

# Little by Little Pre-K

## My Character, Ethics and Emotions

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# Teacher Tips

Our society is just beginning to see the importance of early childhood. As educators, it is your responsibility to give children and their families the tools necessary to build a strong foundation for future success.

This book was designed to help guide you through the important role you will play in the lives of your students and their families.

## Tips for teaching lessons

- Read and experiment with all lessons on your own before using them in your classroom.
- Certain activities may be adjusted to better meet the needs of your individual students. Please keep this in mind when planning and reading lessons.
- Be enthusiastic and always participate in the activities with your class.
- Give positive and consistent feedback to everyone in your class.
- Practice singing the songs or reciting poems before you attempt to teach them to your class.
- Remember to be flexible. Use this book as a guide to teach your children important life lessons.
- Early childhood is a time of great exploration; therefore, it is important to do the concrete, hands-on experience to help them internalize their learning.
- All of these lessons were created with opportunities for every type of learner to understand a concept; therefore, it is important to include all parts of each lesson when teaching.

## Tips for Parent Involvement

- The best way to promote parent involvement in children's education is to keep them informed. Consistent and open communication between home and school is essential. Daily communication with parents is the best way to ensure that learning at school is being followed up at home.
- This book is equipped with family pages to help you communicate with parents about individual lessons.
- Reports like the sample found on the following page are simple ways to keep parents informed on a regular basis. Feel free to incorporate this into your curriculum on a daily or weekly basis. It can be made easy by filling in the teacher's name, date, and general learning activity before making a copy for each child. Then, fill in individual information as needed. This individual information is found under "Your Child's Experiences" and should include personalized learning information, such as a child's progress or response to a learning activity. Use the Parent Reminder for information, such as dates to return requested items to class.

# My Learning Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Our Learning Activities

## Your Child's Experiences

## Parent Reminder:



# Respecting Others

## One World

### Objective:

This lesson will teach children to respect and appreciate others.

### Materials:

- Construction paper
- Paint
- Posterboard

### Preparation:

- Gather all materials.



### Introduction:

- Invite all the children to form a big circle.
- Have youngsters take turns talking about their backgrounds.
- Teach children the "One Big World" song, sung to the tune of "The Muffin Man."

### One Big World

We all live in one big world, one big world, one big world,  
We all live in one big world,  
Together, you and me.  
We all come from different places, different places, different places,  
We all come from different places,  
In this one big world.  
Different people, all together, all together, all together,  
Different people, all together,  
Living happily.

### Activity:

- Discuss the idea of peace and teach children how to make a peace sign using their hands.
- Have them turn their palms up and dip their peace-sign hand in paint.
- Make handprints on paper with their palms face up.
- Have them turn the print upside down and make it into a peace person by adding facial features (eyes, nose, mouth) or other body parts (arms).

### **Closing Activity:**

- Allow children to introduce their peace people to the class.
- Have them recall your earlier discussion and name something associated with peace (loving everybody, working together, a dove).

### **Follow-Up Activity:**

- Have children paint their posterboard blue and green like the earth.
- Allow them to put their peace people in different places on the world.
- Peace people can be laminated and used as finger puppets by adding a paper strip across the back.



**Fill your classroom with multicultural materials:**

Cut out pictures from magazines of diverse children. Decorate your classroom with these pictures.



# Family Page

## One World

Dear Parents,

Our schools, along with our communities, are filled with many different people with diverse backgrounds. Our class has spent time learning to appreciate our differences and focusing on the importance of peace in our world.

Although this is a hard concept for children to understand, it is clear that we must teach them tolerance at a very early age. Our acceptance of others and attitudes toward different cultures can affect a child's ability to get along with people. Our world is made up of many cultures and, to have a successful future, children must be able to accept and appreciate this fact.

By showing your child positive behavior and doing activities like the one listed below, we can work together to give your child the foundation for positive relationships with all people. Sing the "One Big World" song with your child, to the tune of "The Muffin Man."

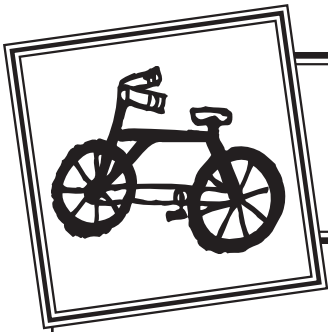
Thank you for your cooperation.

### **One Big World**

We all live in one big world, one big world, one big world,  
We all live in one big world,  
Together, you and me.

We all come from different places, different places, different places,  
We all come from different places,  
In this one big world.

Different people, all together, all together, all together,  
Different people, all together,  
Living happily.



# Perseverance

## Practice Makes Perfect

### Objective:

This lesson will teach children about perseverance and the role it plays in our lives.

### Materials:

- Bucket
- Mirror
- Small bouncing ball
- Paper
- Crayons
- Magazines or newspapers

### Preparation:

- Gather all materials.



### Introduction:

- Invite all the children to form a big circle.
- Have each child take turns rolling the ball to a friend.
- As each receives the ball, have him think of something he learned that took a lot of practice and share the experience with the class (learning to rollerskate, ride a bike, tie a shoelace).
- Children may be familiar with the story, "The Little Engine That Could." Use this story as an example to help them understand the concept of perseverance.
- After sharing their experiences, have the class sing "We Can Do It," to the tune of "London Bridge."
- Fill in the blanks with experiences your students named.

### We Can Do It

We can do it if we try, if we try, if we try,  
We can \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in experience), if we try,  
We can do it.

When we practice, we get better, we get better, we get better,  
We can learn about anything,  
We can do it!