

Teamwork: Classroom Lesson Plan

Lesson Topic:

Being a Good Team Member

Lesson Objective:

Students will be able to explain the qualities of a good team member and list skills related to teamwork.

Materials:

- Chart paper (optional)
- Blank paper
- Writing utensils
- Projector or other method to watch the movie

Advanced Preparation:

- [Preview the video](#) before sharing it with your students [1:11].

Warm-up Activity:

1. Introduce the topic of teamwork.
2. Invite students to share examples of teams they've been members of or are aware of—in sports, school, their community, and so on.

3. Based on your preview of the video, determine which words to pre-teach, focusing on those that will enhance comprehension as students view the video. Vocabulary to consider:

teamwork	communication	belittle/belittling
workplace	crux	resolve(d)
self-contributor	conflict(s)	perspective(s)

4. Reinforce the understanding of key vocabulary with a quick game: List words from the video on chart paper or the board. Provide clues, one at a time, for one of the words (without identifying it). Have students identify the word as soon as they have enough information.

Example: words > thoughts > sounds > signs > expressions (communication)

View the Video: "Teamwork"

1. Tell students they will be watching the video titled, "Teamwork".
2. Explain that the video presents role models talking about the importance of teamwork in the workplace. Let students know that they can use what they learn in the video to improve their teamwork skills and prepare for future careers.
3. View the video with students. Encourage students to listen for words they reviewed in the Warm-Up Activity.
4. View the video again; this time, invite students to formulate questions or comments about the ideas discussed in the video and to be prepared to discuss these after viewing the video.

Video Follow-up:

1. Ask students to offer their questions, comments, reactions and responses to the video.

2. Ask: "What is something you learned about teamwork that you didn't know before?" and "What are the qualities of a good team member?"
3. Use questions to encourage deeper understanding. Remind students to refer back to the video in their responses. Sample questions:
 - Why are listening skills so important to teamwork?*
 - What is one thing to keep in mind when trying to resolve disagreements?*
 - How can understanding differences help a team be more successful?*
 - Why is it important for each person to do his or her part on a team?*
4. Pair students up. Give one minute for each pair to list as many skills related to teamwork as they can. Bring the class together to discuss the skills each pair listed and compile a class list of teamwork skills.
5. Revisit the last sentence in the video: "We all have to take our little slice of the pie and bring it together to make the project work." Ask students to think about a pie that has been cut into slices. (Share or draw a picture if possible.) Have students explain how members of a team are like the slices of pie.

Extension Activities:

1. Use the “Related Questions to Explore” as discussion springboards or writing prompts to help students further explore teamwork.
2. Discuss with students the idea that a team produces or achieves more than what individual team members can contribute on their own. Test this out with a simple activity:
 - a) Group students into teams of 4–5 students each. Working independently (not sharing with the team), have students write a list of as many careers as they can think of in one minute.
 - b) Follow-up by having students on each team combine their individual lists of careers into one team list, eliminating duplication.
 - c) Ask: *How many careers did you come up with on your own? How many careers did you come up with as a team?*
 - d) Bring teams together to combine their lists into one class list. Continue to eliminate duplication, then compare the class total with the team totals.
 - e) Ask: *Do you think a good team can produce more than each team member can individually?* Encourage students to use what they learned in this activity to back up their responses.

Related Questions to Explore:

- The video says, “Communication is the crux of teamwork.” What is another way to say this?
- Think about working on a team—such as with a group project, a team sport, or the school play. Do you agree or disagree with the

statement, "Differences are more valuable than similarities"?
Explain your thinking.

- True or False? An important part of teamwork is having a leader who makes all of the decisions. Explain your answer.
- What are some complex problems in our world today? (e.g., hunger, poverty, climate change) How could teamwork lead to better solutions?
- How can learning to work well on a team now help you get the job you want later?
- How do the following qualities contribute to teamwork? (Share one at a time. Remind students there are no incorrect answers.)

responsible

organized

creative

dependable

patient

careful

calm

outgoing

enthusiastic

polite

persuasive

confident



Ideas for Future Lessons/Activities Related to Teamwork:

1. Being a Good Member of a Team: Exploring and Understanding Teamwork Skills
2. Literature-Based Learning: Reading and Responding to the Teamwork and Challenges Faced in the Book *Dream Team*
3. Conducting and Recording Interviews about Teamwork with Real Life Inspiring Women
4. Teamwork in the Workplace: Researching the Importance of Teamwork in Various Careers
5. Teamwork in Hollywood: *The Mighty Ducks* and *Cool Runnings*
6. What Would You Do? Challenging Teamwork Scenarios for Students to Imagine and Discuss
7. Teamwork in History: Researching Famous Duos