



Teacher's Guide for the Assembly

"KIDS FOR KINDNESS"

Teachers, there are two different versions of the upcoming assembly presentation of "Kids for Kindness": K-3 (lasting approx. 42 mins.) and 4-6 (lasting about 45 mins.). Third grade may attend either version, as indicated by your principal. For schools that have a small MPR and require three performances, I also have an additional special TK-1 version of the assembly.

As you may know, studies indicate that the capacity to learn improves in a safe and happy environment. "Kids for Kindness" is intended to motivate students to be friendlier to each other and accepting of those who are different. My goal is to inspire students to "spread more kindness" at school. Your school may indeed already have a friendly climate, but it never hurts to improve our compassion and respect for others at school (and the world). I also believe this assembly is an ideal supplement to your efforts in helping students with social-emotional development.

During my presentation, I will use the acronym **I.C.A.R.E.** to emphasize five types of kindness: Inclusion, Courtesy, Acceptance, Respect, and Empathy. I will utilize storytelling, audience participation, role playing, songs, and even some puppetry. Before seeing my presentation, older grade teachers may consider that puppetry is too juvenile for 5th and 6th grade students.

However, after 20 years of performing assemblies, I believe that your older students will enjoy how the two sassy characters use humor to demonstrate points about kindness. The 4th - 6th grade show will also address nicknames, gossip, and cyberbullying.



SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHERS:

1. I include teachers in this assembly. As you watch the show you will see why I do this. For example, please don't be surprised if I ask a teacher for a real example of kindness. I also will ask each teacher to select a student from their class to join me on stage for role-playing.
2. The following vocabulary words are used in my presentation. Though I will define these words during the performance, please feel free to review them with your students as well.

Inclusion

Courtesy

Acceptance

Respect

Empathy

Character (as in a story)

Act (act of kindness)

Mean (unkind)

Characters

Considerate

Gossip (older grades)

Cyberbullying (older grades)

3. It is my suggestion and hope that following the assembly teachers will either assign a related academic task, such as an essay or discussion on the topic, or perhaps organize a classroom "kindness" project. A project can be as fun and simple as:

"I challenge each of my students to say hello to three other students at school who you do not know."

4. Following the assembly, please feel free to show your students a YouTube video performance of the "Joel's Story" song (about empathy and honesty): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ap1SJC6byro>
5. This is a new assembly program and so I encourage your comments after you see my presentation. Following the show, I would REALLY appreciate your candid feedback at the following SurveyMonkey link.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/55CK9GZ>

Note: This assembly is performed by either [Mark Beckwith](#) or [Michael "Tuba" Heatherton](#).