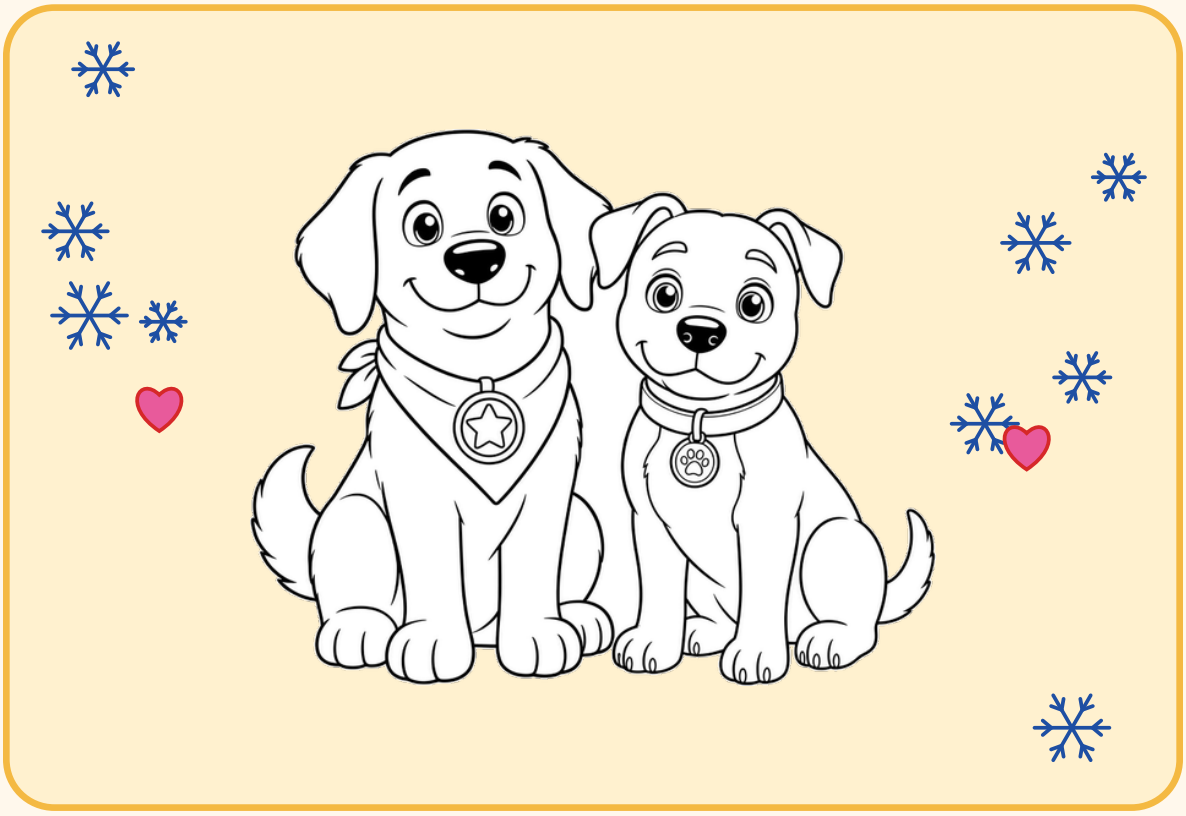
Command & Cuddles

TEACHER CORNER • FREE CLASSROOM RESOURCE

Winter Giving: A Warm Hearts Lesson

No holiday references. Pairs with **Command & Cuddles: The Adventures of Sarge & Arwen** (Book 1) by R. L. Sarwen, or any read-aloud about friendship and sharing.

Ages 7-10 · Grades 2-4



At a glance

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

What's inside

Teacher notes	p. 2
Kindness Coupon Book	p. 3
Kindness Lookout Log	p. 4
Giving Chain & Reflection	p. 5

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

- Make a two-column chart: **"Gifts you can buy"** and **"Gifts from the heart."** Fill in a few ideas together.
- Ask: **"Which kind of gift lasts longer? Why?"** Tell students to listen for gifts from the heart in the story.

During reading: stopping points

1. **Pause when the friends share or take turns.** "Why does sharing make an adventure better?"
2. **Pause when a friend needs help (for example, when Sarge gets stuck).** "How do his friends help without teasing? Is help a kind of gift?"
3. **Pause when a friend helps someone make a better choice.** "How can a good friend help you choose well?"
4. **Pause at the end.** "List three gifts from the heart you noticed in the story."

After reading: make and give

- **Kindness Coupon Book** (p. 3): students fill in the blank coupons, cut, staple, and give them away.
- **Kindness Lookout Log** (p. 4): for one week, students notice kind acts and record them. Share a few each Friday.
- **Giving Chain & Reflection** (p. 5): students write gifts they gave on strips and link them into a class chain.

Good to know

- This version has no holiday references, so it fits any classroom in December, January, or February.
- Keep gifts no-cost: kind words, help, sharing, and drawings all count.
- **Extra support:** offer starters such as "I can help by ___" and let students draw first.
- **Stretch:** ask students to plan a gift for someone at school they don't usually talk to, like a custodian or librarian.

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

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Kindness Coupon Book



Name _____ Ages 7-10 · Grades 2-4

Fill in the two blank coupons. Cut them out, stack them, and staple the corner. Give your coupon book away!

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: helping you with a job
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: going first in line or a game
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: reading a story together
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: a kind note from me
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: playing the game you choose
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: helping clean up
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: _____
To: _____
From: _____

KINDNESS COUPON
Good for: _____
To: _____
From: _____

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

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Kindness Lookout Log



Name _____ Ages 7-10 · Grades 2-4

Be a kindness detective all week. Notice kind acts, and do some too. No names needed: "a friend" works!

Day	A kind act I noticed	How it helped	A kind act I did
Mon			
Tue			
Wed			
Thu			
Fri			

Friday report: The kindest thing I saw this week was

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

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Giving Chain & Reflection



Name _____ Ages 7-10 · Grades 2-4

Each time you give a kindness, write it on a strip. Cut the strips out and link them into our class giving chain.

I gave: _____

I gave: _____

I gave: _____

I gave: _____

I gave: _____

I gave: _____

How does giving from the heart make our class a better team?

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

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