A GUMBOOT KIDS CURRICULUM

AS SEEN ON CBC Kids

VALENTINE'S DAY CURRICULUM

curio.ca

AGES 4–8

GUMBOOTKIDS.COM

This teaching guide supports the Gumboot Kids Valentine's Day special, A Valentine Poem, found on CBC.

Please refer to General Considerations for Educators for usage guidelines.

IN THIS EPISODE DAISY AND SCOUT MAKE AND EXCHANGE VALENTINES GIFTS AND THE GUMBOOT KIDS GO ON A VALENTINES SCAVENGER HUNT.

POST VIEWING QUESTIONS/ PROMPTS

After viewing *The Gumboot Kids Valentine Special* have children think about what they have viewed by responding to some, or all, of the following prompts. Children could respond in a variety of ways either individually or as a large group. For example, children could respond by making something with loose parts, sharing their ideas verbally with a friend, drawing a picture, recording a video on a tablet, or creating a brief written response.

- What did you enjoy about this Valentine's special with Scout, Daisy and the Gumboot Kids?
- What in nature represents friendship and love? (Eg: Tulips, roses, gems, for everyone this can be different! Rainbows, sunshine, you name it.)
- How can you show someone you appreciate them?
- What makes a good friend?
- How can you show someone you care about them?
- Who are you grateful for?
- What can we do to show our gratitude to our friends and family? (Saying something kind, helping them, making them a card, spending time with them, etc.)
- What can we do to show our love for the planet? (Plant a tree, plant some seeds, help clean up a park, or a beach, be gentle and respectful of nature and all living beings, etc.)

LET'S GO OUTSIDE!

Valentine Picnic and Kindness Tree

Lets go outside! Valentines Day is all about appreciating each other and demonstrating kindness and love. This is a two part activity—preparation before the event and a valentines picnic. As you will be outside for quite awhile doing this activity it is important to make sure the children have been told prior to the activity to come fully prepared with appropriate outdoor clothing so they can be comfortable outside for a longer period of time.

The purpose of the activity is to hold a picnic with someone important in the lives of the children. This might be a buddy class, a group of important helpers in the school such as the secretary, custodian, librarian etc. or it could be other adults that are important in the children's lives such as family members or friends. Decide who will be invited and create invitations. Depending on the children you work with you may wish to create picnic invitations individually or make one big one as a whole class. You may want to organise for the children to bring special treats to share or have everyone bring their own food. Be mindful of including individuals with food allergies or preferences if you choose to share food.

If possible choose a tree or bush to be the meeting place for your picnic. Prior to the day of the picnic have the children create an art piece for each picnic attendee that shares why that person is important in the children's lives. For example, children could make paper hearts and write or draw something special about their invitee on the heart. The decorations can then be hung on the tree or bush on the day of the picnic and shared with the attendees during a special moment of thanks or reflection. Once a date is picked, decorations are made and invitations are sent it's time for a picnic!

To make the picnic special for all attendees you might want to select a story or poem to read at the beginning to set the tone for the event around the theme of friendship, love or thankfulness. You could even have the children learn Jessie Farrell's song *My Valentine (Will You Be Mine?)* to sing at the picnic.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Nature Heart Art

In this activity children will be tasked to create a symbol representing love or friendship using items they find in nature. Depending on the age and capability of your students you can scaffold the activity to meet their needs. For example, you could ask students to all create a heart or you could leave the activity more open ended to allow students to create any shape or symbol that represents friendship or love to them. You could even take the activity a step further and have children write a few sentences explaining their symbol, what it means to them, and how it connects to friendship or love. To be mindful of the local environment consider using a camera or tablet to capture the student's art creations outside and rather than collecting the materials and bringing them inside.

To begin the activity go a for a walk around the neighbourhood. Find a place that is big enough for the students to spread out and have a quiet spot to work as well as a place that offers a variety of natural elements for the students to collect or use in place. Explain to the children that they will be using natural elements from this place to create a symbol of love or friendship. Encourage them to be creative with their designs and experiment with using different natural elements. Give the children time to explore the location you have selected with their bodies and senses. Allow the children to talk to their classmates about what they might create. Once the children have settled into the area have them pause and sit or stand quietly for a moment to consider what they might create. You could use the following prompts to help the students think about the task. What does friendship mean to you? What does it look like when you are being a friend? Think of a time when you felt particularly loved. How do you show love for the earth? For other people? Give the children time to create a visual representation. When they are ready use a tablet or camera to capture their creation. Once everyone is ready have the children walk quietly around to their classmates creations and look at them. Before going inside you could gather the children into a circle and have each child share something they liked about another person's creation.

MINDFUL MOMENT

Heart Map

In this activity children will create a map of their heart. You may wish to read "My Map Book" by Sara Fanelli as inspiration for this activity. As a whole class brainstorm what kinds of things we might keep in our heart. You will need to differentiate between the biological elements of a heart (i.e. veins, blood etc.) and the symbolic idea elements of what we keep in our heart (i.e. love, relationships, passions etc). For example, children might include names of special friends, pets or family members. They might also include things they are passionate about such as hobbies, cultural activities and skills they are learning. Places that

are of particular value could also be included such as a country of origin, the family cabin or even the local park. The most important thing is that each child's map should be representative of their thinking. Depending on the age and capability of the children a combination of words and symbols could be used the create the map. For younger children you may wish to give them a heart shaped outline to work within and for older or more independent children you could allow them to create their own map completely on their own. It is important to be mindful that the maps might be particularly sensitive or personal for some students and they may not want their map displayed. If you want to share the maps you may want to make sure that this is an optional activity.

My Valentine (Will You Be Mine?)

Music by Jessie Farrell

AVAILABLE ON:
SPOTIFY

gumbootkids.com/music

Pink and red paper hearts
Take us back to the start
When we would stay up very late
And write to all our Valentines

Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine
Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine

Chocolate hearts in all our hands
Smiles in love land
Friendship grows in kindness
Red and pink paper hearts

Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine
Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine

La-la laa la-la-laa
La-la la laa la-la-laa
La-la laa la-la-laa
La-la la laa la-la-laa

Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine
Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine

Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine
Will you be mine, mine, mine?
My Valen-tine, 'tine, 'tine

Pink and red paper hearts

GUMBOOT KIDS TEAM

Created by Eric Hogan & Tara Hungerford

Mindfulness: Molly Stewart Lawlor, Ph.D
Zoologist: Michelle Tseng, Ph.D
Botanist: Loren Rieseberg, Ph.D
Teacher: Sarah Beairsto, MEd

Developed for Television with Cathy Moss
Head of Production Tracey Mack
Music by Jessie Farrell
Illustrations by Kate Jeong
Photography by Michelle Tseng, Annick Violet
Scout & Daisy Animation Deanna Patridge-David
Additional Animation by Affolter Brothers,
Lynn Dana Wilton

We are passionate about connecting children with nature. We also love how nature teaches and reminds us to be mindful.

We would love to hear from you! Let us know if you have any feedback. We hope you stay connected as we continue to add new curriculums to the Gumboot Kids collection.

Follow us at **@gumbootkids**
Share the joy and wonder **#gumbootkids**

gumbootkids.com

Additional Resources

Soundwaves
By Jessie Farrell

VIEW NOW!

Learn About Butterflies
Gumboot Kids Curriculum

VIEW NOW!

FOR MORE HOLIDAY INSPIRATION:
Visit our Pinterest board at pinterest.ca/gumbootkids/valentines-gumboot-kids-curriculum