindness and concern for others.

We help people in need at home, at school, and in our community.

We go beyond our responsibility in an effort to make the world a better place.

Cooperation

At EBS we practice Cooperation.

We work together.

We take turns, share, and listen.

We participate and do our best.

We include others and encourage them.

We compromise.

We are good leaders and good followers.



Dear Parents,

We are Ellie Livingstone (Melanie's mom) and XXXXXXXX (XXX's dad) and we are the Character Education Representatives for Mrs. XXXXXX's Kindergarten class. Each month we teach the students about the month's character trait and the kids continue to speak about the character traits and do follow-up activities throughout the month. This is a wonderful way for students to develop the vocabulary to discuss the traits we hope they will learn and for parents to reinforce these concepts at home. The character traits for the year are: Responsibility, Generosity, Gratitude, Respect, Forgiveness, Honesty, Compassion, Perseverance, Cooperation, and Loyalty.

In addition to teaching the students, we will keep families updated about ongoing and special projects that allow the students opportunities to demonstrate and practice the character traits. The Character Education team also coordinates special assemblies during the year and I will inform you of them as they occur.

Below are some of the ongoing EBS projects for students:

- ❖ **Kids Against Hunger**
The Character Education program partners with the non-profit charity, Friends and Family Community Connection (FFCC). Our partnership with the FFCC allows EBS students to practice Generosity and Compassion as well as perform community service. Our on-going project in cooperation with the FFCC is Kids Against Hunger where students donate money to help alleviate hunger locally and worldwide. Each classroom has a collection box. A little money goes a long way for this program as 25¢ pays for a whole meal in Tanzania! Students are encouraged to bring in money of their own from gifts or chores, etc. This project is ongoing throughout the year.
- ❖ **Food Drive**
There will be a Thanksgiving Food Drive Monday, October 29th through November 9th, 2012.
- ❖ **Food Packaging Events**
In cooperation with the FFCC (Friends & Family Community Connection), the money raised from the donations to Kids Against Hunger is used to buy a special rice mixture which is packaged by volunteers. It is a hands-on project that even Kindergarteners can participate in. One third of the food that is packaged goes to local communities in need. The next food packaging events will be announced on the EBS-AFP e-blasts and posted around school. If you would like more information about the organization or would like to volunteer to help you must register in advance at www.ffccsd.org
- ❖ **EBS Teachers Participating in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk for the Cure**
Help Support our EBS Teachers reach their goal of raising lots of funds for the cause. They will be out in front of school in October. Donations may be made in person or by visiting the website at www.the3day.org Click on "donate" and search for a participant – Lindsay Burningham. If you have any questions, please e-mail lburningham@sandi.net.

Participation in projects is not mandatory, but students are encouraged to take part in them since they can have a great impact on their practicing the character traits.

If you have any questions about any of the Character Education programs, please feel free to contact us at XXXXXXXX