



Helping fund research for
kids with brain cancer

Lesson Plan: Year 3 to Year 4



Pirate Day in May is an engaging way for students of all ages to learn valuable lessons about social awareness, teamwork, leadership and diversity. Here are some suggested ways you can incorporate these lessons into your classroom - choose one, two or all three!

Lesson 1: Understanding and compassion

Feelings Charades

Task: Talk to the class about the importance of recognizing other people's feelings. Ask students how they can tell if someone is feeling sick, sad, frustrated etc. Point out how body language and facial expressions give clues. Have students call out different emotions as you write them on the board. Invite a student to the front to act out in silence a feeling listed. As soon as the class correctly guesses, invite another student to choose another word and repeat.

Lesson recap: Understanding how another person is feeling is called empathy. Help students understand that it can be hard to know what other people are truly feeling, particularly if they are unwell or experiencing more than one emotion at the same time. Encourage students not to jump to conclusions. We can make educated guesses (like during the game), but it's only by talking that we really know how someone is feeling. Remind students that it's okay if someone doesn't want to talk and that it's important to be respectful. Empathy shows we care about someone.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Recognise Emotions, an SEL self-awareness element.*

Lesson 2: Initiative

Treasure Hunt

Task: Have students pair up – one must be a captain, the other a crew member. Each captain must choose a piece of 'treasure' to hide outside for the crew member to find. Keep it simple ie: all captains will hide their treasure in different spots of the oval or quadrangle. Blindfolded crew are led outside and lined up in front of their captain, who must call out instructions to guide their crew member to the 'treasure'.

Lesson recap: Have students understand the difficulties of individuals all looking for different things at one time without a leader. Would it have been more efficient for one person to put the treasure outside and direct everyone? Help them understand anyone can be a leader and it doesn't always have to be someone more powerful or bigger than themselves – they can be a leader too. Write a pros and cons list of having a leader if there is extra time. Additionally, emphasize how hard a simple activity can be without sight. Vision loss is a side effect of brain and other cancers.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Develop Leadership Skills, an SEL social-management element.*
Also *Teamwork and Leadership, an HPE Learning through movement sub-strand.*

Lesson 3: Warmth in our community.

Salt 'n' Pepper

Task: Pair students up and ask them to write anything that comes in pairs on two separate pieces of paper eg: Paper 1 = salt, paper 2 = pepper. Collect all the papers from students and ask them to line up with their backs facing you. Mix the papers up and stick one paper on each student's back. Students then need to walk around the room asking questions with 'yes' / 'no' answers to help them figure out what they have on their back. Once they know, they need to find their mate. *Tip: If you end up with an odd number, have three students make up a traffic light with Yellow Light, Green Light, Red Light.*

Lesson recap: Explain to students that while everyone is different, they all belong in a community. While the activity was focused on pairs, did some students help others find their mate? You could play the game again looking at how quickly pairs can be united when everyone helps each other.

Teacher note: Activity is linked to *Work Collaboratively, an SEL social-management element.*

End of day recap

Thought starters for a class discussion at the end of the day:

- What have they learned today about empathy, leadership and community spirit?
- What will they do differently when they are faced with someone who has cancer?
- Create a list of how they might help someone who has cancer.

Teacher note: Reviewing each lesson links to *Develop Reflective Practice, an SEL self-awareness element.*

THANK YOU!

We appreciate that as a teacher there is so much you need to get through each day. Thank you for taking time out to plan, host and facilitate activities to enrich your students' understanding of childhood cancer.



Pirate Day in May is a collaboration between
The Kids' Cancer Project and The Pirate Ship Foundation.

piratedayinmay.com.au

