Command & Cuddles

TEACHER CORNER • FREE CLASSROOM RESOURCE

Give from the Heart: A Christmas Lesson

Use with **Sarge and Arwen's Great Santa Stakeout** by R. L. Sarwen (book release: November 27, 2026). No copy yet? The lesson works with any read-aloud about friendship or giving.

Ages 4-6 · PreK-1



At a glance

Time: About 25 minutes
Materials: The book, crayons, scissors
Goal: Celebrate giving without spending a cent.
Today's Choice: Choose to give from the heart.

What's inside

Teacher notes	p. 2
My Gift From the Heart	p. 3
Kindness Gift Tags	p. 4

Today's Choice: Choose to give from the heart.

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TEACHER NOTES

Teacher Notes

Read aloud (about 10 minutes), talk (5 minutes), then make and give (10 minutes).

Before reading

- Ask: **"What is a gift?"** Then ask: **"Can a gift be something you can't wrap?"** Collect ideas: a smile, helping, sharing, a kind word, a drawing.
- Say: "Today we will listen for ways Sarge and Arwen show they care."

During reading: stopping points

1. **Pause when the friends make their Christmas Eve plan.** "What job does each pup have? How do they work as a team?"
2. **Pause at a moment when Sarge is tempted by the treats.** "How does Sarge feel? Show me with your face. What choice could he make?"
3. **Pause near the end, when the friends are together.** "How do Sarge and Arwen show they care about each other?"

After reading: make and give

- **My Gift From the Heart** (p. 3): children draw a gift they can give that isn't a thing. Write their words on the line.
- **Kindness Gift Tags** (p. 4): color, cut, and give a tag to a classmate, a family member, or a school helper.

Good to know

- Not every family celebrates Christmas. A **Winter Giving** version with no holiday references is also free in the Teacher Corner.
- Keep gifts no-cost and no-touch if you prefer: high-fives, kind words, and help all count.
- **Extra support:** let children point to a picture on the page to choose their gift.
- **Stretch:** ask "How do you think your friend will feel when you give it?"

Today's Choice: Choose to give from the heart.

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My Gift From the Heart

Name _____ Ages 4-6 · PreK-1

Draw a gift you can give that isn't a thing. It could be a smile, help, or a kind word!


A smile



Help


Sharing


Kind words



I can give

Grown-ups: write the child's words on the line.

Today's Choice: Choose to give from the heart.

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Kindness Gift Tags



Name _____ Ages 4-6 · PreK-1

Color the tags. A grown-up helps cut them out. Give one to someone special!

A big smile for you!



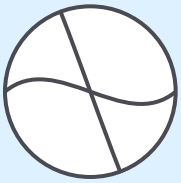
To: _____ From: _____

I will help you.



To: _____ From: _____

Let's share!



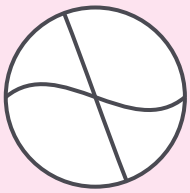
To: _____ From: _____

You are a good friend.



To: _____ From: _____

Let's play together!



To: _____ From: _____

Thank you!



To: _____ From: _____

Today's Choice: Choose to give from the heart.

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