KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 2 TERRACE METRICS

Positive Peer Experiences ⭐

Lesson 1 of 3 — LAUNCH

Welcome to the first lesson in the Positive Peer Experiences series. In this Launch lesson, students will explore what makes school a great place, discover how friendships form, and celebrate the ways we are both alike and different. This is **Lesson 1 of 3** — and it sets the foundation for building a kind, connected classroom community.

Learning Goals

This Launch lesson lays the groundwork for the whole Positive Peer Experiences series. Keep these goals in mind as you guide your students through each activity — every step is designed to build connection, empathy, and a sense of belonging.

1

Explore How Friendships Form

Students will discover that we often make friends with people who share our interests — and that we can also make friends with people who are different from us.

2

Celebrate Our Similarities AND Differences

Through the "This Is Me" coloring activity, students will see that every person has a unique story — and that our differences make our classroom community richer and more interesting.

3

Take a Step Toward a New Friendship

Students will be encouraged to connect with a classmate they don't know well yet — discovering that new friendships can be full of wonderful surprises!

Materials Checklist ✅

A little prep makes this lesson run smoothly and keeps the energy high! Here's everything you'll need to have ready before students arrive.

"This Is Me" Handout

Print one copy per student. The handout shows four concentric circles inside a square. For Kindergarten, pre-write student names on the handouts to save time. Print a few extras just in case!

Crayons or Colored Pencils

Each student needs these 8 colors: Red, Green, Orange, Blue, Yellow, Purple, Black, and Brown. Check that your classroom supply has enough of each color — especially the popular ones like blue and red.

"Friendship Detective" Handout

Print one copy per student for the extension activity. Review the directions with the class before students begin working with their partner.

SLIDE 1–2 | FACILITATOR SCRIPT

Lesson Introduction

Open the lesson with energy and warmth! This short introduction gets students thinking and talking about school, friends, and what makes people special. Use simple, friendly language — and follow the students' lead as they share their ideas.

1 Slide 1 — Welcome! 👋

"Today we are going to learn about friendships and kindness.

We all help make our classroom a happy place where everyone feels welcome.

Raise your hand if you like having friends at school!"

2 Slide 2 — What Makes a Good Friend?

"What are some things a good friend does?"

Listen for responses such as sharing, helping, listening, playing together, being kind, etc.

"Those are wonderful ideas! Good friends help each other feel happy, safe, and included.

Think about someone you enjoy spending time with. What do you like to do together? Why do you enjoy spending time with them?"

Listen for responses

"Are there times when you may like something but your friend doesn't? Friends may like some of the same things, but they can also like different things. We can be friends with many different people!"

MAIN ACTIVITY

Activity — "This Is Me!"

This is the heart of the lesson. Students color a picture with four concentric circles — each circle represents one answer about themselves. When finished, every picture will look unique. This is a wonderful, visual way to celebrate that we are all different AND alike.

Distribute one "This Is Me" handout to each student. Ask students to write (or help them write) their name on the handout. Make sure every student has these crayon colors ready: 🔴 Red | 🟢 Green | 🟠 Orange | 🔵 Blue | 🟡 Yellow | 🟣 Purple | ⚫ Black | 🟤 Brown.

"Today we are going to make a colorful picture that tells a little story about you! Each circle will show something special about you. Even if our pictures look different, we will discover that we have many things in common"

Get Ready! (Slide 3)

"Today we are going to make a colorful picture that tells a little story about you! Each circle will show something special about you. Even if our pictures look different, we will discover that we have many things in common"

Directions (Slide 4)

"Listen carefully. I will ask a question and tell you which color to use for your answer. Color only the circle I tell you to color.

Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. We are all unique!"

Smallest Circle (Slide 5)

"Let's start with the smallest cirle. What is your favorite thing to do?"

Read each option aloud slowly, and hold up the crayon as you say it.

Red = Draw or Color

Blue =Play Outside

Yellow = Read Books or watch my favorite show

Green = Play games or toys

"Color the smallest circle with the color that matches your answer"

Next Circle (Slide 6)

"Next circle. Which animal do you like best?"

Brown = Dog

Purple = Fish

Orange = Cat

Blue = Another animal

"Color that circle"

Next Circle (Slide 7)

"Next circle. What is your favorite school activity?"

Red = Art

Yellow = Reading

Green = Recess

Purple = Music

Blue = Something else

"Color that circle"

Largest Circle (Slide 8)

*"Next circle. W*hat season do you like best?"

Orange = Summer

Blue = Winter

Green = Spring

Brown = Fall

"*Color that Circle"*

Outside Area (Slide 9)

"Look at this box, this is for something that is special about you! Think of something you really like to do, and choose a color. Here's some examples:"

Purple = I like to help others

Blue = I like to make people laugh

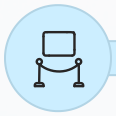
Green = I like animals

Yellow = I like to learn new things

| FACILITATOR SCRIPT

Slide 10: Gallery Walk & Class Debrief

Once all pictures are complete, it's time to celebrate! This gallery walk helps students see how their "This Is Me" pictures compare to their classmates' — and sparks curiosity about the people around them. Keep the energy fun and light!



Display the Pictures

Collect all the completed "This Is Me" pictures and display them somewhere students can walk around and look at them — on a bulletin board, a table, or taped to the wall at student height. Make sure names are visible, or have the student stand next to their picture.



Find a Similar Picture

"Let's take a walk together and look at everyone's pictures. Can you find one that looks a lot like yours? Whose is it? Are you surprised?"

Point to pictures together and ask *"Does this one look like yours?"*



Find a Different Picture

"Now find a picture that looks very DIFFERENT from yours. Whose is it? That person has a different story from you — and that's really cool!

Remember, even when we are different, we can still be friends."



Keep Them on Display

Leave the "This Is Me" pictures visible in the classroom for the next week. Students will use them to help complete the "Making New Friends" extension activity.

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Slide 11: What We Learned

Bring the class back together and wrap up with warmth and celebration. This closing moment helps students remember the big ideas from today's lesson and leaves them feeling excited about the friendships ahead. !

Closing Reflection

"What did you learn about a classmate today?

How can we help everyone feel included?

You all did a great job! Today, we learned that:

—Everyone is special

—We all have things in common

—We can be friend with people who are different from us

*—Every student can help our classroom b*e welcoming and caring

Thank you for being Friendship Builders!"

Wonderful work today! Your students have taken their first step toward building a more connected, kind classroom community.

| TAKE-HOME / IN-CLASS

Slide 12: Extension Activity — Making New Friends!

This extension activity gives students a chance to connect with a classmate they don't know very well yet. It's a gentle, structured way to build new friendships — and it often leads to wonderful surprises. Keep the activity simple, guided, and celebratory.

How It Works

Pair students with someone they do not usually work with. Give the pair the "Friendship Detective" sheet. The students will then talk and draw or write:

1. Something we both like
2. Another thing we both like
3. One thing that is different about us

"Sometimes we think we are very different from someone, but when we talk, we discover things we have in common."

Instructions

- Remember to read the handout aloud together as a class before students work in pairs.
- Provide at least 10 minutes of in-class time — lunch or recess pairing works great too!
- For the next week, try to find ways to continue to pair the two students on learning activities.
- Invite pairs to "introduce" their new friend to the class by sharing one fun thing they learned about them. This is a joyful, community-building moment!