



TENDER BRANCHES CURRICULUM

Week 03 - Love

10:00 a.m. Songs

I Love You Song

I love you, Grandpa.
I love you, Grandma.
I love you, Daddy.
I love you, Mommy.
I love you, Uncle.
I love you, Auntie.
I love you, Brother,
I love you Sister.

Love is something if you give it away

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away,
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

Love poem

Love is a magnet from your heart to mine,
Love is a fire that's warm and fine,

We all need love our whole lives long,
Loving each other makes us feel strong.

10:10 a.m. Puppet

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

CAST: Cat and Mouse

PROPS: Two puppets or toys (cat and mouse), plastic top from 6-pack of cans (with cut in it to get cat's head in and out easily), other trash on a board.

SCENE: Mouse is looking for food in the trash

Narrator opens the scene and tells the story

NARRATOR: Once upon a time there was a hungry mouse. When he couldn't find enough to eat in his woodland home, he was forced to go to a nearby house. Here, there were always plenty of tasty scraps in the garbage. But the mouse was afraid because one of his enemies – the cat- lived in the house.

MOUSE ON STAGE RUNNING TO TRASH AND LOOKING THROUGH IT

MOUSE: Oh, I'm so hungry, so hungry. Squeak. I can smell all that lovely left over food in the trash. Squeak. But I have to be careful and remember to watch out for the cat. I don't want him to catch me. Squeak. I've been caught before and only just escaped.

MOUSE FORAGES FOR A WHILE THEN EXITS WHILE NARRATOR IS TALKING AND CAT ENTERS

NARRATOR: Now the cat was well fed and comfortably off in the house, but he had been brought up to chase and catch mice. His hearing and eyesight were good and his claws were sharp!

CAT: Meow. What's that I hear? Sounds like the rustling of a horrid mouse. Let me take a closer look! Meow!

CAT GOES OVER TO TRASH



NARRATOR: When the cat saw the mouse, he chased him.

MOUSE FOLLOWED BY CAT GO ON AND OFF STAGE AFTER ONE ANOTHER AS NARRATOR CONTINUES

NARRATOR: The mouse darted in and out of the garbage with the cat close behind until finally he saw his chance to make a break for the woods where he would be safe. When the mouse was finally safely back in his hole, he peeked out...

MOUSE PEEKS AROUND CURTAIN

.... and saw the cat, all caught up in some of the trash.

CAT ENTERS OPPOSITE SIDE OF STAGE TO MOUSE CAUGHT IN THE PLASTIC TOP FROM 6-PACK OF CANS

NARRATOR: Now the mouse was safely home, but he bravely ran towards the cat.

CAT: Meoooo! Have you come to laugh at me?

MOUSE: No, actually I came to help you! Squeak.

CAT: You? Help me? Meoww! But I'm your enemy. Why would you want to help me?

MOUSE: Well, I've been trapped before and I remember how scary it was. Although you are a cat, you are still a fellow animal and I don't like to see you suffering. Squeak.

CAT: Well, that's very thoughtful of you, I must say. Meow. Who would have thought that a mouse could be so kind. I was always led to believe that mice were horrible and should be caught.

MOUSE: Squeak! Well you shouldn't believe everything you hear about mice until you've gotten to know a few. Now, shall I nibble through that plastic for you?

CAT: Oh, yes please! Meow

MOUSE CHEWS THROUGH PLASTIC (ALREADY CUT) AND CAT IS FREE

CAT: Meow. That's better!

MOUSE: Squeak! Now you're not going to chase me are you?

CAT: Meow. My goodness, no! Not after you've helped me and showed me the better side of animal nature. Please come back and finish your dinner. I can get you some more food if you like.

MOUSE: Squeak! Why, thank you very much my new friend.

CAT AND MOUSE WALK OFF TOGETHER

NARRATOR: And they both lived peacefully ever after.

10:20 a.m Elmo says (or Teddy)

Loving Poster Points

- Treat others as you would want them to treat you
- Say kind and loving things
- Do little things that give others happiness
- Share your things and yourself
- Show affection
- Think loving thoughts



10:30 a.m. Stories

Guess How Much I love You

It's hard to measure feelings, and every time Little Nutbrown Hare tries to show how much he loves Big Nutbrown Hare, Big Nutbrown Hare show that he can love him even more.

The Runaway Bunny

A mother shows detached unconditional love to her child bunny after the child presents her with a variety of challenging



10:45 a.m. Multi-cultural Activity

Let's go to Israel to celebrate, "Rosh Hashana"

Let's go to Israel on our magic carpet to meet Miguel. Using "Children Just Like Me", show picture of Miguel. Israeli children say, "shalom" which means "peace" to greet one another. Miguel celebrates each year a special celebration called, "Rosh Hashana" which is the Jewish New Year. It's a time when children look back at the mistakes they made the past year and plan to make changes for the following year. It's also a time for forgiveness for mistakes. How do you think showing love to one another can help make us better friends?

10:50 a.m. Snack

11:00 a.m. Games

Love Activity

Read the reference quote, "Love is light", then light some candles and turn out the lights. Explain how love is like light as it shines up the world. Lack of love makes the world dark like the room. Love, kindness, peace, respect make the candles to light again and then the world shines bright.

Love Smileys

Using the smiley faces, show the smiley face for loving behaviors and the frowney face for not showing love.

- (1) You bring your mommy some juice when she is feeling sick.
- (2) You help your brother/sister put on their clothes.
- (3) You take some cookies to a neighbor who has just moved in to new home.
- (4) You throw rocks at birds and one rock hits the bird's wing.
- (5) You open the door for elderly gentleman.

Love Yarn

Explain to children that the yarn represents love and what ties us together is loving things we say and do for one another. Give example of saying a kind thing to another adult and then hold string and toss ball to adult. What happens to the string when we are not loving. Cut the string. Then have each person to have a turn to say a nice thing and holding the string then toss ball to another person. See how we are connected.

Tender Branches Tree of Love

On poster board, make the shape of a tree and write at top "Tender Branches" tree. Have leaves with loving and unloving behaviors. The loving behaviors we paste on the tree and the unloving behaviors are like weeds so we throw them in the trash. Give each child an opportunity to paste a leaf or flower onto the tree. We will post more leaves throughout the year.

11:15 a.m. Arts & Crafts

Love Magnet

Have two hearts of different sizes cut-out for the children. Have the children paste the smaller one inside the bigger one. Give scissors to each of the children to cut a fringe around the heart. In the center of the smaller heart, provide a typed out "Love Magnet" for the children to paste. Decorate with heart stickers. Glue a magnet on the back.

Reference Quotes

Loving Affirmation

I am a loving person. I show my love with thoughtful acts, kind words and affection. I treat others as I want to be treated.

Reference Quote

"Love is light"



***Be loving to all the inhabitants
of the world...***