

VALENTINE'S DAY UNIT

PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS




2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

RESOURCE INCLUDES

- ✓ 10 Literacy Activities
- ✓ Teacher Instructions
- ✓ Reading, Writing, Listening & Speaking Activities
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Assessment Options
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats

LESSON OVERVIEW



- ✓ Introduction – Share Kindness With Others Challenge
- ✓ Lesson 1 – The History of Valentine's Day Article
- ✓ Lesson 2 – Valentine's Day Opinion Questions
- ✓ Lesson 3 – Fishbowl Class Discussion & Opinion Writing Assignment
- ✓ Lesson 4 – Vending Machines Podcast Lesson
- ✓ Lesson 5 – Valentine's Day Choice Board
- ✓ Lesson 6 – Valentine's Day Creative Writing Assignment
- ✓ Lesson 7A – QR Code Vocabulary Search
- ✓ Lesson 7B – Valentine's Day Word Detective, Word Search & Crossword Puzzle
- ✓ Lesson 8 – Valentine's Day Word Call Game

WHAT'S INSIDE?



INTRODUCTION



Share Kindness With Others Challenge

Lesson Overview:

As a whole class, students will work on spreading kindness for the whole month.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Share Kindness With Others Challenge (2 sheets)



LESSON PLANS

Teo

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
4. Challenge each student to do one act of kindness (per day, week, or for the month).
5. As students complete the challenges, have them put a small checkmark in the box with the completed challenge.
6. If students complete a kindness activity not on the list, have them write it in the blank 'Share Kindness With Others' sheet.
7. At the end of the month, have students reflect on their month of intentional kindness through a journal entry or a class discussion.

ANSWER KEY

1. What day does Valentine's Day occur?

February 14

2. How old is the tradition of Valentine's Day?

Hundreds of years old.

3. How do people currently celebrate Valentine's Day?

By sending cards and giving presents like candy, chocolate, flowers, and jewelry.

4. Why was St. Valentine executed?

St. Valentine ignored the ban against soldiers marrying and performed marriages.

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6. W

Gifts

ANSWER KEYS

7. How much money do Canadians spend on average for Valentine's Day?

Canadians spend an average of \$42 each year for Valentine's Day.

8. How much money do Americans spend on average for Valentine's Day?

Americans spend an average of \$130 per year on this holiday.

9. Who spends more on Valentine's Day, Americans or Canadians? Why do you think one country spends more than the other?

Americans spend more money. Students must come up with their own reasons. For example, more money is spent on ads in the USA than in Canada, more couples in the USA than in Canada because of a larger population, etc.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14th each year. The history of Valentine's Day goes back hundreds of years. The holiday has evolved greatly over time to become how people celebrate Valentine's Day today.

Valentine's Day is technically Saint Valentine's Day, honouring the Catholic patron saint of love. There are many different theories for the origin of this now commercial celebration.

The most famous theory involves a pop priest who worked in the Roman Empire for the cause of Christianity. St. Valentine ignored the orders of the emperor and continued to perform marriages for soldiers and their wives anyway.

During his reign in the 3rd Century, Emperor Claudius made it illegal for soldiers to get married.

LEVELLED ARTICLES



VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14 each year. Valentine's Day is officially Saint Valentine's Day, honouring the Catholic patron saint of love.

There are many theories for how Valentine's Day began. During the Roman Empire, Emperor Claudius made it illegal for soldiers to get married. He believed that single, unmarried men



Jewelry is a common Valentine's Day gift.

Today, many people around the world enjoy celebrating Valentine's Day, especially in countries like Canada, the United States, Mexico, Australia, the United Kingdom, and France.

Chocolates and other sweet foods like candies have become popular parts of Valentine's Day. People also buy jewelry for loved ones.

One legend includes St. Valentine sending a note to a girl before being executed, which could be the origin of sending "valentines."

Valentine's Day first became a holiday and an annual event on February 14 in the late 5th Century. From the 17th Century onwards, Valentine's Day became more popular and more widespread. Famous poets Geoffrey Chaucer and William Shakespeare helped make Valentine's Day more popular because of their writings.

Word Bank

emperor - leader of a place/country

illegal - against the law

ARTICLE QUESTIONS /10

Name: _____

Instructions: After reading the article, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What day does Valentine's Day occur?
2. How old is the tradition of Valentine's Day?
3. How do people currently celebrate Valentine's Day?
4. What is the most common Valentine's Day gift?
5. Why is Valentine's Day important to many people?
6. What are some traditional Valentine's Day foods?
7. How much money do Canadians spend on Valentine's Day?
8. How much money do Americans spend on Valentine's Day?
9. Who spends more on Valentine's Day? Why do you think one country spends more than the other?

ARTICLE QUESTIONS /7

Instructions: After reading the article, answer the following questions in a full sentence.

Name: _____

Comprehension Questions:

1. On what day does Valentine's Day occur?

POST-READING ACTIVITIES

3. What was St. Valentine caught doing?

4. Name two people who helped make Valentine's Day more popular.

1.	
2.	

WHAT'S INSIDE?



VALENTINE'S DAY OPINION QUESTIONS



Instructions: On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question below in point form or complete sentences. Be sure to include details about each question, as these opinions will be shared during a class discussion.

1. Should all elementary school students be required to hand out Valentine's Day cards to spread kindness?
2. Are store-bought or homemade Valentine's better? Why or Why not?
3. Should Valentine's Day still be celebrated, or is it time for the government to ban Valentine's Day?

WRITING PROMPTS

6. Valentine's Day is a great time to fall in love with a book. What are two must-read books that you can recommend to your classmates? Why are you recommending these books?
7. Should all schools be required to have a Valentine's Day dance? Explain.
8. Why do you think chocolates and flowers are more expensive around Valentine's Day?
9. Which Valentine's Day candy (cinnamon hearts, candy hearts, or chocolate hearts) is the best? Why?

PARAGRAPH WRITING ASSESSMENT

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Level 4

- ☐ Ideas are organized into a well-organized paragraph with detailed explanations and transitions.
- ☐ Spelling and grammar is correct.

Level 3

- ☐ Ideas are organized into paragraphs with three reasons, concluding sentences.
- ☐ There are a few spelling and grammar mistakes that do not detract from the paragraph.

Level 2

- ☐ Ideas are organized into paragraphs.
- ☐ Several spelling and grammar mistakes.

Level 1

- ☐ Ideas are not organized into paragraphs. One sentence, three reasons, concluding sentence.

Feedback: _____

VALENTINE'S ASSESSMENT

Criteria	Mark
Writing Criteria	Worth 25 Points
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing flows and is related to the assignment.	/10
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing uses the correct voice for the chosen role.	/10
<input type="checkbox"/> Correct spelling and grammar	/5
	Worth 25 Points
	/10
	/10
<input type="checkbox"/> Layout is appropriate for chosen format.	/5
Total Points	/50
Final Mark	%

Comments: _____

ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

WHAT'S INSIDE?



VALENTINE'S DAY CHOICE BOARD



Instructions: Select one option from each column to complete. Be sure to follow the writing process (brainstorming, rough copy, peer editing, and good copy) for each assignment.

Column A	Column B
Create a Haiku Poem about Valentine's Day.	You have been hired as a commercial producer. Create a commercial for Valentine's Day.
Create a comic strip story with the theme of love.	Create a Valentine's Day card with a drawing and a message.
Create an advertisement for Valentine's Day.	Write a letter to someone who has helped you in some way.
Design a comic strip story with the theme of kindness.	Create 5 different Valentine's Day card designs with sayings for children.
Bonus Task: Once you have completed your two other tasks, use the provided template to write two thank-you notes to different people who have helped you in some way.	

VALENTINE'S DAY CREATIVE WRITING

Role	Audience	Format	Topic
Lost or Found Valentine	People Who Enjoy Reading	Story	Explain the story of how you were lost or found. Provide readers with a story of what happened to the valentine after it was lost or found.
Candy Hearts	Candy Enthusiasts	Advertisement	You own a candy hearts company and your sales are getting worse each year. Come up with ten new candy heart phrases to inspire people to purchase this candy.

CREATIVE WRITING PROMPTS & ACTIVITIES

ENGAGING MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

SHARE KINDNESS WITH OTHERS

Hold the door open for people throughout the day.	Pick up litter outside of the school.	Make a treat for someone.	Send an uplifting message to a friend or family member.	Say thank you to a teacher.
Leave an encouraging note on a friend's desk or locker.	Run an errand for your parents or guardian.	Help a neighbour by bringing in groceries, shovelling a walkway, etc.	Write a handwritten thank you note.	Offer to help a friend with homework.

Sit with someone new at lunch and strike up a conversation.

Create a playlist for a friend.

Leave kind and encouraging sticky notes in random places around the school.

THINKING QUESTION

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
	✓-	✓	✓+

Select one of the topics to answer:

- Were there any surprises in how you understood kindness at the beginning of the month compared to now? Explain.
- How do you plan to continue practicing kindness beyond this month? Explain.
- How did your acts of kindness contribute to a positive atmosphere in your school or community? Explain.
- Did you witness any positive changes in your friends, family, or classmates as a result of your acts of kindness? Explain.
- How did practicing kindness enhance your appreciation for the people around you? Explain.
- Did you encounter any challenges in being kind? How did you overcome them? Explain.

VALENTINE'S DAY OPINION WRITING ASSIGNMENT



Instructions: Select one of the questions below and answer it in a well-developed paragraph.

- Should all elementary school students be required to hand out Valentine's Day cards to spread kindness?

COST OF LIVING

Pre-Listening: Vending Machines

2. A	List some places where you have seen vending machines in your community.	
3. W		
4. S	List some things you have purchased from a vending machine: e.g., Drinks, Toys, Candy, Chips, Chocolate, etc.	
5. I		
6. S	In what situations would vending machines be helpful or necessary?	
7. E		
8. W	What do you think are some pros and cons of vending machines?	



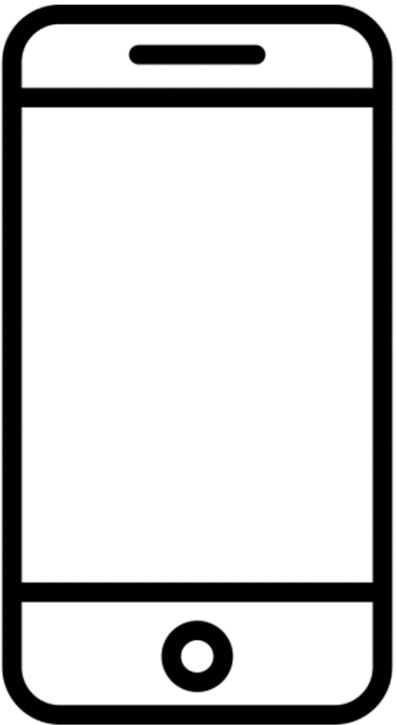
VALENTINE'S DAY CHOICE BOARD



Instructions: Select one option from each column to complete. Be sure to follow the writing process (brainstorming, rough copy, peer editing, and good copy) for each assignment.

Column A	Column B
	You have been hired as a

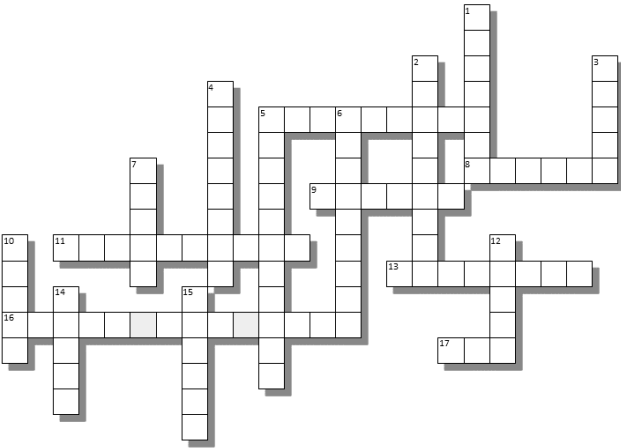
SOCIAL MEDIA POST



VALENTINE'S DAY QR CODE #1



VALENTINE'S DAY CROSSWORD



Across

- Sweet treat made from cacao
- Facial expressions showing happiness
- Symbols of love and affection
- Close relationships between people
- Month associated with love
- Something written after a gift or being extended kindness
- Colour of fire

Down

- Blossoms from plants
- Thankfulness and appreciation
- Often exchanged on special occasions
- Quality of being considerate and compassionate
- Words of praise and admiration
- To honour something
- Fragrant flowers with thorns
- Another word for presents
- Often drawn with a bow
- Sweet treat
- Creative expression in verse form

LESSON FORMATS



PDF

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



DIGITAL

✓ Google Slides

RESOURCE CAN BE USED IN-PERSON OR ONLINE