

Teacher's Guidance (this is aimed at EY, KS1 but could be used in KS2)

Saying thank you should come naturally to all of us but sometimes we need a reminder why.

The poster could be enlarged to A3 and put up in the classroom. Or dot them around the classroom.

The first worksheet reminds children about who to say thank you to close to them. After discussion (ideas below) they could draw pictures of 4 people to say thank you to. There are lines for the children (or with adult help) to write about the person.

The final worksheet is to discuss why we say thank you to the Army. The emphasis of the whole art project is that the Army is more than just the combat people. So, in a discussion with the children, tell them about some of the other jobs that the Army do, and how they keep us all safe. Again, they could draw members of the Army doing these jobs, and possibly write about them.

Here are a few ideas to discuss with the children. Pick and choose what works best for your children. Be aware that there may be children in your class that never have any 'thank you's outside of the school environment.

- How do you feel when someone says thank you to you?
- How do you feel when you say thank you to someone else?
- Does it make a difference when we say thank you? How big a difference?
- Do people always notice when you do something kind or useful, and thank you? Does it matter if they do?
- Do you need to thank someone for doing their job? For example, should you say thank you to your teacher at the end of the day, or to the attendant in a shop when you buy something?
- Who do you say thank you to most often?
- Should you thank your parents? Should you thank your friends?
- How do you know if someone really means it when they say thank you?
- Do you write thank you letters when you receive a gift? Why / why not?

Other 'thank you' thoughts:

- Why not make a 'thank you pot'? Every time someone (or just the teacher) says 'thank you' put a token in a pot and see how many 'thank you's the class can gather in a day.
- Try a 'thank you' circle. the children sit in a circle and pass around a ball or teddy or something similar. When they get their turn they say thank you to the person next door for something. It could be thanking them for something specific like playing with them at playtime, or general like thank you for being funny/ caring.
- Instead of saying 'well done' for something, try saying 'thank you'. It works in most cases!
- Can actions be 'thank you's? try 'clearing up quickly is a good way of showing thank you' or 'smiling at each other is a good way of showing a thank you'.
- For the quiet child in the class (or every one!) perhaps sign language thank you is a good idea..
- Have a day where you say thank you in different languages.
- If you do a register, whoever is taking it say thank you when the child replies.

