

Tribes and Teams Cheer
A Choral Readers Theater
By Carol Montgomery

Performance Time = about 35-40 seconds

Readability = grade 0.0, written for beginning readers

Cast (2+ or 2 choral groups)

Tribes

Teams

Voice

NOTE: Although this is written for two choral reading groups, it could easily be performed by a voice (e.g., teacher), followed by an echo.

The cheer could be done quietly, then louder and louder to build excitement. Or, ask the students to decide how to interpret it.

This script could easily be used as a launch into anti-bullying or teamwork discussions. What examples of positive teamwork can students suggest (e.g., families, athletics, tribal cultures, businesses, schools, builders, orchestras...)?

Vocabulary:

together
work
are
start

peace
right
fight
what's

along
heart
where
Love's

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Tribes: We are a tribe.

Teams: We are a tribe.

Tribes: We get along.

Teams: We get along.

Tribes: We work together.

Teams: We work together.

Tribes: Peace is our song

Teams: Peace is our song.

Teams: We are a team.

Tribes: We are a team.

Teams: We do what's right.

Tribes: We do what's right.

Teams: We work together.

Tribes: We work together.

Teams: We hate to fight.

Tribes: We hate to fight.

Voice: All in this world.

All: All in this world.

Voice: Feel in the heart.

All: Feel in the heart.

Voice: We work together.

All: We work together.

Voice: Love's where we start.

All: Love's where we start.

(Option: Repeat from the beginning like a round.)

Curriculum Links (Valid in 2012):

Anti-bullying:

WARNING: From what I've read, teaching anti-bullying behavior can actually create more bullying scenarios at a school. That's one reason why the second link below, which focuses on teaching students to NOT BE VICTIMS is so appealing. Remember to include BOTH aspects of this character-building concept.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_admin/admin/admin530.shtml

Education World's article "Students 'Stand Tall' Against Bullying about a proactive New York school district that "embraced an anti-bullying theme." Through a variety of methods and activities, students of **every grade** were encouraged to not only AVOID bullying, but also HELP the victims--even as a team. The 2008 article includes links to resources used by the school district.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_issues/chat/chat185.shtml

Education World's article "Ending Bullying By Teaching Kids Not To Be Victims" actually is an interview with author psychologist Izzy Kalman. Izzy Kalman explains his approach in his book Bullies to Buddies: How to Turn Your Enemies Into Friends. Apparently some schools that introduce anti-bullying programs actually end up with MORE BULLYING! Izzy Kalman believes educators and parents should teach their students and children how to **NOT be a victim**. Part of his point is reflected in this quote from the interview: "**Bullies don't commit suicide or shoot up schools. Victims do these things. If you think like a victim, you will be bullied by people throughout your life...One of the tasks of life is learning how to deal with people being mean to us...**" I am VERY INTRIGUED with this man's work. His website (listed below) has plenty of testimonials:

<https://bullies2buddies.com/>

http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/profdev/profdev182.shtml

Excellent article from Education World called "Life Lessons" by **someone who was bullied and how two teachers handled the situation differently**. The contrast of the two situation and results is profound.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/reading/ReadersTheater/pdfs/ReadersTheater025.pdf

Here's a **Readers Theater script** from Education World called "Lace Up Against Bullying." The story focuses on helping a bullied new student, rather than the bullies. It's clever, clean, and fairly easy. The 5-6 page script looks about second grade reading level, but is for grades 3-6. Cast = 12-13 (the new student only has two words). There are follow up questions and other ideas on this page.

See next page for teamwork, cooperation, and kindness links...

Teamwork and Cooperation

http://www.teampedia.net/wiki/index.php?title=Main_Page

“Teampedia is a collaborative encyclopedia of free team building activities, free icebreakers, teamwork resources, and tools for teams that anyone can edit!” NOTE: **Readers Theater is a team-building, cooperative activity--especially if the students are required to practice and perform without an adult directing every detail!**

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson172.shtml

“Folktales of Cooperation for Your K-3 Class” is Education World’s article on using folktales for teaching teamwork and cooperation. There are three international folktales mentioned (with links) that could each be used as a dramatic improvisation or script-your-own Readers Theater.

<http://www.sonoma.edu/kinesiology/ppep/experts/team.htm>

“Team Building” concepts, ideas, and PE activities by Zack Dee of Petaluma Junior High. According to this page team building is “group cooperative learning to toy and solve a challenge. Team building is structured so that everyone in the group succeeds and so that nobody in the group loses--everyone is a winner.” Besides some wonderful basic information for grades K-6, this page lists five annotated links to “Additional Team Building Resources.”

Kindness

<http://www.randomactsofkindness.org/Educators/Lesson-Plans/>

Home page of “The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation,” with lesson plans for elementary and middle school, information for educators, school activity ideas, classroom to community ideas, teacher appreciation stories, service projects, arts and crafts, reading and writing, and more.

http://character-education.info/Articles/Random_Acts_of_Kindness.htm

Character Education’s article “Ideas for Random Acts of Kindness” lists tips, activities, and links for implementing intentional kindness.

Note: While I was doing the research on anti-bullying, teamwork, cooperation, and kindness I tried several times to access www.lessonplanspage.com for possible helpful links for you, but the website wasn’t working. If you want more ideas you could check that site.

You Tube: Respect

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgidfFs-j4M>

Have Fun Teaching’s “Respect Song” (Classroom Mix Version) with positive lyrics including: “respect yourself,” “respect others,” “respect the school.” 2:55

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You Tube: Kindness

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwAYpLVyeFU>

“Life Vest Inside--Kindness Boomerang-- ‘One Day’” **You Tube VIDEO tracking an act of kindness passed from person to person.** About 5:00 minutes, even though it says 5:45 with credits. I didn’t listen to all the words of the song, but what I heard was fine.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SaHFj_68cKs

Sweet, gentle children’s song on random acts of kindness with photo slide show and the lyrics in large print for kids to easily read. “A random act of kindness is perfect and it’s free; it happens when we help a friend unexpectedly.” 3:28

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIn67iQHdzg>

“Veggie Tales--Lyle the Kindly Viking part 1” Veggie Tales are delightful animated musicals that are character-building. According to my son, Lyle, is a Viking who doesn’t like to do the mean Viking activities. Lyle likes to make pot-holders. 10:14

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bvDwEKPTWk&feature=related>

“Veggie Tales--Lyle the Kindly Viking part 2” Starts with a silly song by Larry. 9:27

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hflo-gl5zEE&feature=related>

“Veggie Tales--Lyle the Kindly Viking part 3” This part shows Lyle sharing, after which Lyle is confronted by other Vikings. 10:11

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7IIGzLCUak&feature=related>

“Veggie Tales--Lyle the Kindly Viking part 4” The Vikings learn to share. 6:37

You Tube: Teamwork

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jF80RqLkl6E>

“Team Work--Birds or People? Find Out” is an incredible video showing the creative power of teamwork. How’d they do that? 1:04

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87WJ7tW4g4k>

“Tool Teamwork--Handy Manny School for Tools” is a Disney animated short video showing the power of accomplishing a project with different tools being part of the team. A few Spanish words are included, but translated in context. 3:01

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAOSptet7wE>

“Crazy Japanese Marching Kids” Unbelievable teamwork called precision marching. The crazy stuff starts around :43. 1:18