



Social Awareness

Lollipop Moments

Pre-Teaching/ Guiding Language:

We live in a time where we feel like we must be an “influencer” or have “status” to make an impact. However, think back to a time where a simple interaction changed your perspective on something. Maybe it was something a friend or teacher said or did, or a kind gesture from a family member that helped you to realize the bigger picture. This is what leadership speaker Drew Dudley calls a “Lollipop Moment”. Typically, the giver of this “lollipop” has no idea of the impact that they made on the receiver’s life, thus proving how important everyday leadership is! We can make a difference, big or small, by just taking that first step towards helping others!

Key Takeaways:

- Students will understand what makes an everyday leader.
- Students will understand the qualities of a leader.
- Students will understand the importance of everyday acts of kindness.

Duration + Materials:

- 30 minutes
- Ted Talk (Linked in activity section)
- Paper and pen or laptop/ tablet to write

Key Vocabulary:

- **Status-** High ranking or social standing.
- **Leadership-** The action of leading a group of people or organization.



Activity:

1. Show students Drew Dudley's Ted Talk "Leading with Lollipops." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hVCBrkrFrBE>
2. Ask for a volunteer to summarize what they learned.
 - a. This will help you know what points you need to hone in on or how you need to reframe what the takeaways were.
3. Have a discussion surrounding "lollipop" moments using the discussion questions below.
4. After the discussion prompt the students to reflect on the importance of everyday leadership and think of someone who they believe has used these traits to better their lives.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think a lollipop moment is?
2. Have you ever experienced a lollipop moment?
3. Share a lollipop moment you've had.
4. What is Drew Dudley's definition of leadership?
5. How does his definition differ from the more typical definition of leadership?
6. Do you agree or disagree with his definition of leadership?
7. How do you define everyday leadership?

Reinforcement Activities:

1. Teachers can draw attention to acts of everyday leadership in the classroom and provide opportunities for students to step up to be leaders.