

February “Kindness Day/Valentine Traditional Day”

Teachers, here is a Smarty Pants Original Activity for The Valentine Monster poem.

Reading Activity:

Print out the poem to use as a ‘read-aloud’. Make copies for readers.

Art Activity:

Children can draw hearts or other designs on the Monster pdf copy for ‘take-home’.

Group Project:

Fun and interactive option:

1. Get a poster board or a long sheet of white bulletin board paper.
2. Free-draw a **huge** ‘monster-looking’ character with a ‘sad mouth’. (Maybe some kids can do this).
3. Tape it on the wall in the classroom.
4. The kids can draw and cut out different colors, sizes, textures, and patterns of valentine shapes from construction paper, wallpaper samples, magazine sheets, etc. (Show them the old trick of folding the paper and drawing 1/2 of heart shape on the fold, cut out, and unfold).
5. You or child reads the poem while the class glues their hearts on the ‘monster’.
6. Draw a ‘happy mouth’, cut it out and paste over the ‘sad mouth’.

Discussion

Enhance the activity with discussions of self-esteem, kindness, anti-bullying, or other tolerance themes.

Extra To-Do’s

Let kids draw their own individual ‘Valentine Monster’ characters on paper and add designs or cut-outs in their own way.

Print out the monster coloring pdfs and let children decorate.

Let a child in the class be the 'VM' and let the other kids scotch-tape hearts to the volunteer "Valentine Monster."

Let the kids 'wrap up the teacher' with crepe paper streamers.

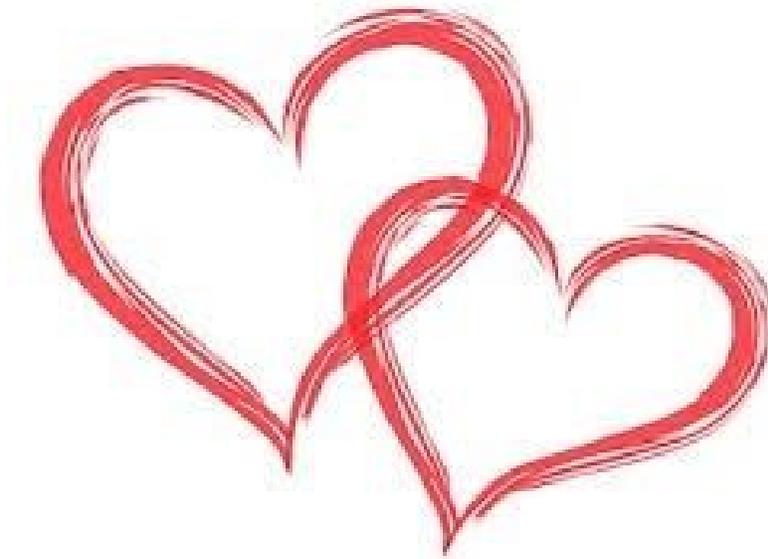
"Act-It-Out" with older kids and present to other classes or parents for a program.

Draw a "Heart-Person"

Children draw the parts of a person, using only the 'heart' shape in different sizes.

Example: Big heart/body; smaller heart/head; arms and legs are little hearts; ears, eyes, mouth are tiny hearts. Teacher, draw a sample to see how it works to show the idea to the kids. *Hint: the point end of the hearts attach to the body and head.*

Have a fun and 'all-inclusive' day of love and laughter!



The Valentine Monster

Once there was a monster
and he was mighty mean.

He stomped about the countryside
and yelled and cried and screamed.

He threw his toys on the floor.
He ran around and slammed the door.
He never said, "excuse me, please",
or used a tissue when he sneezed.

And when the Monster roamed the *moors*,
the people locked their cottage doors.
They closed their curtains, stayed inside,
and climbed under their beds to hide.

The children in the village town

had a meeting and they found -
the monster wasn't mean or bad.
The monster was alone and sad.

“Let's be his friend, so he won't be mad.
“We'll make some valentines to make him glad.”
They covered him from feet to head
with valentines all pink and red.

And then, in just a little while
the Monster grinned a friendly smile.
His big heart was on the mend
because he had so many friends!