

KID CONGRESS

Ep. 1: There are Kids



Learning Target:

- Students will understand that they can make the world a better place by using their voice to seek good, create good, and celebrate good.

Materials:

- [Video: Kid Congress - There are Kids](#)
- [Newsela Text Set: There are Kids](#)
- Amazing Voices worksheet (page 3 of this pdf)
- Pencils
- Art Supplies
- Paper
- Butcher Paper

VIEW

the video [Kid Congress - There are Kids](#).

ENGAGE

students in a discussion about the video:

- Who has the power to make the world a better place?
- What positive characteristics are used to describe kids in the video? (Imaginative, dreamers, good friends, caring, big hearts, lots of ideas)
- What does the world need from kids?

GUIDE

students to recognize that by using their voice to seek good, create good, and celebrate good, anyone can make the world a better place - including kids.

INVITE

small groups of students to research examples of kids who are making positive contributions to their communities. Options for research include:

- [Newsela Text Set: There are Kids](#)
- [InspireMyKids.com](#)
- [Brightly's List of 8 Books About Real-Life Kids Who Changed the World](#)
- Allow students to find their own examples using search engines (Working with little learners? Here are some kid-safe search engines: [Kiddle](#), [Google Safe Search](#), or [KidRex](#))

TECH TIP: [Newsela](#) is a free website that provides current event articles about a variety of topics. Each article is available in several reading levels.

EXPLAIN

to students that their job is to identify positive character traits and characteristics that each individual illustrates. Traits should be descriptive adjectives that highlight specific qualities. In order to identify these traits, readers often need to make inferences based on what the individual says, does, thinks, and feels.

PROVIDE

each group with a copy of the Amazing Voices worksheet for students to complete as they research.

EXTEND: *The Amazing Voices worksheet can also be used to analyze the character traits and impact of individuals within your standards.*

ASK

each group to summarize their findings and share with the large group, focusing on the following information:

- Identify each individual's passion or interests
- Describe each individual's positive characteristics
- Explain how these characteristics allowed them to make a positive contribution to the world

ENCOURAGE

students to identify traits in themselves that are similar to those of the individuals the class researched. Students will consider the many positive traits that they possess and choose one to highlight.

CREATE

a visual display to showcase the students' characteristics. Each student will create an artistic representation of their selected trait. Use these creations from Brad Montague to help students begin brainstorming how they might represent their word:

- [Listen](#)
- [Joy](#)
- [Love](#)
- [Hope](#)

Short on time? This visual display can be created using art supplies and butcher paper on a classroom "graffiti wall", or digitally using a word cloud generator such as [Answer Garden](#), [Word Clouds](#), or [Wordle](#).



DISPLAY

students' artistic representations in the classroom. Reflect on key takeaways through a large group discussion:

- In what ways are we awesome?
- How can you use your own characteristics to create a better world?
- How can all of our voices work together to create a better world?
- How do we know the future is in good hands?

REMIND

students that in order for us to change the world, everyone's voice needs to be heard. Kid Congress is calling us to work together, dream together, and make good happen. Ask students to write about how they will use their characteristics to seek good, create good, and celebrate good.

TECH TIP: Use [Flipgrid](#) to collect student reflection videos about how they will use their character traits to make the world a better place.

“This is for young people anywhere who want to do good everywhere. Your mission is going to be to seek good, create good, and celebrate good. And you’re not going to do it alone. It’s going to be all of us. Together.”
—Brad Montague

EXTEND: Want more inspiration to change the world? Watch this Kid President video: [How To Change The World \(a work in progress\)](#) | [Kid President](#)

Anchor Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.5

Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.9

Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1

Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.5

Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.

ISTE Standards for Students

Standard 6- Creative Communicator:

Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals.

Standard 7- Global Collaborator

Students use digital tools to broaden their perspectives and enrich their learning by collaborating with others and working effectively in teams locally and globally.



AMAZING VOICES

List positive character traits illustrated by the people you research. Remember, character traits are descriptive adjectives that tell us specific qualities about an individual. In order to identify character traits, you will need to make inferences based on what the person says, does, thinks, and feels.

PERSON	CHARACTER TRAIT	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS THAT ILLUSTRATE THIS TRAIT