

The Kindness Advent Challenge

Learning objective: To understand the importance of empathy and altruism within a community during the festive season.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Ensure your answers are written in full sentences, using evidence from the text to justify your reasoning.

As the frost settled over the woodland, Leo the lion gathered his friends to launch the annual Kindness Advent. Unlike a traditional calendar filled with chocolate, this initiative focused on daily acts of compassion. Each morning, the group drew a slip from a wooden box, revealing a mission to brighten someone's day. One day, Pip the caterpillar spent the afternoon writing encouraging notes for the forest animals, while Kit the fox used his computing skills to help a neighbour organise their digital photographs. Zara the zebra noticed that small, consistent actions created a ripple effect, turning the entire community into a warmer, more supportive place. By the time they reached the twenty-fourth day, the woodland was buzzing with joy. Leo noted that while presents are pleasant, the gift of time and thoughtful service leaves a much deeper impact on the heart. The friends discovered that kindness is not merely a seasonal duty, but a powerful habit that strengthens relationships all year round. Through this challenge, they learned that true generosity often costs nothing but a little of one's own time.

Word bank: altruism · empathy · community · festive · compassion · initiative · generosity

1. How does the 'Kindness Advent' described by Leo differ from a traditional advent calendar? (2 marks)

2. Identify two specific ways in which Pip and Kit contributed to the Kindness Advent. (2 marks)

3. What does the phrase 'a ripple effect' suggest about the impact of the animals' actions on their community? (3 marks)

4. Why might the author suggest that kindness is a 'habit' rather than just a seasonal task? (3 marks)

5. Do you agree with Leo that the gift of time is more valuable than a physical present? Justify your opinion using examples from the text or your own experience. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing one of the woodland characters performing a kind act for another, incorporating a 'Kindness Advent' calendar they have created together.



Extension challenge: Design your own 'Kindness Advent' calendar for your classroom. List 24 unique, non-monetary ways to support your peers. Then, write a paragraph explaining why you chose these specific actions and how they might improve the school environment.