



# Lesson 1: What Does Philanthropy Mean in Your Life?

## Learning Target



- Define philanthropy and explain, “Why Project Heart?”
- Describe what giving looks like in daily life and in the community.



20-40 Minutes

## Lesson Overview and Teacher Prep

*[TEACHER TIP] Give the Middle School Pre-Assessment before starting Lesson 1 of the Project Heart Middle School Curriculum to measure students’ prior knowledge of philanthropy. After completing Lesson 10 of the Project Heart Middle School Curriculum, give the Middle School Post-Assessment to measure student learning and growth. Both the Pre- and Post-Assessment are located in the Middle School Educator Guide.*



- **Warm-Up (5 min):** introduces the concept of using talents to help others.
- **Activity (10 min):** focused small group discussions about giving 3Ts to help others, then explicit vocabulary instruction.
- **Optional Activity:** Play the ABCs of Philanthropy game
- **Reflection for Action (5 min):** asks students to apply their learning to make a difference with their 3Ts.
- Materials used as needed: L1W1, PowerPoint - MS Lesson 1 PP
- Standards from [Common Core](#), [National Council for Social Studies \(NCSS\)](#) and [National Standards for Economics](#).
- Celebrate your class’ start of Project Heart! Post pictures of your students engaging with the concepts in Lesson 1 to Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter @ottercares #myprojectheart



## Philanthropy Objectives

- Create a list of ways to apply today’s learning about philanthropy to family, school and community.
- Plan to incorporate philanthropy into daily and weekly schedules.

## Anchor Standards

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.9** - Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

## Common Core Standards

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.4** - Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.1** - Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

## Social Studies Standards

- **Individuals, Groups, & Institutions** - g. show how groups and institutions work to meet individual needs and promote the common good, and identify examples of where they fail to do so.





## Economics Standards

**Content Standard 10: Institutions** - Nonprofit organizations are established primarily for religious, health, educational, civic, or social purposes and are exempt from certain taxes.

# Lesson 1: What Does Philanthropy Mean in Your Life?

**Warm-Up: Do Your Part to Help Others** (Video clip prompt for quick-write activity - 5 minutes)



*PowerPoint Slide 1 - Play video clip <https://youtu.be/LpzUiSaAPfk> (play until about 1:00)*



- Inform students that because of Abby’s music videos and the exposure she created for Taylor’s childhood cancer, she helped to raise \$250,000 for a local cancer foundation.
- Allow about three minutes for students to complete the Warmup question on their worksheet L1W1.
- Call on 2-3 students to share their ideas with the class.



*[TEACHER TIP] Use this warm-up to discuss the difference that an individual can make.*

**Activity: Use Your 3Ts to Help a Cause Important to You** (Small Group Discussion about 3Ts – 10 minutes)

- Explain that Abby and Taylor met and became great friends. Because of their friendship, Abby wanted to help and make a difference in Taylor’s life.
- Explain to students that there are three ways they can make an impact on causes that are important to them. They can use their **time, talents** and/or **treasures**.
- Divide students into groups of four, and allow about two minutes for them to discuss:
  - Which experiences in your life drive you to want to help others? (1 minute)
  - How can you use your time, talents or treasures to help others? (1 minute)



*PowerPoint Slide 2 & 3 – Click to show discussion questions for reference*

- Call on one person from each group to share one example their group came up with.
- Explain that philanthropy involves giving time, talents and/or treasures to make an impact on others.



*PowerPoint Slide 4 - Play the video: <https://youtu.be/Flea9GE4k2w> (1:53)*



*PowerPoint Slide 5 - Ask students to write these definitions in the Activity portion of their worksheet L1W1:*

- Philanthropy - The process of giving back. The act of donating money, goods, services, time or effort to support a beneficial cause and create a lasting impact.
- Charitable Foundation - an organization that is created and supported with money that people give in order to do something that helps society.
- Explain that nonprofits and charitable foundations have the purpose of helping people for the greater good, and therefore are not taxed, since they are doing a service for communities.
- Call on 1-2 students to share their response to:
  - What does it look like when people and organizations work to meet people’s needs for the common good?
  - What does it look like when this isn’t done in communities?

*[TEACHER TIP] Use this activity to explore differences that individuals and small groups can make.*

**Optional Activity: Play the ABCs of Philanthropy game**





## MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITY

- Students will form teams and brainstorm actions of philanthropy based off a letter of the alphabet you present to them. Teams will see who can get to the finish line first by advancing spaces when they are the first group to come up with an action. Directions are included in the ABCs of Philanthropy Game resource.

### **Reflection for Action** (Pair-share and independent writing to apply today's learning to specific actions - 5 minutes)



*PowerPoint Slide 6 – Read slide and click for questions. Allow 1-2 minutes for pair-share on how they can use their time, talents or treasure to impact a cause important to them. Also, what kind of charitable foundation would collaborate with them on their idea to use their 3Ts?*



- Ask students to write their ideas in the Reflection for Action portion of their worksheet L1W1.  
**[TEACHER TIP]** Use this activity to further explore differences that individuals and small groups can make.

