

Kindness Quilt

The Idea

This quilt builds community and advances the cause of kindness in the classroom, inspired by the national “Random Acts of Kindness” movement.

Format

Basic Quilt (p. 9)

How It Works

The quilt shown here resulted from a monthlong social studies/literature unit on being kind and spreading kindness. The students conducted a school-wide kindness campaign, distributing posters, stickers, buttons, and good deeds around the school. Students created quilt squares describing their own acts of kindness. Joined together, the squares represented many different ways to show kindness.

To create a Random Acts of Kindness Quilt in your classroom, choose a way of thinking about kindness that best suits your curriculum and classroom community. Then, have students make appropriate quilt blocks. For example, students could make a block symbolizing the kindest thing anyone has ever done for them, or describing the way in which they themselves have been kind.



Piecing It Together Idea

Quilt Stationery

When you're undertaking any unit or activity, you can create quilt stationery to accompany it. Give students a blank quilt block and have them decorate it with the class theme in mind—kindness, plant life, or the Civil War, for example. Then use a photocopier to reduce the blocks. Place them around a sheet of paper to create a border, and photocopy as many copies as you need. The stationery can be used for published writing, invitations and thank-you notes to guest speakers, or simple note taking.