Gratitude Word Clouds

This project will allow students to practice speaking skills, listening skills, writing skills, and technology skills, all while building a visual presentation that conveys ideas of integrity and highlights how we all demonstrate integrity at school, generating connectedness with the larger school community.

Caring Sub-Concept(s)
Gratitude, Kindness

Project Timeframe
25-30 minutes

Required Materials
❏ Interview cue card (optional)
❏ Notebook paper/pencil
❏ Computer access to use the word cloud generator
❏ Poster board
❏ Markers

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See last page for details.

For this project, students will get a chance to hear from others how they define gratitude and what they do and say that shows others what they are thankful for. They will also use teamwork skills to demonstrate the different components related to Caring. Everyone will have a special job for this project and will need to work together in order to be successful.

Project Details:

Students are going to work in small groups to "interview" other grade level classes of students to discover what other students are grateful for. Students will then take their discoveries and put them into the free, online word cloud generator at ABCya.com to create a visual word cloud of integrity for the class they interviewed. (This is a very kid-friendly application that is easy to use and allows kids to be creative!)

Pre-select groups to ensure the following strengths are present in each group:
● Students who are comfortable speaking or engaging with others.
● Students who are strong writers.
● Students who are good with computers/technology.
● Students who enjoy art and working with visual presentations.

Model the interview and note taking process by asking students in his/her own class what they are grateful for. Responses should be ONE word long, can be specific or general, and can be duplicated by others.
● 1-2 people ask the questions
● 1-2 people write down the answers

Model how to use word cloud generators at ABCya.com (either in real time on the smart board or as a prepared cloud using different words).
● 1-2 people put the words into the generator
● 2-3 people create the poster

After students collect the gratitude data from their assigned class and use the data to generate and print their word cloud, they will put the word cloud on a white poster board that they cut out in the shape of a cloud. Students should identify the name of the teacher and grade level represented in their cloud (Mrs./Mr. _____ 3rd Grade Class, for example).

Clouds should be hung in the hallway or other common area to show off everything the students at school are thankful for. A note could be added to the board to explain that the words that are the largest in the clouds represent things that students were most thankful for (as repeated answers will generate a larger-sized word in the cloud).

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
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The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SELect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/

Interview Cue Card

Hello! Our names are _____.

In our class, we have been learning about caring and gratitude and what it means to care for others and be grateful.

Today we want to ask you what you what you are grateful for.

Please think of just ONE word that represents something you are grateful for.

We will come around to each student to ask you for your answer and we will write it down.

When we are done, we will create a special world cloud poster to show you what your class is grateful for. We will hang our poster up for you to see when we are done!

Let's get started!

_____ will ask you what you are grateful for.

_____ will write down your answers.