Max and the Kindness Calendar

Learning objective: I can explain how small acts of kindness help our school community.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to describe a time someone was kind to them and how it made them feel.

Read the story carefully. Answer the questions using full sentences. For retrieval questions, find the exact words in the text. For inference questions, look for clues about how the characters feel.

December had arrived at Oakwood Primary, and the playground was covered in a light dusting of frost. Max the monkey had a brilliant idea for his class. Instead of a calendar filled with sweets, he wanted to create a Kindness Advent. Every morning, the class would open a secret envelope to find a special task. On the first day, the task was to give a genuine compliment to a friend. On the second day, they had to help tidy the art cupboard. 'Kindness is like a ripple in a pond,' Max told his friends, Zainab and Kofi. 'One small gesture makes the whole school feel warmer.' As the days passed, the children noticed that the atmosphere in their classroom felt much happier. Everyone was sharing their crayons and holding the door open for one another. By the time they reached the final day, the children had learned that being kind to others made them feel wonderful too.

Word bank: community · thoughtful · generous · advent · appreciate

1. What was the task for the class on the second day of the Kindness Advent? (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. What does Max compare kindness to in the story? (1 mark) (1 mark)

3. Why did the atmosphere in the classroom change? Use evidence from the text. (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. How do you think Zainab and Kofi felt about Max’s idea? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks) (2 marks)

5. Do you think a Kindness Advent is a good idea for a school? Give one reason for your opinion. (2 marks) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey helping a friend in the playground during winter.

Extension challenge: Design your own Kindness Advent calendar! Write down five kind things you could do for your family or friends at home.

I did it! Name: _____ Date: _____

Too easy? Try Greater Depth. Too tricky? Try Supported. More at bookflik.com/resources