

The Kindness Advent Calendar

Learning objective: To understand the importance of empathy and altruism within our local community.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Ensure you use full sentences for your answers.

As December arrived, the forest community decided to try something different. Instead of focusing on receiving gifts, Leo the lion suggested a 'Kindness Advent'. Each day, the animals worked together to complete a task that would benefit someone else. On the first day, Bea the honeybee spent her afternoon helping the forest librarian sort books. The following day, Nova the owl left anonymous, encouraging notes on the doors of those who seemed a little lonely. Max the monkey turned the task into a mathematical challenge, calculating how many hours they could save their neighbours by raking leaves or clearing paths. By the second week, the atmosphere in the forest had transformed. The animals noticed that small acts of generosity, such as sharing a snack or simply offering a friendly smile, created a ripple effect of happiness. Ellie the elephant noted that true kindness requires no money, only time and consideration. As the month progressed, the group realised that the most valuable gift was not something you could buy for £1 or £100, but the lasting sense of belonging they had built together.

Word bank: altruism · compassion · empathy · community · generosity · consideration

1. Identify two specific acts of kindness mentioned in the passage that the animals performed. (2 marks)

2. According to the text, how much money does Ellie the elephant suggest is required to perform an act of kindness? (2 marks)

3. Why do you think the animals felt that the 'Kindness Advent' changed the atmosphere of the forest? (3 marks)

4. Explain why Max the monkey might have chosen to count the hours saved by doing chores for others. (3 marks)

5. Do you agree with Ellie that time and consideration are more valuable than physical gifts? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing one of the animals from the forest performing a secret act of kindness for another character.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the idea of a traditional advent calendar with the 'Kindness Advent' described in the text. What might happen to a school community if every pupil performed one secret act of kindness every day for a week? Justify your prediction.