J-Easy

Wolf in the Snow by Matthew Cordell

Lies

by Matt de la Peña

Paw Won’t Go by Kelly DiPucchio

A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: A Story about Knitting and Love by Michelle Edwards

I Walk with Vanessa: A Story of a Simple Act of Kindness by Keanu

Kid’s Activity: Origami Kindness Fortune Tellers

Kindness task ideas:

1. Help a friend

2. Teach someone a new skill

3. Let a family member know how much you love them

4. Help someone with a task

5. Stop to help a friend

6. Spend a little time with a friend who needs a listen

6. Be a friend to someone who needs one

Materials:

• Square sheet of paper

• Markers

Instructions:

1. Fold paper into fourths

2. Unfold paper

3. Fold over four corners evenly into the middle

4. Fold into fourth again

5. Fold over paper

6. Fold over corners on the new side of the paper

7. Fold into fourth again

8. Fit your fingers into slits

9. Open

Chock-full of interesting information, this digital database offers a glimpse at what life is like for kids across the globe, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. What holidays are celebrated? What do people eat? What sports do they play? What’s school like?

CultureGrams provides helpful tidbits about daily life along with information about each country’s economy, government, culture, and history. One way to raise empathetic children is to show them that no matter where we live, we are all humans who have the same needs—and to eat and drink, have safe shelter, and form bonds with loved ones. This line of exploration will show us that we are all more the same than different. Challenges and diversity can find a fun fact about a country and share it over dinner. Recreate maps of places you’re curious about. Pretend you are living somewhere and imagine what life would be like there, then journal a day in the life. Being curious about our world can help us to be more open-minded, which is key to living kinder lives.

PPLD card holders can access CultureGrams for free (go to ppld.org/kids/homework and click on the “All Databases” button).

J-Fiction

Wishtree by Kerascoët

A Story about a Simple Act of Kindness by Keanu

Kindness Counts

by Matthew Cordell

Wolf in the Snow by Katherine Marsh

Teen Booklist:

Nonfiction

Books

Unselfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World by Botza, Michele • (649.7 BORB)

How to Raise Kind Kids: And Get Respect, Gratitude, and a Happier Family in the Bargain by Lykken, Thomas • (649.7 LICK)

Teaching Tolerance • Tolerance.org

Kids’ Books: Kindness Counts

J-Nonfiction

You, Me, and Empathy: TwoKinds of Empathy, Feelings, Kindness, Cooperation, Tolerance, Respect and Recognizing Bullying by Jayme Sanders 352.4 (SAND)

What Does It Mean to Be Kind? by Rina DiOrio 177.7 DIOR

Putting Peace First: 7 Commitments to Change the World by Eric David Dawson 303.88

Teen Booklist:

Refugees

Unwanted: Stories of Syrian Refugees by Dom Brown 955.914 BOPO

Borning and Rising: A History of Refugee Children’s Literature by Kathleen Marlin

The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani

Illegal by Erin Coeber

Ink Knows No Borders: The Power of Education and Refugee Experience edited by Pablo Helguera • & Aksja Raymond 811 INK

Nonfiction

We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories from Girls Who Grew Up in the World by Malala Yousafzai 303.66

I Am Human: A Book of Empathy by Malala Yousafzai

Underneath: Poems of the Immigrant Who Changed a Town by Mariela Diaz 811.35 (ZAMG)

Wonder by Jacqueline Woodson

Each Kindness by Susan Verde

You Hold Me Up by Monique Gray Smith

I Walk with Vanessa: A Story of a Simple Act of Kindness by Keanu

How rewarding it is to engage in daily acts of kindness and affection. This interactive picture book resources positive behavior as children see how rewarding it is to engage in daily acts of kindness and affection. Use these resources to help equip and empower your children to innovate in their kind acts.

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Pay It Forward Kids: Small Acts, Big Changes

Building a Kinder World

In 2017, Highlights magazine conducted a survey that asked children: “What do you think is most important to your parents — that you do well in school, or are kind?” Almost half of the children responded their own happiness matters most, and about one-third said that it is most important that they do well in school. Only 23% thought being kind would matter most to their parents. The Harvard Graduate School of Education conducted a similar poll, and approximately 80% of respondents reported their parents cared more about their achievement or happiness than caring for others.

Children need positive models and deliberate instruction to help them learn the hidden principles of kindness and civility that are not always apparent in everyday human interactions. Parents can exemplify compassion and generosity toward others to teach their children how to go beyond simple tolerance to a deeper understanding of those who are different from them.

In addition, there are many good print and digital resources that show children the importance of kindness and encourage them to make a positive difference in their world.

For example, parents can incorporate Carol McCloud’s Have You Filled a Bucket Today?: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids (J-Easy) into their lessons about character and citizenship. The book’s basic concept is to practice uplifting others rather than diminishing them. By the end of the story, everyone carries an imaginary dipper and a bucket that is continually filled or depleted by each positive or negative interaction throughout the day.

Random Acts of Kindness

Random Acts of Kindness is a popular book that encourages children to do small acts of kindness daily and see the difference it makes in the world. The book includes a reflection page at the end of each page, allowing children to think about how they can make a difference in the lives of others.

Web Pick: CultureGrams

Locate the library nearest you: East Library

Library 21c

Cheyenne Mountain Library

Fountain Library

High Prairie Library

Manitou Springs Library

Monument Library

Old Colorado City Library

Palmer Lake Library

Rockrimmon Library

Ruth Holley Library

Sand Creek Library

U.S. Air Force Library

Location Key

East Library

Penrose Library

Library 21c

Cheyenne Mountain Library

Fountain Library

High Prairie Library

Manitou Springs Library

Monument Library

Old Colorado City Library

Palmer Lake Library

Rockrimmon Library

Ruth Holley Library

Sand Creek Library

U.S. Air Force Library

Pay It Forward Kids: Small Acts, Big Changes

Making Care Common Project • Moc.gse.harvard.edu

Random Acts of Kindness • RandomActsOfKindness.org

Teaching Tolerance • Tolerance.org

GenerationOn • GenerationOn.org

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To contact PPLD’s Homeschool Committee, please email jfleishhacker@ppld.org.

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Making Music in the ERC

From the pure pleasure of listening to soothing sounds and rhythmic harmonies to gaining new language and social skills, music energizes and enriches our lives. To help bring children and music together, the Educational Resource Center offers interactive music kits and materials for kids of all ages to engage in hands-on experiences.

If you’re looking for opportunities that will enhance your children’s music study and exploration, stop by the ERC and explore what we have to offer. Your family will be inspired as everyone learns about instruments, listens to music, and above all, expresses themselves by making music. Visit ppld.org/erc for hours and more info.

Music Box Kit

The Music Box Kit contains seven miniature hand-crank, acrylic-cased music boxes perfect for various activities.

• Have children turn the crank to control song tempo, discover variations with each tune, and refine small motor skills.
• Use them as a song identification activity.
• Sing familiar songs and use the kits as accompaniment.
• Watch music as it’s made while you listen along.

Musical Instruments Kit

The Musical Instruments Kit is a great place to begin if your children are learning about common band and orchestra instruments. These kits include miniature replicas of some instruments, along with photo cards and labels that will help children learn related vocabulary.

Multicultural Rhythm Instruments Kit

Our brand-new Multicultural Rhythm Instruments Kit includes instruments from several countries. Your family can make music with an African thumb piano, a Cajaxi shaker, a Stone Age-inspired scraper, a West African banana bell, a Peruvian stone-filied gourd ocean drum, and a half moon tambourine that produces a lively bottle cap jingle.

Events: Teens

• Teens Make: Intro to TinkerCAD
   Learn the basics of this free 3D modeling software by designing your own holiday ornament! Designs will be printed in a PPLD Makerspace at a later date.

• Sand Creek Library
   Tue., Nov. 5 • 4 - 6 p.m.
   Ages 9 - 15

• East Library
   Thu., Nov. 21 • 4 - 6 p.m.
   Ages 12 - 17

Events: Kids

• Homeschool Science
   Join our students to learn about common science topics, meet and share with others, and play hands-on games!

• East Library
   Fri., Oct. 11 • 1 p.m.

• East Library
   Fri., Nov. 15 • 1 p.m.

• Old-Time Square Dancing
   Join us for a square dance evening with the long-time square dance caller Andy Scheer for a special session of good times – and American heritage – set to music! This program is designed for ages 7 and up.

• East Library
   Fri., Oct. 11 • 1 p.m.

• East Library
   Fri., Oct. 25 • 1 - 2 p.m.

• Rockrimmon Library
   Thu., Oct. 21 • 12 - 1:30 p.m.

• Rockrimmon Library
   Fri., Oct. 25 • 1 - 2 p.m.

• Palmer Lake Library
   Fri., Oct. 25 • 1 - 2 p.m.

• Monthly Homeschool Programs
   Enjoy activities and learning opportunities with other homeschool families at these monthly programs at various PPLD locations. See our online calendar at ppld.org for more information.

   • 1st Fridays • East Library • 1 p.m.
   • 2nd and 4th Mondays • Monument Library • 1:30 p.m.
   • 2nd Tuesdays • Library 21c • 2 p.m.
   • 2nd Thursdays • Rockrimmon Library • 1:30 p.m.
   • 2nd Fridays • Palmer Lake Library • 1 p.m.