



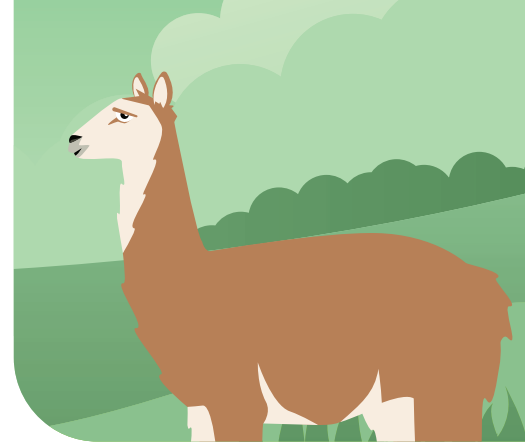
# GENEROSITY

Making someone's day by giving something away

## HOW YOU CAN SHOW GENEROSITY:

- Let a classmate borrow your supplies at school.
- Give some of your allowance to a local charity.
- Donate some of your clothes and toys to a local charity.

## Generosity DECEMBER 2023



### SAY IT:

Repeat the definition 3 times before you eat dinner.

*Generosity: Making someone's day by giving something away*

### KNOW IT:

#### ASK A GROWN-UP:

- What are some ways that you like to show generosity?
- Can you remember a time when someone was generous to you? How did that make you feel?

#### ASK A KID:

- Do you know anyone who shows generosity to others? In what ways are they generous?

### SEE IT:

There's a popular saying you may have heard: "It's more blessed to give than to receive." That sums up the idea of generosity. Many people have experienced the incredible feeling of being generous. We can be generous with our money, belongings, or even our time. Watch this book called *George the Generous Giraffe*: <https://youtu.be/XCv44gU7mmU>. In what ways did George show generosity to the other animals? How did this make the other animals feel? How did it make George feel? Discuss ways that you could be more like George and show generosity to others.

### BE IT:

Design a family generosity project to do this December. Look for opportunities in your community to show generosity. You could volunteer at a local food pantry, donate some toys to a Christmas toy drive, buy socks and gloves for the local homeless shelter, or even sign up to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. If you look around, you will find tons of opportunities to show generosity to others in your community. If you need some more ideas, ask your school counselor if they know of any ways you and your family can show some generosity this month.



december 2023

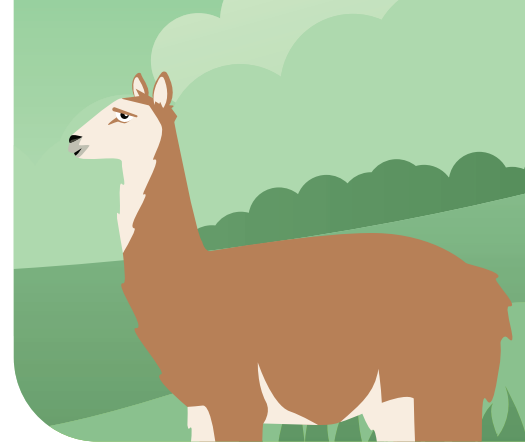
You don't have to have a lot of money to be generous. In fact, you can be generous with no money at all! We're spending this month thinking of what we can GIVE instead of what we can GET. That's the Big Idea of generosity, making someone's day by giving something away.

**GENEROSITY:**  
*Making someone's day by giving  
something away*

# PHASE

Generosity

DECEMBER 2023



## By the time kids hit upper elementary, they begin to realize their first major crisis: **Friendship.**

**This isn't just something that happens to our fourth and fifth graders.** Believe it or not, research is beginning to show that by kindergarten many kids are testing the power of their influence and seeking connections with friends at any cost.

Meaning, as soon as they become aware there are other people in the world besides them, they start making decisions based on the sort of friends they want to attract.

Here are a few ways you can help your elementary kids develop friendships.

- Help them develop self-confidence.
- Widen the circle of people around them to include adults you trust.
- Ask questions about what's happening in their friendships.
- Don't freak out! Every Phase is new for your child and you as a parent, so there will be some bumps in the road.

**So don't miss it.** Developing friendships is a part of being a kid, and each one is learning as they go.

# december 2023

GENEROSITY // VICUÑA // CELADON

**Wild ancestors of alpacas,** vicuñas are the smallest members of the camel family. They live in herds in South America, grazing on grasses and shrubs in the high plains of the Andes Mountains. Their luxurious brown and white coats have two layers, insulating them from heat as well as cold. For centuries, people have kept warm by making clothing and other items from their wool.

Camels in Africa and the Middle East have broad feet, but their smaller South American camelid cousins have narrow feet, which help them climb up and down rocky terrain. Only the front of the hoof touches the ground. When camelids walk, the front and back legs on the same side of their bodies move together, a gait called pacing.

The fur of vicuñas has long been prized by humans, and clothing made from it is very expensive. During the time of the Incan Empire, it is thought only the emperor and nobility could wear it. The animals were captured and sheared, but then usually let go. Occasionally they were used for meat. With the arrival of Spanish colonists, vicuñas were hunted almost to extinction. Today there are laws protecting them, and their numbers have rebounded.

Vicuñas can be caught and sheared only during sanctioned round-ups. In Peru, one of these occurs during the colorful Chaccu Festival, which celebrates vicuñas as well as pre-Incan and Incan culture. Only the wool on a vicuña's back and sides is sheared, and the hanging white fur on the chest and legs is left undisturbed. An individual vicuña is shorn every two or three years, and herds are returned to the wild after the roundup.

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For centuries, the wool of vicuñas has kept some humans toasty warm.

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GENEROSITY // VICUÑA // CELADON

Named for a ceramic glaze that originated in China about 1000 years ago, the color celadon is a soothing pale green. European collectors admired pottery with this glaze, and it is thought the name Celadon came from a hero in a 17th Century French novel. (Not all scholars buy this theory.) A superstition about celadon wares was that if poisoned food were put into a piece, it would break or change color! While the pottery doesn't have that superpower, its color does have the power to calm, with jade and gray undertones and tranquil blue components. As with many other shades of green, celadon suggests renewal and abundance.

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