



A CHRISTMAS CAROL
TRADITIONS FOR ALL SEASONS
Grade Levels: 3-5, with adjustment K-2

OBJECTIVES

- Students will expand their acts of generosity and selflessness outside of the context of the holiday season

PROCEDURE

1. Split students into groups of four. Give them five minutes to share their own Christmas or other holiday family or community tradition that involves giving their time to help someone else.
2. Each student has one minute to share their tradition with the rest of the group. Within the group, have the students choose which person's tradition could most easily be repeated throughout the year.
3. The students in the group now create a scene in which they play out the chosen tradition in the following sequence:
 - First they create a frozen image with their bodies that depicts the action of actually helping others in that tradition
 - The second frozen image highlights the particular positive feeling the people have while helping others
 - The third and final frozen image depicts that tradition and the feeling together but *outside* of a Christmas or holiday context
4. The students in each group create one line of dialogue for each character in each image.
5. The groups show these images to each other, during which the audience of students can unfreeze one character at a time to hear their line of dialogue.
6. Ask the student audience to reflect on each image by asking questions:
 - Image 1: What is happening in this image?
 - Image 2: What particular emotion is depicted in this image?
 - Image 2: What new context for this tradition has been created in the final picture?
7. If there are multiple opinions among the students when answering the questions, it is a great opportunity for them to discuss their different perceptions of the images presented.
8. By the end of this process, the students should have come up with many different ways to extend their holiday spirit and joy to other times of the year.