Positive Peer Pressure

TRICENTENNIAL THEME: College and Career Readiness

SUBJECT: Social Studies
GRADE BAND / LEVEL: Elementary/Grades 3-5
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TEKS:

3rd
113.14.11A1, 2A-B
4th
113.15.23A-B
5th
113.16.26A-B

DESCRIPTION:
This lesson looks at the positives and negatives of peer pressure and challenges students to consider how they can help one another stay on a positive track in life. One (1) sixty (60) minute class or two (2) thirty (30) minute sessions.

LESSON OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand what peer pressure is and how it can be positive or negative.
2. Compare and contrast the pros and cons of seeking advice from your peers versus parents/adults.
3. Develop specific goals to keep your peers and yourself on a positive path towards your futures.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Copies of "Seeking Advice" for each student
Copies of "Sources of Advice" for each student
Copies of "Helping My Peers" for each student
Writing utensils
ENGAGE (Opening Activity - Access Prior Learning / Stimulate Interest / Generate Questions):
Tell students that today they will explore the pros and cons of seeking advice from various sources and discuss how they can have a positive impact on one another. Break students into pairs or allow them to pick partners and pass out a copy of “Seeking Advice” to each student. Allow the student’s time to interview one another and answer the questions. Let students share and discuss in a class. (20 min)

EXPLORE (Probing or Clarifying Questions):
Students will return to their seats and brainstorm the pros and cons of getting advice from parents/adults and peers/friends. Pass out “Sources of Advice” to each student and give them time to develop their ideas. (15 min)

EXPLAIN (Concepts Explained):
Allow students an opportunity to share what the positives and negatives are of seeking advice from various sources. Explain what peer pressure is and discuss how it can be positive or negative. (5 min)

ELABORATE (Applications and Extensions):
Pass out “Helping My Peers” and give students time to answer the questions based off of what they have learned today in regards to peer pressure. Give students a chance to share what they can do to impact their peers positively and discuss what they should not do/say. (15 min)

EVALUATE:
Exit ticket or closing discussion: “What did you learn today about helping your peers stay on a positive track in life?” (5 min)
Seeking Advice

Partner with a fellow classmate and talk to them about a time when they needed advice to make a tough decision. Ask each other the following questions and record your answers:

1. Can you remember a time when you needed advice to make a decision?

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2. Who did you ask for help? Why did you choose that person?

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3. Was the advice helpful to you? Why or why not?

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4. Do you think you would have received better advice if you had asked someone of a different age? (For example, a parent/guardian instead of a friend, or the other way around?) Why or why not?

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5. What do you think are the pros of seeking advice from someone our age, a peer/classmate? What are the cons?

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Sources of advice
What are the pros and cons of getting advice from adults and peers (or friends) in your life? Please fill out the chart with pros and cons of getting advice from both groups of people:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>PROS</th>
<th>CONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARENTS/ADULTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIENDS/PEERS</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Helping my PEERS be successful

As you grow up, peer pressure will become harder to overcome. Peer pressure can result in both negative and positive outcomes. How can you ensure that you help your peers stay on a successful track in life by positively impacting them?

What I CAN and WILL do/say:

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What I should NOT and will NOT do/say:

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