

3–5-year-olds

Play. Thank You.

Have the children stand in a circle with you.

Place four items in the centre of the circle; things which all the children like, for example, a teddy bear, a ball, a car, a doll.

Act as if you are thinking which item to choose then go and pick it up.

Hold it up and say the word, for example, 'Ball'. Have the children repeat the word.

Now turn to the child next to you and hand them the ball. Have them say 'Thank you' when they receive it.

Indicate that the child should hand it to the next child. Have that child say thank you. Repeat until each child has given and received the ball.

Now play the game again, this time letting a child choose which item to pass around the circle.

6–9-year-olds

Make. Thank You Mail box.

Make a Mail Box from a cardboard box. Decorate it and cut a hole to post the cards or letters through. Start this activity by doing it yourself. Make a card for each student in the class thanking them. For example:

Dear Sam,

Thank you. I'm happy you are in my class.

[Your name]

Write the students' names on the front of the card or on the envelope. Put your own cards in the box. Allocate students to be mail carriers and to deliver them to the correct people.

On the board, write some ideas for simple phrases to include. For example:

I'm happy you are my friend.

I like you.

You are great.

You are funny.

Now have the students make cards or decorated letters and mail them to their friends.

10–12-year-olds

Complete. Gratitude Chart.

With the students, think of who they might like to thank, what they would like to thank them for and how they could express their gratitude.

For example:

I want to thank....	For....	I'm going to...
<i>my mom</i>	<i>helping me with my homework</i>	<i>make a card</i>
<i>my friend, Maria</i>	<i>laughing at my jokes</i>	<i>sing a song</i>
<i>my grandpa</i>	<i>driving me to school</i>	<i>write a poem</i>
<i>my teacher</i>	<i>listening to me</i>	<i>make a gift</i>

When you have got all the ideas listed, have the students tell the class what they are going to do:

'I want to thank my friend, Maria, for walking to school with me every day. I am going to do a dance!'

Finally, have the students put these ideas into action.