

Mission Complete Medals - Levels C - D

GRATITUDE

To support students to reflect on kindness, teamwork, and connection by creating and exchanging Mission Complete Medals. Through giving and receiving appreciation, students strengthen social awareness, empathy, and class unity at the conclusion of the Playful Astronauts journey.



Learning Intentions

Students aim to recognise and celebrate kindness and support shown by their peers.

Students aim to practise expressing gratitude by creating a medal with a kind message.

Students aim to reflect on how they and others contributed positively to the class journey.



Success Criteria

I can create a paper medal with a kind word, picture, or symbol.

I can give my medal to a peer respectfully.

I can share or communicate why I chose to give my medal to that person.



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Duration: 15 - 20 minutes

Objective

To support students to reflect on kindness, teamwork, and connection by creating and exchanging Mission Complete Medals. Through giving and receiving appreciation, students strengthen social awareness, empathy, and class unity at the conclusion of the Playful Astronauts journey.

Players

Whole class or small groups.

Materials

- Pre-cut circles of card or paper
- Ribbon or string (optional)
- Coloured pencils
- Optional: stickers, foam shapes, textured decorations
- AAC devices or communication boards
- Optional: name cards or class photo board for peer selection

Setup

1. Prepare accessible workspaces with all materials within reach.
2. Explain the purpose using simple, supportive language:
 - “Astronauts celebrate when a mission is complete.”
 - “Today we are celebrating kindness and helping.”
3. Model a sample medal, showing a simple kind message or symbol.
4. Revisit class norms:
 - “We use kind words.”
 - “Everyone gets a medal.”
5. Display visual sentence starters if helpful:
 - “I like you because...”
 - “Thank you for...”
 - “You are good at...”



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Gameplay / Activity Steps

Step 1 – Create the Medal

- Each student creates one medal (or more if time allows).
- Students write, draw, or select a symbol to show appreciation for a peer.
- Messages may include:
 - kind words
 - simple phrases
 - drawings (heart, star, smile)
- Adults support with spelling, scribing, or symbol selection as needed.
- Emphasise effort and meaning over neatness.

Step 2 – Give the Medal

- Students give their medal to the chosen peer in a supported way.
- Encourage a simple spoken or supported sentence:
 - “This is for you because...”
- Alternatives include:
 - quiet handover
 - adult or peer reading the message
 - placing the medal in a tray or mailbox
- Acknowledge each exchange with positive reinforcement.

Step 3 – Celebrate and Display

- Choose one option:
 - display medals on a “Mission Wall of Fame”
 - students wear or take medals home
- Celebrate with clapping, waving hands, or visual applause.

Debrief / Reflection

Ask one prompt at a time, using visuals if helpful:

- “How did it feel to give a medal?”
- “How did it feel to receive one?”
- “What does kindness look like in our class?”

Accept responses through speech, gesture, pointing, AAC, or behaviour.



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Sensory-Specific Learner Variations

Purpose: To support regulation, comfort, and engagement during creative and social interaction.

- Offer textured materials such as felt stickers, foam stars, or raised outlines.
- Allow students to work at a quiet table or calm corner.
- Provide movement or sensory breaks between steps.
- Reduce verbal demands by using visuals and symbol choices.
- Allow students to make fewer design choices if overwhelmed.

AAC-Specific Supports

1. Prepare Key Vocabulary

2. Include or model:

- thank you
- kind
- friend
- help
- good
- happy
- for you

3. Model AAC Use

4. Adults model AAC while speaking:

- “Thank you.”
- “You helped me.”
- “Kind.”

5. Supported Giving

6. Students may communicate appreciation by:

- selecting a symbol
- eye gaze
- partner-assisted scanning
- yes / no responses

7. Reflection with AAC

8. Prompt simple choices:

- “Good / happy”
- “Like / don’t like”
- “Again / finished”



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Accessibility and Alternative Participation

- Provide pre-cut shapes and adhesive decorations to reduce fine motor load.
- Ensure materials are at accessible height for all students.
- Allow peer or adult assistance directed by the student.
- Alternative giving options include placing medals on desks, trays, or display boards.
- Focus on the meaning of appreciation rather than the method of creation.

Inclusion Notes

- Ensure every student gives and receives a medal.
- Normalise different communication styles and comfort levels.
- Allow students to opt out of speaking publicly.
- Encourage drawings or symbols instead of words where appropriate.
- Reinforce the message that kindness can be shown in many ways.

Additional Notes

Mission Complete Medals provides a meaningful, strengths-based conclusion to the Playful Astronauts journey. For Levels C–D students, the activity reinforces gratitude, belonging, and social connection, ensuring every learner finishes the program feeling valued, recognised, and proud of the role they played in their class crew.

