

Gifts of Appreciation

Gifts of
Appreciation



Name

Holiday
Gratitude
Cards

Created by
Laura Candler



Gifts of Appreciation Holiday Cards

Activity by Laura Candler

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The holiday season is a perfect time to encourage students to show appreciation for each other. An easy way to do this is to have them create holiday greeting cards for each other. I've included two variations of a simple activity that uses the holiday greeting card templates you'll find in this packet. One is for showing appreciation to team members, and the other activity can be used for showing appreciation to individuals, including staff members, other students, friends or family. There templates for each activity are different depending on which format you choose.

Before using either activity, I suggest discussing gratitude and what it means to show appreciation. Explain how kind words can be a special kind of gift to each other. Brainstorm a list of compliments and positive comments that they can write about each other. Leave this list on display during the activity.

Activity #1- Team Appreciation Cards

In this activity, students in teams of four will create greeting cards as a way of sharing positive messages. Each person creates one card and passes it around the team. As the cards are passed, students write compliments and words of appreciation inside each other's cards.

Print enough cards so that each student will have one. You can give them all the same card or allow them to choose the card they would like to use for the activity.

Activity Directions

1. Have everyone fold the card pattern in fourths to make a small side-fold card.
2. Each person writes his or her name on the front page and on all three "To" lines on the inside pages.
3. Then everyone folds their cards so that just one page is showing.
4. Set a timer for 1 to 2 minutes (adjust the time after the first round of writing).
5. Students pass the cards to the left and begin writing positive comments about the person whose name is on the top of the page.

From: _____

To: _____

To: _____

Name _____

Gifts of Appreciation

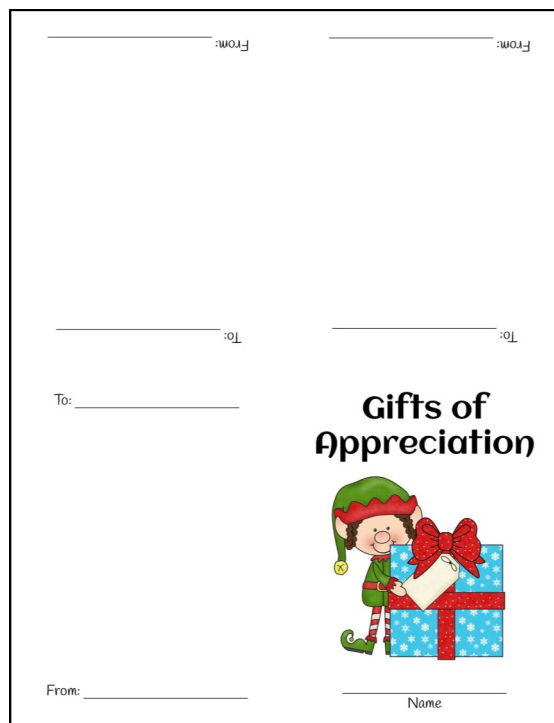
6. When finished writing, each person must sign his or her own name at the bottom of the page. This rule keeps students from writing anonymous unkind statements about each other.
7. When the timer goes off, students fold the card so that no one can read what they wrote and one a clean page is showing. They then pass it on to the next person.
8. Keep writing comments and passing the cards until the cards return to the original owner. Of course, the original owner can read all the wonderful things their classmates have said!



Activity #2- Individual Gratitude Cards

In this activity, students write individual cards to show their appreciation for others. This activity works well as a follow up to the Team Appreciation activity.

Print a selection of cards or have students create their own with similar wording. Have students fold the patterns in fourths so they form small greeting cards. After discussing the types of comments that are appropriate for showing appreciation, allow time for students to time to write cards to give to friends and family members.



Happy Holidays!

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From: _____

From: _____

To: _____

To: _____

To: _____

Gifts of Appreciation



From: _____

Name

From: _____

From: _____

To: _____

To: _____

To: _____

Gifts of Appreciation



From: _____

Name

From: _____

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Gifts of Appreciation



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To: _____

Gifts of Appreciation



From: _____

Name



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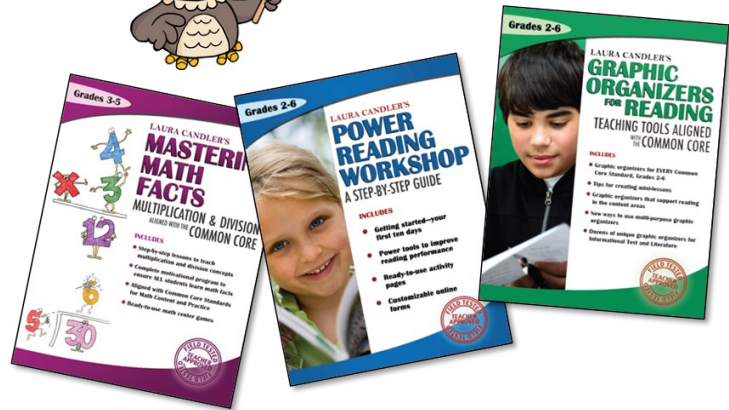
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