

WHAT IS YOUR TODAY?

(Activity & Project Ideas)

We hope you enjoyed watching 'What Is Your Today?'. The following activities should help your class to further explore the themes and message of the poem, whilst developing their own research, speaking & listening & writing skills.

1. How much can we learn about a day in the future?

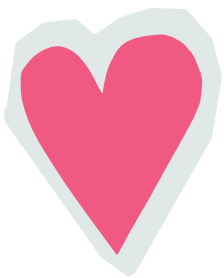
As a class, research a given day (e.g next Monday). What does this day mean to people in the class, the school, the local community, across the country and around the world? Is it anyone's birthday, a wedding anniversary, or have there been significant moments on that day in the past?

The students could then put this information into a display or a class presentation - they could even deliver an assembly titled "What Is This Today?" for other students in the school.



2. Research and create a 'GOOD NEWS BOARD' (for display) or a 'GOOD NEWS REPORT' performance/article that focuses on kind acts that have taken place, both locally and internationally.

Students could work solo or in groups as they gather good deeds from news stories & the internet as well as their impact locally or the wider world. Perhaps there are some examples of good deeds carried out by friends/family members to start with?



Please feel free to email any pictures or videos (if allowed) of displays/performances/articles to mark@markgrist.com & Mark will give your school a shout-out on his Instagram/Twitter accounts.

3. Create a calendar of good deeds - as a class fill a calendar with good deeds you could do & then challenge yourselves to carry out one deed each day of the challenge. Then record how the students feel by the end of the project & any impact they know they've had.

Good deed examples could include:

- Water the plants around the school
- Hold a door open for someone (that isn't in the class)
- Be kind to an animal

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4. Create a story about a day that goes wrong but then is fixed by someone being kind. What is going wrong at the start of the story?

- What is the kind deed?
- How does this change things?
- Can you make a movie trailer for your story once it's finished?



5. In partners act out a good deed. Then thought track how the character is feeling having done a good deed. For more information on 'Thought Tracking' head to <https://dramaresource.com/thought-tracking>



6. Play the drama game 'Pass It On':

Students work in threes. Student 1 mimes a character, a location and a good deed to student 2 (without student 3 seeing). Student 2 recreates the mime for student 3, who then guesses what the character, location and good deed are.



7. Write a short story called 'The Good Deed'

- Can you create interesting characters?
- Can you think of a good deed that will improve someone's day?
- Can you use the techniques and storytelling devices we've been covering in class to make your story more engaging for a reader?



8. Get the students to write their own poems titled either 'What Is Your Tomorrow?' or 'What Is Our Tomorrow?'

- Which techniques will you use to help make your poem more interesting?
- Will there be a message in your poem?

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These activities were developed by Mark Grist in collaboration with Louise Double (Lilac Education).

Sheet design by Paper Rhino.

If you've found these activities useful and would like to get in touch/ share your students' work feel free to email mark@markgrist.com and Mark will get back to you with a message for your class.

