



Lend a Hand: Poems about Giving

Written by John Frank, Illustrated by London Ladd

Lend a Hand is a collection of poems that inspire everyone to perform simple acts of kindness that can help change the world.

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *what do you think this story is about?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder if that boy offered his seat on the bus to the old man?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- service dog - an animal trained to do particular tasks for a person with a physical or mental disability
- jammin' - musicians having fun and playing well
- riffs - a short and usually repeated pattern of notes in a song
- klutziest - describing a person who often drops things or falls down
- molting - losing its covering
- sapling - a young tree
- marvel - great surprise, wonder or admiration

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What does it mean to lend a hand?
- What does the girl share with the new student at lunch?
- How does she feel after she shares?
- What does it mean to raise a service dog?
- Can playing a ukulele or any musical instrument with someone be a way to lend a hand?
- How can donating your hair after a haircut be considered lending a hand?
- How did the scout troop join together to lend a hand? What did they uncover?
- When we plant a new tree who will it benefit and when?
- What are some ways you can lend a hand?

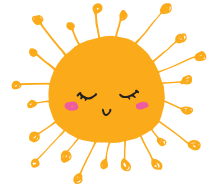


Kindness Challenge

Share this Kindness Challenge Chart and have students mark off when they complete one of the acts listed during the week. At the end of the week have students share what they did and how they felt when they performed their kindness acts.



KINDNESS CHALLENGE BOARD



Ask someone how their day is going	Learn to say Thank You in sign language	Help out with a chore at home before being asked	Let someone go before you in line
Pick up litter when you see it	Donate a toy you no longer play with	Hold the door for someone	Give a compliment
Donate a book to the library	Help someone carry their groceries	Send someone a card	Share an umbrella
Help someone with their yard work	Leave a kind note in someone's locker, desk or bathroom	Smile at everyone you see	Play with someone new