

Me and the Society – Caring for People and Our World

Lesson plan

1. Theme: Me and the Society: Respect for Elders, Kindness, Reconciliation, and Helping Others

Community Values – Responsibility – Care – Respect – Cooperation

2. Grade: 3rd Grade (8–9 years old)

3. Target Group

Students of Islamic background, studying in a Greek primary school, in a multicultural classroom environment

4. Lesson Type

Lesson for acquiring basic social and ethical knowledge, developing respect for elders and others, forming positive attitudes toward helping people and caring for the community, introducing responsibility as a shared human value

5. Duration: 45 minutes

6. Basic Terms: respect, elder, family, help, care, kindness, community, neighbor, stranger, responsibility, peace, reconciliation

7. Pedagogical Methods

Guided discussion

Story-based learning (non-religious, value-oriented)

Visual learning

Cooperative activities

Role-play

Reflection and values-based learning

Intercultural dialogue (age-appropriate)

8. Teaching Aids (Means)

Board / interactive board

Pictures of families, elderly people, neighbors helping each other

Simple PPT slides (optional)

Worksheets

Colored cards (green / red)

Short adapted informational texts

9. Goals

Educational Goals

Students will learn to:

✓ Understand what respect means

✓ Identify who elders are and why they need care

✓ Recognize situations where people need help

✓ Understand the idea of reconciliation (making peace)

Formational Goals

Students will learn to:

- ✓ Show kindness and empathy
- ✓ Respect elders and others
- ✓ Understand helping others as a responsibility
- ✓ Develop peaceful attitudes toward people in their community

10. Cross-Curricular Connections: Citizenship Education, Ethics / Values Education, Social Studies, Language Development, Intercultural Education

11. Expected Results

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- ✓ Explain what respect is using simple words
- ✓ Give examples of helping elders and neighbors
- ✓ Describe how children can help others
- ✓ Explain why kindness and reconciliation are important
- ✓ Show respectful attitudes toward different people

12. Preparation for the Teacher

The teacher prepares:

Pictures showing elderly people, families, neighbors helping each other

Short informational texts (see section 16)

Simple worksheet

Examples from everyday life in Greece (family life, neighborhood, school)

13. Structure of the Lesson

A. Introduction – Visual Trigger & Discussion (6 minutes)

The teacher shows pictures of:

A child helping an elderly person

Neighbors helping each other

Guided Questions:

Who do you see in the picture?

What are they doing?

How do you think the elderly person feels?

Transition:

“Today we will learn how we can be kind, respectful, and helpful members of our society.”

CORE CONCEPTS – THEORY

Teacher’s Theoretical Notes (Age-Appropriate Language)

People live together in families and communities. In every community, there are children, adults, and elderly people. Elders are people who are older, such as grandparents. They have experience and knowledge, but they may also need help in their daily life.

Respect means listening, being polite, and caring for others. When children help elders, they show respect and kindness. Helping elders can be simple—carrying bags, listening to stories, or being patient.

Sometimes people have disagreements. Reconciliation means saying sorry, forgiving, and making peace. Living peacefully helps everyone feel safe and happy.

Helping neighbors and even strangers is an important value in society. When people help each other, communities become stronger and friendlier. Children can help by being kind, sharing, and offering help when someone needs it.

Respect, kindness, and helping others are values shared by people all over the world. They help societies live together in peace.

14. Practical Activities & Timeline

1. Guided Discussion – “How Can I Help?” (7 minutes)

Questions:

How can children help grandparents?

How can children help neighbors?

How do you feel when someone helps you?

2. Game – “Kind or Unkind?” (7 minutes)

Students raise:

Green card – kind and respectful action

Red card – unkind or disrespectful action

Examples:

Helping an elderly person cross the street

Ignoring someone who needs help

Sharing toys

Laughing at someone

3. Worksheet – “My Good Actions” (8 minutes)

Students:

✓ Circle kind actions

✓ Draw one way they help others

✓ Complete the sentence:

“I help my community when I ...”

4. Reflection Circle (5 minutes)

Sentence starters:

“Respect means ...”

“I can help others by ...”

Teacher concludes:

“Helping others makes our society better for everyone.”

15. Variations and Extensions

Role-play: helping an elderly neighbor

Class poster: “We Are a Kind Community”

Storytelling: children share a time they helped someone

16. Informational Texts (Adapted, Non-Moralizing)

Text A – Children’s Social Education

Adapted Text:

“Respect means caring about others and treating them kindly. Helping elderly people shows love and responsibility.”

Source: UNICEF – Life Skills Education for Children

Text B – Community and Values

Adapted Text:

“When people help each other, communities become safer and happier places.”

Source: UNESCO – Global Citizenship Education

Text C – Children’s Rights Perspective

Adapted Text:

“Every child has the right to live in a safe and caring community.”

Source: UNICEF – Convention on the Rights of the Child

17. Information for the Teacher

Pedagogical Notes

Use simple language and real-life examples

Focus on positive behavior, not punishment

Avoid religious instruction; present values inclusively

Encourage empathy and participation

18. Final Teacher Reflection

After the lesson, reflect on:

Student engagement

Understanding of respect and helping

Ability to express kindness and empathy

Respect for others in a multicultural setting

19. Sources of Information for the Lesson

Recommended Literature and Educational Sources (in English)

A. Children's Books (Age-Appropriate, Values-Based)

Pat Thomas – Respect: I Can Show Respect for Myself and Others (Wayland Publishers)

Cheri J. Meiners – Respect and Take Care of Things (Free Spirit Publishing)

Todd Parr – The Peace Book (Little, Brown and Company)

Jacqueline Woodson – Each Kindness (Nancy Paulsen Books)

Derrick Barnes – I Am Every Good Thing (Nancy Paulsen Books)

B. Educational Books for Teachers

UNESCO – Global Citizenship Education: Topics and Learning Objectives

UNICEF – Life Skills Education for Children and Adolescents

OECD – Social and Emotional Skills for Children

C. Community, Ethics, and Citizenship Education

Council of Europe – Competences for Democratic Culture

Arthur, J. – Education with Character: The Moral Economy of Schooling

D. Intercultural and Inclusive Education

UNESCO – Intercultural Education Guidelines

Banks, J. A. – Cultural Diversity and Education

E. Health, Wellbeing, and Social Care (Extended Context)

World Health Organization (WHO) – Social Determinants of Health

UNICEF – Child-Friendly Communities Initiative

F. Environment, Responsibility, and Community (Link to Clean Earth, Responsible People)

UNESCO – Education for Sustainable Development

National Geographic Kids – Helping Our Communities (educational articles)