



Interdependence Lesson Plan



Lesson title: Interdependence Lesson

Subject and topic:

ELA, Character Education

Grade level:

1-2

Duration:

30 minutes

Lesson summary:

This lesson will help students understand that we are all interdependent on each other.

Standards:

- CC.1.3.2.C- Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.
- CC.1.5.2.E-Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.

Objectives:

- SWBAT learn about interdependence as it relates to their own lives by participating in an interactive activity, discussion, and book reading.
- SWBAT will think about how we all need help in different ways.
- SWBAT gain an understanding of how students, their families and friends need help with everyday life.
- SWBAT will be able to define interdependence in one sentence correctly by participating in the hands in activity, discussion and reading My Travelin' Eye.

Essential Questions:

- EQ1: What is interdependence and how do I experience interdependency in my community?
- EQ2: What are some areas in my life I need help? Who can help me?
- EQ3: How can I be a good helper?

Vocabulary:

- Interdependence
- Visual impairment



- Blind

Materials:

- My Travelin' Eye by Jenny-Sue Kostecki
or a way to play the <https://youtu.be/NfWqjlqq7g4> read aloud of My Travelin' Eye
- Paper and pens
- Whiteboard/smartboard/chalkboard
- Handout in Appendix A.
- Crayons/markers/colored pencils

Lesson procedures

1. Prep: Write the word Interdependence and the definition below on the board/whiteboard/smartboard before class.

Interdependence: Dependence between two or more people, groups or things.

2. Welcome students to the class.
3. Ask students to sit in a circle. Instruct students to listen and when they hear a sentence that is true for them and put their hands towards the middle of the circle and wiggle their fingers. (This activity can be adapted for students with disabilities).

Hands in Activity:

Put your hands in the middle if:

- Your parents/guardian help you with homework
- When you can't reach something, like the cookies (or point to something in the classroom that is too high for students to reach), you ask for help
- You drive yourself to school
- You play games with friends, siblings, guardians
- You fix the fridge when it breaks
- You do chores around the house
- If your family has a pet, you walk, feed and clean it.
- You cook and make all the food you eat.
- The weatherman tells you the weather.
- You listen to the school announcements.
- You help in the classroom.
- Sometimes your family goes out to eat (Ex: pizza)



Processing questions:

What did you notice about those sentences? For example, the weatherman tells you the weather or when you can't reach something you ask for help. What are those sentences about?

Answer: They are all about helping! You ask for help when you need it.

So, when you need help you ask for it right? Sometimes your parents/ guardians just know when to help you and sometimes your parents need help too! Not all parents know how to fix refrigerators or cars! They get help from people! Just like my classroom doesn't run itself, I get help from students! Just like you don't drive yourself to school!

This is called "Interdependence". Say it with me "Interdependence". Interdependence means we live our lives and get help from other people in order for our lives to be easier.

Now let's read a book to learn even more about what? Interdependence!

Read My Travelin' Eye to students. Make sure the students can see all the artwork on each page. (use the [read aloud](#) if you don't have a copy of the book)

Conversational Questions for after reading:

So in my travelin' eye, how is Jennie interdependent? Who helps her?

The ophthalmologist and her mom

Students who wear glasses are interdependent! What about students in wheelchairs? How about students who use crutches? Are they interdependent too?

Answer: YES!

Everyone is interdependent. We all need help with something, the difference is, what we need help with.

Pair up the class and ask each pair to fill out the handout. Students will work together to come up with more examples of interdependence in their lives and draw



a picture of how they can help their friend. Reinforcing the interdependence concept.

Evaluation:

Ask your students this question related to this lesson to gauge how much they learned. **Did this lesson help you understand what interdependence means ?**

Thank you for bringing the conversation about disability into your classroom.

Help us evaluate this lesson plan by visiting [our evaluation page to assess this lesson](#). You will find an evaluation both for you and your students to complete there.



INTERDEPENDENCE

Can you list 3 more examples of interdependence in your life?

Draw a picture of you helping someone!

