

Learner Profile in Focus:

DEVELOPING THE ATTRIBUTES OF GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

OCTOBER 2017

Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community- Anthony D'Angelo

Caring for ourselves and others...

We kick off October with a look at what it means to be caring. The word in itself seems so simple, yet it comes with so many opportunities to ask meaningful questions and examine ways that we can help to build a more compassionate world.

This attribute has the attitudes of empathy and respect embedded within, and compassion shows up in the definition. Questions worth exploring include: What does it mean to be caring towards myself? What does it look like to be caring towards others? How can I help to be caring for the environment?

For our older students, great discussion may stem from asking the question: *Can I show compassion for others even if I struggle to understand how they are feeling?*

This attribute lends itself well towards planning for action, so this may be a great time to start looking for service learning opportunities in our

community- both here at UNIS and in the greater NY area.

PLEASE USE YOUR OXYGEN MASK FIRST BEFORE HELPING OTHERS... Of course, in order to be present and caring for others, we need to first care for ourselves.

Examining what self-care looks like, generating strategies, and creating a personalized care plan may be a great place to start for learners of all ages. (I'm looking at you, teachers! How are you caring for yourself in this busy season?)

UN CONNECTIONS: To link caring to the work of the UN, we need look no further than the work of UNICEF. Conveniently, this month our students have the opportunity to trick or treat for UNICEF. What a great time to talk about the work of this organization dedicated to improving the lives of children!

CARING



We show empathy, compassion, and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and the world around us.

UNICEF offers teacher resources that can be [found here](#).

IT TAKES A VILLAGE... Our counselors are here to help support the implementation of the learner profile. If you need help planning for the morning meeting or linking the attributes to your lessons, don't hesitate to reach out!

We are lucky to be in such a caring and nurturing community. What a great opportunity we have to reflect upon and celebrate who we are while making this attribute very visible for our learners.

With Great Care for You and Yours,
Erin M. Threlfall
Service Learning Coordinator

On the Bookshelf: Consider some of these books to promote the learner profile: CARING

Each Kindness-Jacqueline Woodson

A Chair for My Mother – Vera B. Williams

A sick Day for Amos McGee – Philip C. Stead

Abdullah's Butterfly – Janine Fraser

Bear – Ellen Miles

Beyond the Mango Tree – Amy Brownen Zemser

Frog and Toad are Friends – Arnold Lobel

Miss Rumpius - Barbara Cooney

Number the Stars – Lois Lowry

Pictures of Hollis Woods – Patricia Reilly Giff

Ryan and Jimmy; and the Well in Africa that Brought Them Together – Herb Shoveller

Sarah, Plain and Tall – Patricia MacLachlan

Thank You Mr. Falker – Patricia Polacco

The Colour of Home – Mary Hoffman and Karin Littlewood

The Kissing Hand – Audrey Penn

The Legend of the Golden Snail – Graeme Base

The Wednesday Surprise – Eve Bunting

Silver Packages – Cynthia Rylant



Classroom Strategies to Promote the Profile

Introduce the Attributes in a Morning Meeting:

Using the morning meeting as a time to build understanding, the students can use the "Nowsy News" moment to share time when someone was caring, or have students pass and explain a quote to a buddy!

Analyze Caring Characters in a Book

As you read stories, collect evidence of caring characters on a poster in your room. What does it mean to be caring? What did the characters say and do that led you think they are caring? How can reading about others help us to develop empathy?

Create a Rubric for what it means to be caring

As students build their definition of what it means to be caring, they could create a caring rubric or checklist that could help as they self reflect.

Write about the time...

During settling in time, provide the prompt to write or draw about a time when someone was caring to you, and when you were caring towards someone else. How did it feel to be cared for, or to care for another?

Visible Thinking Routines

The Visible Thinking Routines from Harvard's Project Zero provide ample opportunities to explore what it means to be caring! Think, Pair Share can help students gather their thoughts about what it means to be caring, while the Headlines routine could be a great way to capture the student's definition of caring.

Caring Acts Inspire Others

On an index card, students write down a caring act that someone could take- each child can add multiple ideas, but only one idea per card, please! Combine all cards together and students randomly draw one card from a pile. Their homework is to carry out that act of kindness and then pass the card along to someone else. This idea inspired by the LifeVest Inside Kindness cards! For more ideas, [visit their webpage](#), and be sure to watch the viral video about kindness being like a boomerang.

Draw a Caring Quote

Give students quotes about being caring and see what they can do with them! Consider drawing a quote, acting it out, or learning about the person who said it. [More ideas can be found here.](#)

Additional Resources:

UNIS Pinterest Page Servicelearning@UNIS



A collection of resources have been pinned to the UNIS [Service Learning Page](#)'s board on Caring.

Each profile has its own Pinterest board. If you would like to be a "pinterest pinner" for our page, please join in!

Design for Change



Following the simple steps of Feel, Imagine, Do Share, DFC uses design principals to help guide students towards building a better world. You will find great resources here to launch a service learning project in your classroom. this model aligns beautifully with the Five Stages of Service Learning from the Guidebook to Service Learning by Cathryn Berger Kaye.

Random Acts of Kindness.org

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation has many resources banded by age (up to grade 12) to support teaching and learning about kindness, empathy, compassion, and self care.