



Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER NAPLES

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.  
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

## "STAND UP FOR JUSTICE"

Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the  
Jewish Federation of Greater Naples

Application deadline: February 3, 2023.

Applicant's name: Jamie Flatley Applicant's email: flatlj@collierschools.com  
Number of years in education: 13 Grade or subject taught: K-5th  
School: Sabal Palm Elementary School School Address: 4095 18th Ave. NE Naples, FL 34120  
Phone (daytime): (239) 377-8206 Phone (evening): N/A  
Principal's name: Jonas Principal's email address: Stephanie@collierschools.com Principal's Phone: (239) 377-8206  
Requirements due by February 3, 2023: Jonas

- Describe the precipitating events that motivated you to initiate these lessons or activities
- Describe the lessons or activities; and if adapted from another source please reference
- Explain how the lessons or activities teach students the importance of respecting others no matter what religious, racial, cultural, or other differences exist
- Explain how it helped them counter bigotry and bullying and prepared them to stand up for Justice
- PROVIDE EVIDENCE/PROOF OF EFFECTIVENESS SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: A QUESTIONNAIRE, INTERVIEWS, DOCUMENTED ANECDOTAL CONVERSATIONS, AND STUDENT WRITINGS, VIDEO, ETC.

Please complete the following if you have encouraged someone other than yourself to apply:

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (daytime): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening): \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationship to this applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit the completed form in writing, by email, or video format no later than February 3, 2023, to:  
Beth Povlow, Educator Grant Coordinator, C/o JCRC, Jewish Federation of Greater Naples  
4720 Pine Ridge Rd., Naples, FL 34119

# **"STAND UP FOR JUSTICE"**

***Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples***

**Applicant:** Jamie N. Flatley

## **I. Introduction**

My name is Jamie Flatley, and I am currently the School Counselor at Sabal Palm Elementary School in Naples, FL. Prior to my position as a School Counselor, I was a teacher for 9 years at Village Oaks Elementary School in Immokalee, FL where I taught 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades. I have been a high school coach for the past 10 years, coaching Girls Lacrosse, and the past 2 years coaching Girls Golf; lacrosse previously at Immokalee High School, now Palmetto Ridge High School and Golf at Palmetto Ridge High School. In addition, I have the privilege of adding the role of Adjunct Professor to my title and teach University Supervision in the College of Education for students that are in the graduate program for School Counseling.

## **II. My Story Precipitating Events**

"A nail that sticks out, gets hammered down" -Japanese Proverb was the first line to my college admissions essay. *Sixteen years later*, I find myself including that same quote as part of this essay. When planning life skills lessons for the students at my school, formally known as "social emotional lessons" or "SEL," I try my best to approach students with outside of the box thinking and an opportunity to learn uniquely. **Why?** Because students are unique and a conventional lecture on kindness is not going to do the trick these days. Students deserve the opportunity to express their uniqueness in a safe and welcoming environment.

Although I have one role in my school as the School Counselor, I wear many hats. One of those hats is overseeing the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) Committee with my administration.

Through our school-wide expectations, it is the goal of this committee to: *support the overall emotional and mental well-being of the school campus, by providing a strengthened awareness of the importance of life skills with staff, students and parents through school-based activities and initiatives*. An action step to achieving this goal is through monthly Life Skills lessons that I teach to students at Sabal Palm; in addition to providing support to teachers and staff in the classroom.

Earlier this school year, I was recognized for another initiative promoting Character Education in my school. This award was sponsored by Champions for Learning and funded by Suncoast Credit Union and private donors. That grant, entitled "SEL Rocks!" was written for the following:

## Goal

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The goal of this project is for 100% of our students to engage in this experience focusing on the social and emotional aspect of having a sense of belonging to a classroom, school and community. The picture represents SPE Faculty & Staff engaging in this project in hopes that our students can do the same.

## What will be done with my students

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Students will engage in a rock painting activity as an extension to the lessons they receive on a monthly basis from our School Counselor. Lessons focus on kindness, empathy and filling one's social and emotional "bucket."

## Benefits to my students

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Students granted with the opportunity to participate in this project have an endless list of benefits that include, however are not limited to:

- engaging in a school-community building project
- an increased sense of belonging
- a continued pledge to spread love and kindness
- an opportunity for students to leave their "mark" in a positive form
- involvement in campus beatification
- a reminder that students are the most important part of our school family and that each student plays a role in creating a positive school culture



*Photo of rocks painted by teachers and staff at Sabal Palm during a Professional Development Day. This activity, run by Principal Stephanie Jonas, inspired me to write a school-wide grant for all the students of Sabal Palm. The receiving of that grant inspired me to apply for the "Stand Up for Justice Award."*

**The support of this award will allow me to continue these initiatives.**

### III. Lesson Plans

Next, I will include lessons and activities to support my application for this grant.

#### a. (K, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>) *Compassion*

##### i. Explain how the lessons or activities teach students the importance of respecting others no matter what religious, racial, cultural, or other differences exist:

For this lesson, I had the opportunity to read the story “Compassionate Ninja” by Mary Nhin. Students get to follow the journey of Compassionate Ninja explore the world of empathy, and how to develop compassion for others and oneself. This story reminds students of how to be compassionate through lessons of sharing and being kind to others. Not to mention, it allows students to explore one of my favorite topics, love.

##### ii. Explain how it helped them counter bigotry and bullying:

In this story, the author introduces different characters to “Compassionate Ninja” that society may “outcast” from others. For example, there is a new ninja classmate playing alone on the

playground. While it may be easy to assume that the child does not have any friends and is being “cast out” or bullied, etc., students brainstorm what they would do in this situation and would think to themselves what acts would and would not be kind. Without giving too much of the story away, I am sure you can take a pretty good guess what choice

Compassionate Ninja made in the story. The author has a series of

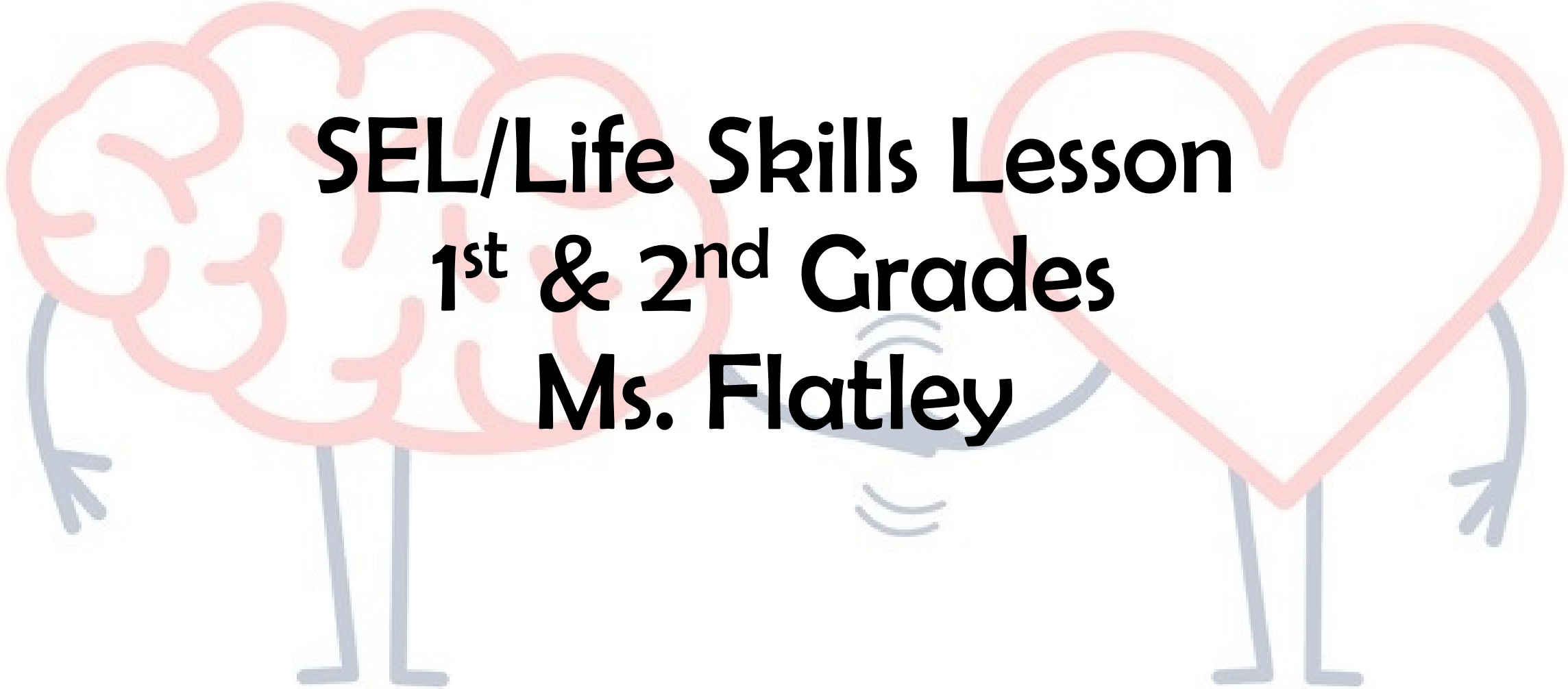
books that include a variety of Ninja characters with similarities and differences. No matter what color Ninja they are, no matter what exceptions or limitations they might have, they all belong in this world together and it is important for all our Ninjas, and friends, to live in a world of kindness and that step starts with them.



##### iii. Explain how it helped them to stand up for Justice:

Reading “Compassionate Ninja,” along with other books in Mary Nhin’s series, inspires students to be proud of who they are and to stand up for themselves as long as they are

not hurting or harming themselves or someone else physically or emotionally. Ninjas learn and are reminded to be brave, confident, strong and awesome!

A stylized illustration in the background featuring a pink brain on the left and a pink heart on the right. Both the brain and heart have blue arms and legs, giving them a person-like appearance. They are positioned behind the text, with the brain's legs on the left and the heart's legs on the right.

# **SEL/Life Skills Lesson**

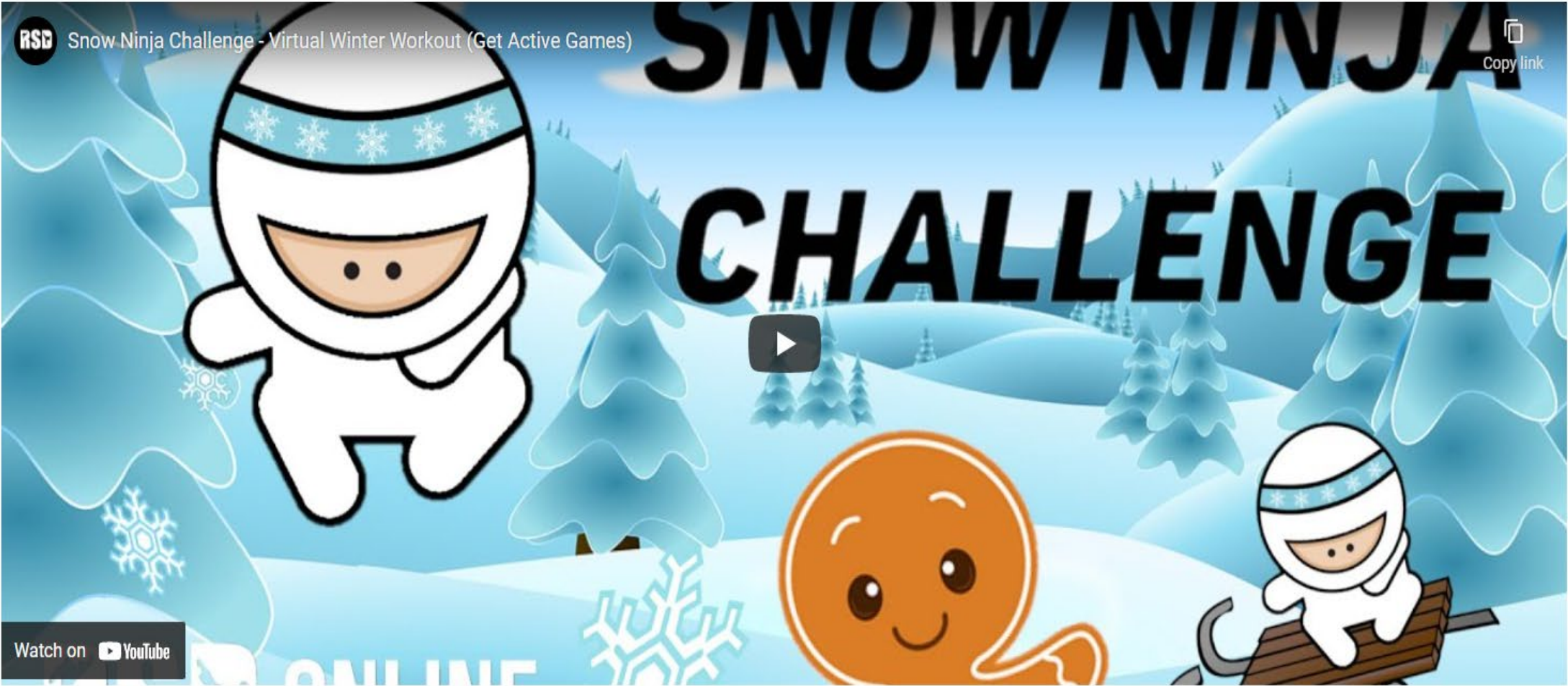
## **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades**

### **Ms. Flatley**





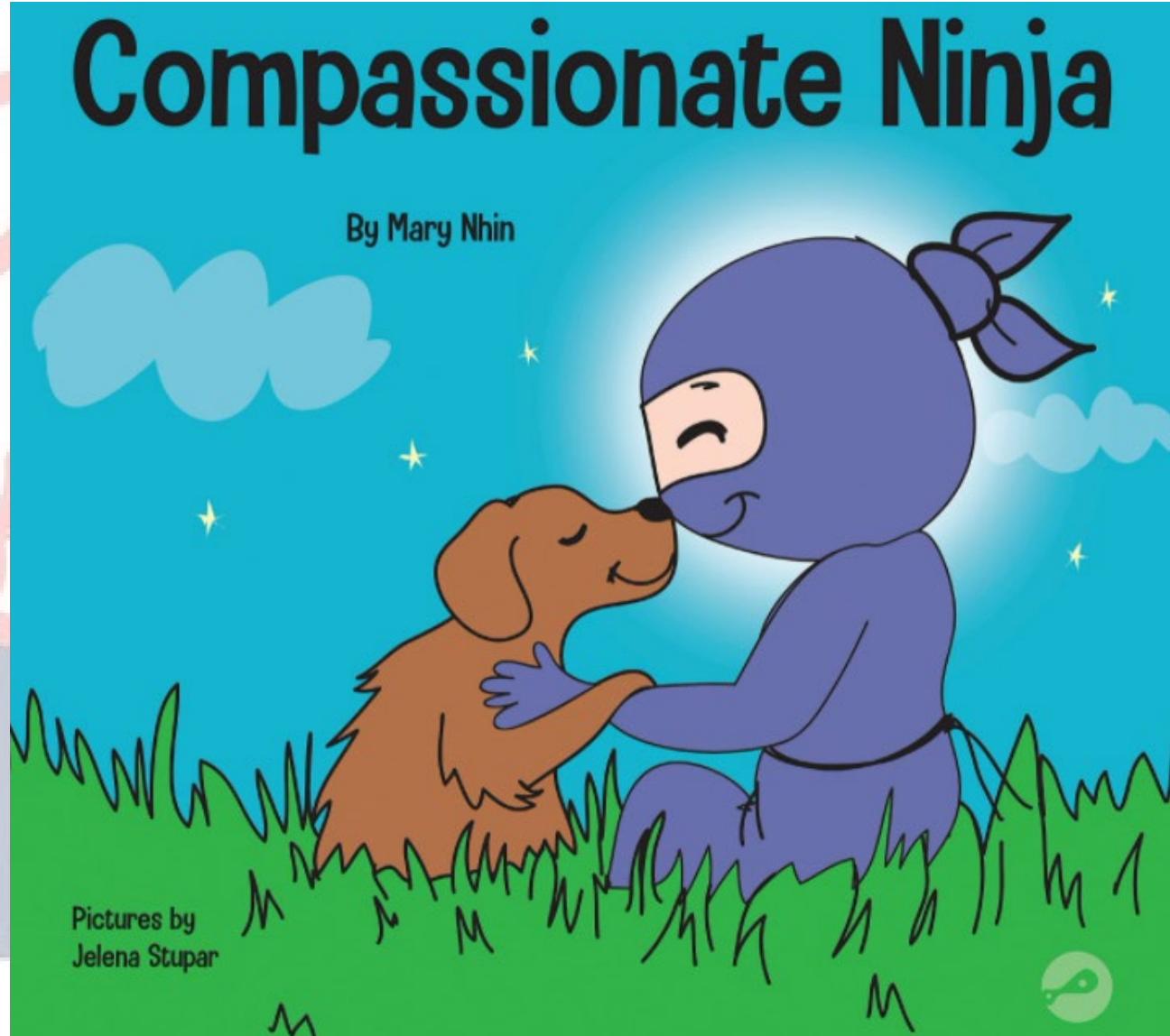
# Brain Break/Warm Up







# Read Aloud



A stylized illustration featuring a pink brain on the left and a pink heart on the right. Both have blue arms and legs. They are holding hands in the center, with small blue concentric circles indicating movement or connection. The background is white.

**What did Ms. Flatley want  
you to learn today?**

*Why?*

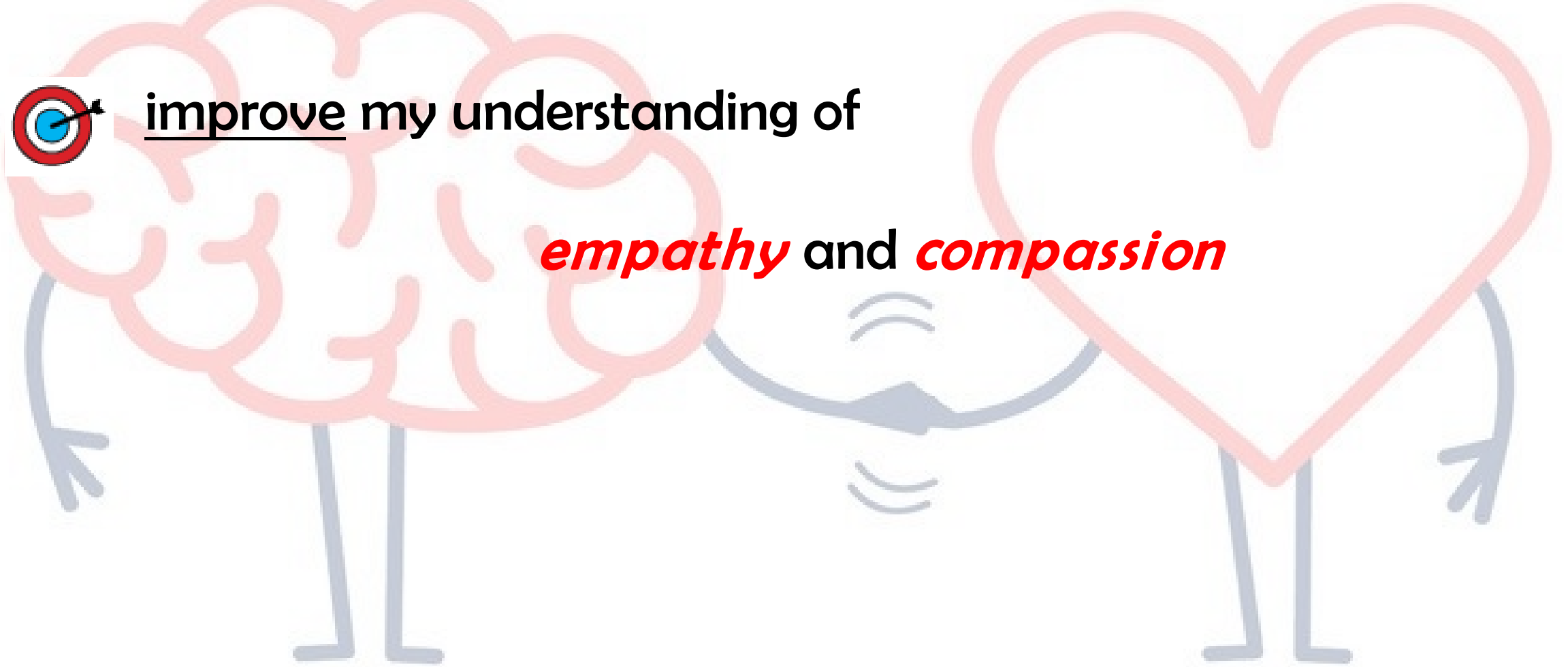


# I will be able to...



improve my understanding of

*empathy* and *compassion*



**b. (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>) *Empathy***

Before I explain this lesson further, I wanted to ensure that I gave credit where credit was due. This lesson, that includes a star folding activity, was inspired by an activity I participated in during a Safe Zone Workshop at Florida Gulf Coast University. At that workshop we engaged in a similar activity learning about the historical bigotry and bullying of the LGBTQ+ community.

**i. Explain how the lessons or activities teach students the importance of respecting others no matter what religious, racial, cultural, or other differences exist:**

Students learned to manage their behavior through self-discipline and self-control. In addition, this lesson expanded students' knowledge and understanding of empathy through social skills practice.

**ii. Explain how it helped them counter bigotry and bullying:**

As mentioned above, students learned to manage their behavior through self-discipline and self-control. In addition, this lesson expanded students knowledge and understanding of empathy through social skills practice.

**iii. Explain how it helped them to stand up for Justice:**

This lesson provided students a safe and confidential place to express themselves in a way that they may have never thought they would before; silently and with a post it note shaped as a star. This lesson reminded students that they have hopes and dreams and allowed them to express those hopes and dreams. It allowed students to recognize not only how they are similar or different from others, but who they are themselves.

During one of the occasions where this lesson was being taught, I had the opportunity to be observed by one of my administrators. I received the following feedback supporting the desired effects/goal of my lesson and how they were achieved: *You organized students into appropriate groups to facilitate the learning of the content. The activity was appropriate, and students gained a deeper understanding of the content due to the organization of the group. I absolutely loved the Star Fold Activity.*

In response to demonstrating knowledge of students, I received the following feedback from my administrator for the same lesson: *You foster behaviors that demonstrate respect for each student and their diverse needs. You provide appropriate services to our students and collaborate with school personnel to ensure students' needs are met and appropriate.*



## LESSON PLAN

**Lesson:** Star Fold Activity

**ASCA Standards:**

- **Mindset:** M 3. Sense of belonging in the school environment
- **Behavior:**\* B-SS 4. Demonstrate empathy

**Learning Goal/Outcomes:** manage behavior through *self-discipline, self-control* and improve social skills by understanding **empathy**

**Activity/Tasks:**

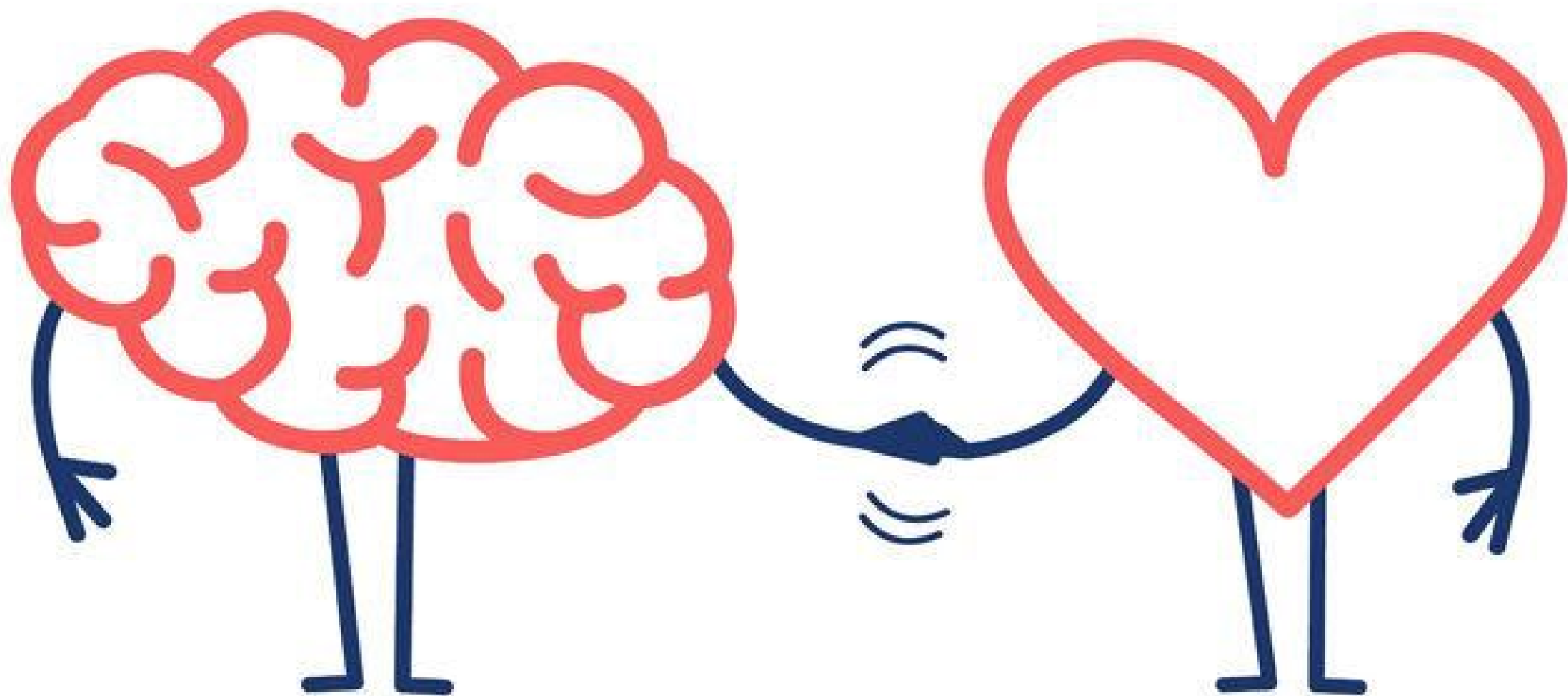
- ✓ Pass out star sticky notes
- ✓ Review STAR Expectations
- ✓ Transition to large group
- ✓ Conduct steps 1-10; or 1-11 if applicable
- ✓ Begin discussion "What do you notice?"
- ✓ Transition back to desks
- ✓ Ask the "Why?" {remember to mention target/goal or focus}
- ✓ Take Away/Quote
- ✓ Learning Goal/Outcome {Students will be able to...}

**Materials:** Teacher Desktop Computer, PowerPoint, star sticky notes, STAR Fold Step Sheet, microphone

**Resources:** American School Counselor Association (ASCA, <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/>), FGCU "SafeZone" Training (<https://www.fgcu.edu/safezone/>)

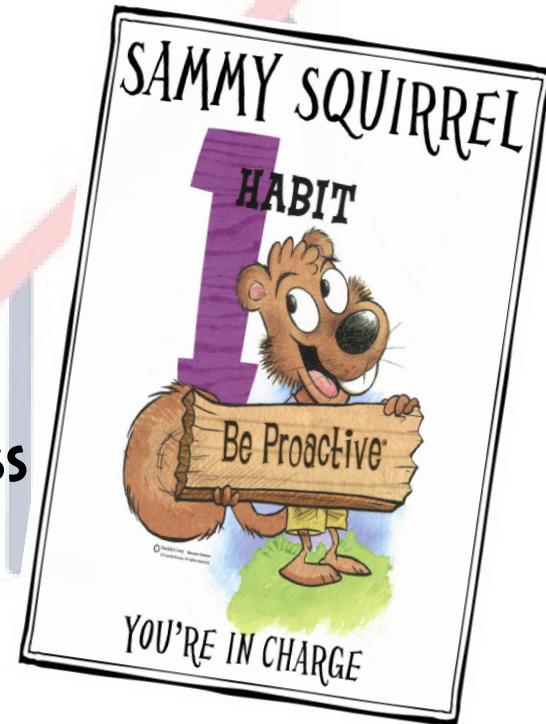
**Behavior Key**

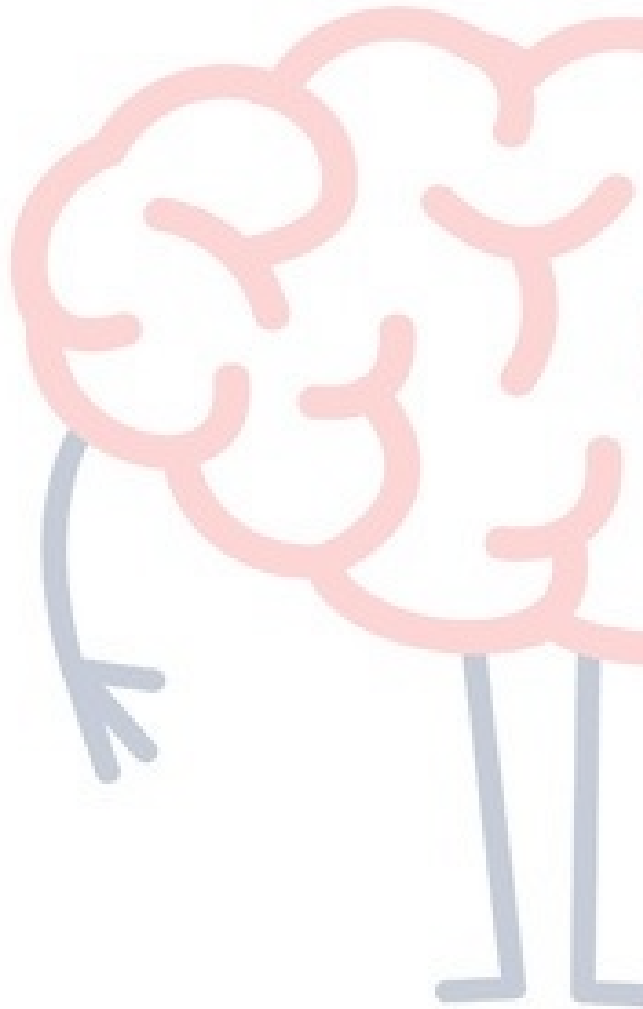
LS = Learning Strategies  
SMS = Self-Management Skills  
SS = Social Skills



# Star Fold Activity

- **S**tand respectfully and quietly
- **T**reat your star with respect
- **A**cccept others and their participation
- **R**emember that what happens in this class, stays in this class





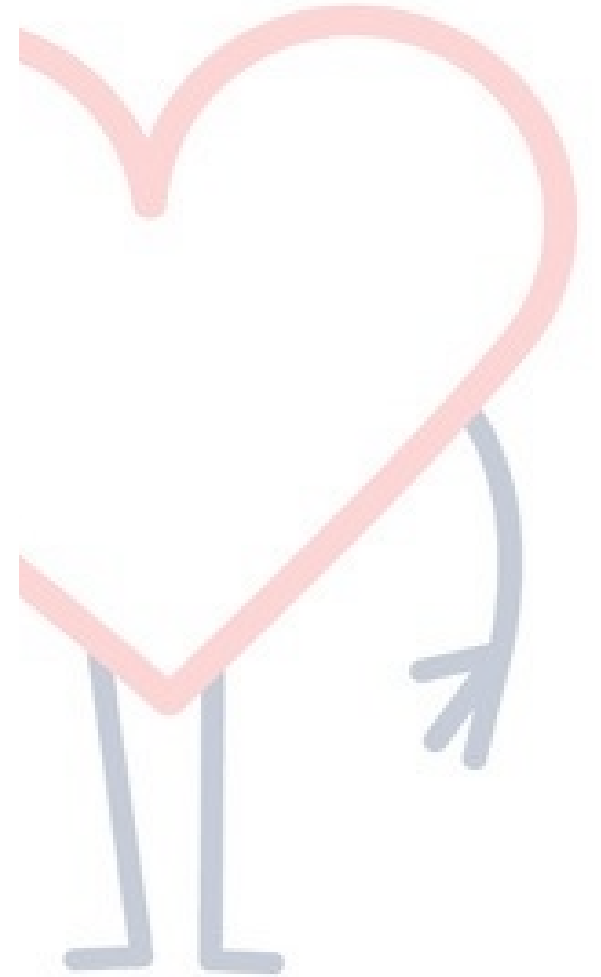
## Star Fold Activity

- Stand respectfully and quietly
- Treat your star with respect
- Accept others and their participation
- Remember that what happens in this class, stays in this class



- 1. Fold a point in your star if you have been a student at Sabal Palm since Pre-K or Kindergarten.**
- 2. Fold a point in your star if you have ever moved to a new house or had a family member move in with you.**
- 3. Tear a small rip in your star if you have ever made fun of someone whether you "think" they deserved it or not.**
- 4. Tear a small rip in your star if you have ever been made fun of.**
- 5. Fold your star in half if you have ever been disrespectful to an adult or teacher at Sabal Palm.**
- 6. Fold your star in half if you have ever been disrespectful to your parents or a family member at home.**
- 7. Hold your star in the air if you have ever asked for help when you needed it.**
- 8. Cover your star with your hands, or palm, if you have ever felt lost or like you needed help.**
- 9. Crumple your star into a ball if you think being a kid "now a day" is hard. \*uncrumple your star\***
- 10. Let go of your star, let it drop to the floor if you know that you are strong and that working together as a class (in school), and as a family (at home) will only make you shine brighter.**
- 11. Let go of your star, let it drop to the floor if you still have your star in your hand.**

***Now, look at this class, this family, this constellation (group of stars) and tell me what you notice...***





What was Ms. Flatley  
trying to teach me/us  
today?



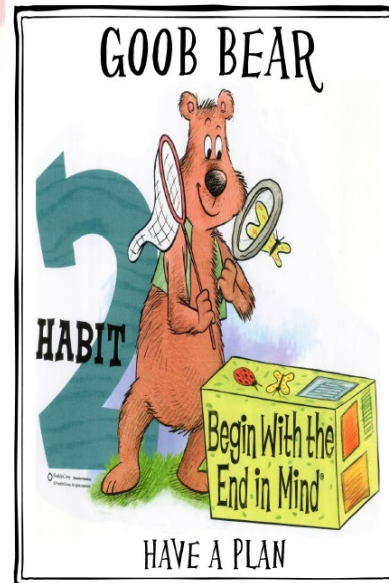
# why?

What was the target/goal  
or focus of today's lesson?

**Take-Away:**

***“How you make other people  
feel says a lot about you.”***

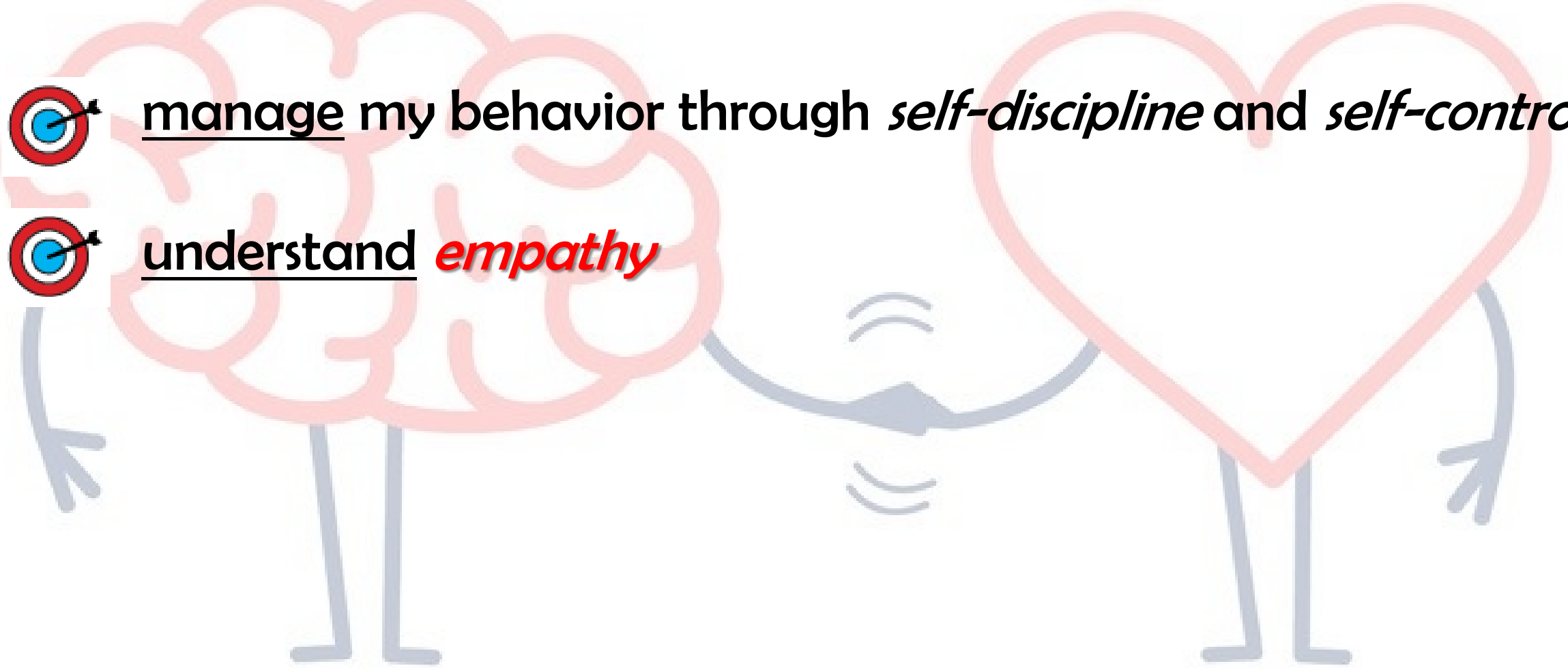
**Unknown**



# I will be able to...

🎯 manage my behavior through *self-discipline* and *self-control*

🎯 understand *empathy*



# Star Fold Activity

- Stand respectfully and quietly
- Treat your star with respect
- Accept others and their participation
- Remember that what happens in this class, stays in this class



- 1. Fold a point in your star if you have been a student at Sabal Palm since Pre-K or Kindergarten.**
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***Now, look at this class, this family, this constellation (group of stars) and tell me what you notice...***



## IV. Kindness Initiatives at Sabal Palm Elementary School (SPE)

In this section of my application, I wanted to include a few other initiatives that I have conducted and plan to continue to conduct during my years as the School Counselor at SPE.

### a. Kindness Month

*Please see video titled “Kindness Month at SPE” that was included to support this part of the application.* This video is compiled of photos of when students had the opportunity to share and spread kindness throughout our school. Students were able to write poems or essays, draw pictures and make posters and several also made short presentations, using Microsoft PowerPoint, digitally illustrating what kindness means to them. We called this “Create with Kindness.”

### b. School Newsletter

Below is an excerpt from our recent school newsletter that is published quarterly with messages from staff and updates of what is going on around school. I always acknowledge students for their amazing work, provide updates on my role as a School Counselor and encourage family connections at home.



As we end a new quarter and start another, I encourage our hawks continue to spread kindness throughout our school and community. This year has been an interesting year with lots of newness and changes. At times those changes can frustrate us however we always want to make sure we give and receive with kindness. Also, taking deep breaths and trying our best to put on a smile, even when times are tough, is a great coping skill. I am excited to continue kindness initiatives with our students this year, in addition to teaching lessons on empathy, conflict resolution and other life skills.

As always, if there is ever a student or family need, please do not hesitate to contact me. Our school is supported by several community organizations that love the chance to give to our Hawks. A great resource to keep in mind is Collier Cares. You can check them out [here](#).

Thank you for continuing these conversations at home with your students and supporting their life skills. Don't forget our favorite of the 7 Habits: #1 Be Proactive and #2 Begin with the End in Mind.

### c. **Shoe Tying Club**

During my first few years as a School Counselor I recognized the need to teach a life skill that I did not think that I would teach. The lesson was tying shoes. I had observed that students, even in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, did not know how to tie their shoes. I decided to act and create the “Secret Society of Shoe Tyers” at our school, introducing how to tie shoes to students in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grades. This was a lesson for me as a School Counselor in recognizing the diverse background of the students in our school and the socio-economic barriers that our population faces. In addition, our school is one of several schools in Collier County that receive an annual shoe donation from Laces of Love (<https://lacesoflove.org/>). In a Thank You Letter to them last year I noted this: *These shoes have become more than just clothes to our students. These shoes provided our students with higher levels of self-esteem and confidence; younger Hawks have even been learning how to tie their shoes!* **Please see video titled “Secret Society of Shoe Tying” that was included to support this part of the application.**



## **V. Letter of Recommendation**



January 23, 2023

Dear Grant Review Committee,

I whole-heartedly recommend Ms. Jamie Flatley for the *Stand Up for Justice Award*. I have known Ms. Flatley since I began teaching at Florida Gulf Coast University in 2016. Ms. Flatley was one of my school counseling students and is dynamic, empathetic, positive, and eager to make a difference in the lives of students. She has since graduated and practices as a school counselor. In recognition of her talent and leadership in this role, our School Counseling Program asked Ms. Flatley to assist in the clinical training of our school counseling students and she accepted an adjunct position at FGCU as a University Supervisor of Internships. Ms. Flatley not only mentors others, she seeks out professional development to continue to grow as an educator and adapt to the ever-changing needs of her students.

Ms. Flatley has included in her application an activity that she delivered to third-fifth grade students on empathy. She was inspired by a Safe Zone training that we participated in during Group Counseling class. This lesson indicates several key things in consideration of the award: Ms. Flatley (a.) integrates professional development effectively, (b.) implements strategies to support understanding and respect among students, and (c.) takes action to counteract harmful behaviors against students through use of proactive lesson design. This is just one example of many thoughtful and justice-oriented lessons that Jamie delivers through her comprehensive school counseling program.

As an educator whom we have trusted in the real-world training of our school counseling students, I can think of no other who better exemplifies the intent of the *Stand Up for Justice Award*. Please consider Ms. Jamie Flatley for this award as she continues to be a leader in education.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [atilman@fgcu.edu](mailto:atilman@fgcu.edu) or call me at (239) 745-4444.

Sincerely,

Ann L. Tilman, Ed.D., SB-RPT  
Assistant Professor, School Counseling  
College of Education, Florida Gulf Coast University



## VI. Testimonials

As an Adjunct Professor, also known as a “Counselor Educator,” I have created a safe space, an environment where my graduate students are allowed to stand up for themselves, speak out, provide suggestions and ask advice all in support of their future careers as School Counselors. Each semester, students are asked to provide feedback on their perception of my instruction through a platform called “SPol.” Here are some of the comments I received in support of this Award:

- *Jamie Flatley is a dedicated, organized, meticulous professional who made this class experience enjoyable and as stress-free as possible. She was an inclusive instructor who varied the way she presents information*
- *Professor Flatley is amazing! She truly took the time to listen to the needs of her students and adjust things to best help us. She would try new things to make class engaging and make sure we were well informed. I can't thank her enough for all of the hard work she put into this class.*
- *Professor was an amazing teacher. She is very helpful, and she thinks of the overall well-being of the student. She took the time to explain every assignment and requirement for the class and if we had any questions she never made us feel dumb.*
- *Went out of her way to get answers, extremely approachable, always had a list to make sure she gave us all the info and all the correct info*
- *Professor made all info very easy to understand. She explained things well and was eager to answer any questions we may have had*
- *Jamie did a wonderful job giving us real world, practical advice about the world of school counseling. I found our meetings to be extremely valuable.*
- *Ms. Flatley presented and explained information clearly. She was always willing to go over things again so that we could grasp an understanding. Her communication skills are excellent.*

I chose to include these Testimonials because as a Counselor Educator I strive for the same goals as I do each day as Sabal Palm Elementary's School Counselor: My “Wildly Important Goal,” also known as a “W.I.G,” is to see **every** student **every** week **and** every class each week. The staff and students, as well as myself, have held me accountable. This goal is important to me because I love the students and staff at SPE and want to continue to be a trusted adult on campus that anyone can turn to. A W.I.G is credited through “Leader in Me” (7 Habits) by Stephen Covey.

## VII. Media

Follow me on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/flats\\_tweets](https://twitter.com/flats_tweets)



## VIII. Closing Remarks

I would like to thank the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples for the opportunity for educators and counselors alike to showcase their talents and the amazing work they are doing to support students in their stand for justice. I am just one fish in a sea of many educators who strive for this goal each day. “In a world where you can be anything, be yourself.” -Albert Einstein, among others.

## **IX. References**

- a.** American School Counselor Association (ASCA)
- b.** PBIS Model Schools
- c.** Safe Zone at FGCU
- d.** "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen Covey

## **X. Disclaimer**

No copyright infringement intended when submitting this application.