



Share Your SPARK Campaign Preschool & Elementary Student Campaign: Information for Parents, Teachers, and Group Leaders

The goal of this year's Share Your SPARK campaign is to help draw attention to the many, small acts of kindness and outreach that even our youngest children can do to make a difference in this world. As parents, teachers, group and community leaders you can have a huge impact in helping the children around you learn to look outside of their small circle of family and friends. As we have all too often seen in sad accounts of bullying and school violence, those who commit these acts often have reported feeling alone and excluded. If all of us took more time to offer small acts of kindness, sharing our own SPARK, to those who are just outside of our social circle, what an impact this could have.

Consider this graphic created based on the work of noted author and Harvard Professor, Richard Weissbourd. If we can get our children to begin to look beyond their immediate social circle, they can make a significant difference in the life of another child who may be feeling excluded or alone. What greater lesson can we share with your youngsters than this one, that they can make a difference!

Please use this campaign as an opportunity to talk to your children or the children in your care about all the ways they can Share their SPARK with others and encourage them to share their ideas with others though art or words during this campaign.

For more information and inspiration on these topics, we send along the following resources:

Richard Weissbourd's amazing work on Creating Caring Community on Youtube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dc91nRSbzQ&feature=youtu.be>

We also encourage you to check out this amazing blog post on Momastery on identifying children in the classroom who may be lonely, excluded or invisible, <http://momastery.com/blog/2014/01/30/share-schools/>

And check out this video showing how 'empathy goggles' can help us all "see" a little clearer:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151976487412989>

Lots more great ideas are available in the attached material from Creating Caring Community and at the SPARK Kindness website: <http://www.sparkkindness.org/>



Questions about the Share Your SPARK contest can be directed to Lori Davis, (ldavis827@gmail.com) or Liz Reef (earphoto@gmail.com)