

# Celebrate World Teachers' Day—26 October 2012

## CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

### Teachers Who Inspire

- How have they been inspired to achieve things in their life and who has provided the inspiration? Relate to students the impact your teachers had on you and your life. You could also invite other members of the school community to share their stories with students.

### What Is a Teacher?

- Discuss books and television programs the students have read or seen about school and teachers. Have students choose a fictional teacher and complete the *Character Profile* blackline master on the Teacher Toolkit. Some books that students may be familiar with include The Magic School Bus series, The Naughtiest Girl series, The Worst Witch series and the Harry Potter series.

- After students have completed the above activity, have them present their work to the class. Discuss similarities and differences in the way teachers are depicted in these fictional works.

### Teachers in History

- Invite grandparents and older friends to visit the class and to relate stories of what teachers and schools were like when they were in primary school. Perhaps your school has an archive of photos students can look at as well. Download the *School Then and Now* blackline master from the Teacher Toolkit for students to complete.

### Teachers in the Future

- Ask students if they think teachers will ever be replaced by robots or computers. Have students collaborate on a story writing piece about a robot that takes their class while you are on holiday. Ask them to think about what could go wrong and what they might enjoy. Students could work in groups to dramatise and record their stories for the rest of the class. Perhaps their 'movies' could premiere in the staffroom as part of World Teachers' Day celebrations.

### Teachers Around the World

- Provide students with books and other resources that illustrate and describe schooling in other countries. What similarities and differences can students identify? Download the *School Comparison* blackline master from the Teacher Toolkit for students to complete.

### Teachers to Celebrate

- Together with students, make a list of teachers who regularly work with the class, such as specialist PE and music teachers. Have students make thank-you cards to present to those teachers on World Teachers' Day. Download the *Thank-You Card* blackline master from the Teacher Toolkit for students to colour and complete.

### Other People Who Help Us

- Ask students to brainstorm a list of people who help them. Discuss the roles of doctors, police and the like. Present the students with a variety of scenarios they may find themselves in and ask them who would be the best person to help in each one. Situations the students could relate to include getting lost at the shopping centre, finding a parent injured, and discovering a fire in their house. Role-play the actions students could take to assist and get help in these situations.

- Invite a series of guests to visit the class and talk to students about their jobs; or perhaps organise a field trip to get a behind-the-scenes look at different types of workplaces.

- Ask students to think about fictional workers they know, such as Bob the Builder, Postman Pat and Fireman Sam. Do students think that the depictions of these characters are realistic, given what they have discovered about these occupations? Are all builders male? Open a discussion around traditional gender roles and stereotypes—do students think that there are jobs that can only be performed by one gender?

- Provide students with books and other resources that show the production process of familiar items. Food, clothing or even computer games might provide interesting examples. Ask students to examine each step in the production process from the farmer or primary producer through to the point of sale. How many different people did it take to produce the item they have examined?

- View the video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kvf29R7nXIM> which shows the high-tech production line required to manufacture a memory card. Discuss with students the roles both machines and people play in the process. Do students think that production could occur without either the machines or the people? Challenge them to justify their answers.

- Discuss the important role that volunteers play in our community. Perhaps students could volunteer to perform tasks around the school that they would not normally carry out.

### Resources available in the 2012 School Essentials Catalogue

- *Kids Inspirational Posters*, page 253
- *Character Traits Mini Posters*, page 254

### Free Teacher Toolkit Resources available at [www.scholastic.co.nz/toolkit](http://www.scholastic.co.nz/toolkit)

- *Thank-You Card* blackline master
- *School Then and Now* blackline master
- *School Comparison* blackline master
- *Character Profile* blackline master



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Visit: [www.scholastic.co.nz/toolkit](http://www.scholastic.co.nz/toolkit) to access supporting resources.

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