DEEP SPACE SPARKLE

Thanksgiving & gratitude bundle

Time Required: 2 @ 45-minute sessions
ALL GRADES

GRATITUDE FEATHERS
What You’ll Need:

- 12” x 6” sheets of painted or colored paper for feathers and backgrounds (12” x 18” divided by 3)
- 12” x 9” sheets of white paper for drawing feather template
- Oil Pastels
- Scissors & Glue
- Optional: Letter stamps and printing ink.
- Optional” Washi tape or decorative ribbon

Creating a positive culture in your classroom helps children thrive and grow. One of the simplest ways to promote empathy and kindness is to practice gratitude. One of my own goals is to list 3 things I’m grateful for. This types of list often starts with material things but the more we commit to the daily practice, the more likely we are to be thankful for intangible things like a kind word from a friend, a sunny day or the simple beauty of a pretty feather. This project allows art to play a part in a child's gratitude. This project can be done with children of all ages.

PICTURES BOOKS on GRATITUDE
PROJECT OPTIONS:
There are two options for this project: younger kids (ages 5-7) will enjoy creating one large feather while older children will be challenged with creating a series or grouping of feathers. If you plan to create just ONE FEATHER, you can draw the feather directly onto the painted paper. To create a grouping, you can create a template from one of the feathers.

FEATHER TEMPLATES:
On a white piece of paper, draw the stem and rough outline of a feather using an oil pastel. Use real feathers or pictures of feathers so children can identify the shapes. Make the feather as long as the paper is tall. The stem should be a shape instead of a line. Note: If using templates (which you can make yourself OR children can share), then each template should fit just inside the 6” x 12” shape. Cut out the template and use to create 3-4 more feathers per students.
Trace template onto the front of one sheet of painted paper. Trace with a black oil pastel. Use the black pastel to draw the stem and any decorative details on the feather. Each feather should have three components: the stem, the feather patterns and the small decorative details.

Use either a limited color palette for the oil pastels or allow the children to use as many colors as they want. In these samples, I used white, black and one additional color. Once the feather is decorated, cut out the feathers in preparation for assembling.
ASSEMBLING:
Arrange colored feathers on a colored paper background. Use the same papers for the feathers as for the background.
Cut a 12” x18” solid colored or painted paper into 3’s and place in a tray for children to choose from.

Children can experiment to see which background color allows the feathers to stand out the most.

STAMPS
If you have access to stamps, children can use a small 5” x 1” paper to write out a favorite adjective or verb that expresses gratitude.
They can decorate with wash tape or simply glue to bottom of feather.
You can search for wooden block stamps on Amazon.
Glue sentiment to the bottom of the feather panel.
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<th>Make a list of 10 things you are grateful for:</th>
<th>Make a list of 10 ADJECTIVES that describe how these things make you feel:</th>
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I am grateful for:

I am grateful for:

I am grateful for:

my name:
• Today I will learn about LINE and SHAPES, so that I CAN draw a feather from OBSERVATION. I’ll know I have it when my lines and shapes resemble a feather.

• Today I will learn about COLOR, so that I CAN create a feather and select a COMPLEMENTARY color for the background.

• Today I will learn about PATTERN and LINE so that I CAN create a repeating pattern on my feather. I’ll Know I have it when I can identify 3 elements to my feather design and see it repeating.

Additional Statements: