Weaving Well-Being Character Strengths Pupil Book



Name:



Weaving Well-Being by Fiona Forman & Mick Rock © Outside The Box Learning Resources









Lesson 1

WHAT IS WELL-BEING? (PART 1)

Well-being means feeling good and strong in our minds and bodies, having energy, getting along with and helping others, knowing our strengths and feeling proud because we are doing our best. It means we can cope with the little problems and disappointments of life. It means enjoying life, being grateful for what we have and accepting ourselves just as we are!

My Well-Being Activities

Activity Think of all the things you enjoy doing and which help you to feel happy. Weaving Well-Being the more you weave, the better you feel!

Then draw two pictures in the frames below:





Activity 2

Weaving Well-Being



THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!

The Weaving Well-Being Rap

Here is the Weaving Well-Being rap which might

help you to remember what well-being is all about!

Decorate the frame around it.

Weaving Well-Being Rap - Fiona Forman & Emmet Murphy, 2017

Healthy body Strong mind Loving heart Being kind

Healthy body Strong mind Loving heart Being kind

Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!

Ups and downs They're coming this way But I⁴m gonna learn to cope Cause they're coming anyway

Ups and downs They're coming this way But I'm gonna learn to cope Cause they're coming anyway

Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!

You know being thankful? That'll play a part Like being grateful - take it to heart!

You know being thankful? That'll play a part Like being grateful - take it to heart! Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!

Helping others That'll be the key I'll learn to use my strengths and be proud to be me!

Helping others That'll be the key I'll learn to use my strengths and be proud to be me!

Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!

I'll make a difference And I'll have fun! I'll believe in myself It's my time in the sun!

I'll make a difference And I'll have fun! I'll believe in myself It's my time in the sun!

Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!

Weaving Well-Being, each and every day Don't have to be perfect to know that I'm okay! Don't have to be perfect to know I'm okay!





Homework

Lesson 1 Homework: My Happiness List

Make a list of some the things which make you feel happy. Think about your family, friends, pets, hobbies, songs, movies - anything which puts a smile on your face! Try to do some of the things on your list this week!

> Did you know that learning how to relax our minds and bodies can help to keep us strong and healthy?

Parental Signature/Comment:

Parents should sign this box to show that they have discussed each homework activity and to give any feedback if they wish. You can listen to some relaxation tracks in school or at home on the website wwb.otb.ie/WWB





Weaving Well-Being

What is Well-Being? (Part 2)

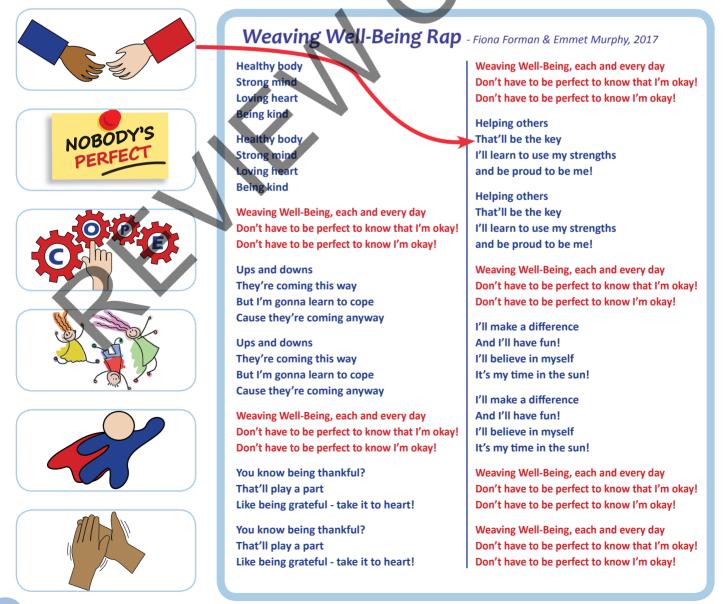
Well-being means feeling good and strong in our minds and bodies, having energy, getting along with and helping others, knowing our strengths and feeling proud because we are doing our best. It means we can cope with the little problems and disappointments of life. It means enjoying life, being grateful for what we have and accepting ourselves just as we are!



essonz

Do you remember the Weaving Well-Being Rap? In pairs, or on your own, link the well-being images with any verses in the rap which you think they match.

The first one is done for you.







Activity2

Well-Being Self-Assessment

Our Well-Being Self-Assessment Checklist can help you keep track of your well-being and ways to improve it.

Now complete the checklist by drawing a face beside each sentence depending on how you feel about that part of your well-being. Next week we will do it again and see if anything has changed.

Draw this		Today	Next Week
you feel you	I feel like I have plenty of energy to		
are doing well with this	do the things I want or need to do.		
part of your well-being.	I feel like I get along		
Draw this neutral face if	with others most of the time.		
you feel you are	I regularly feel		
doing OK with this part	<mark>grateful</mark> for many things in my life.		
of your well-being but you know you could do	I feel that I have ways to cope with		
even better.	disappointments and problems.		
Draw this	I often feel <mark>proud</mark> of myself for doing my		
you feel you	best.		
are not doing well in			
this area and you may	I often <mark>help</mark> others.		
need some help from your teacher, family or	T can accept that T		
friends.	I can <mark>accept</mark> that I am OK just as I am.		



#

THE MORE YOU WEAVE ... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!



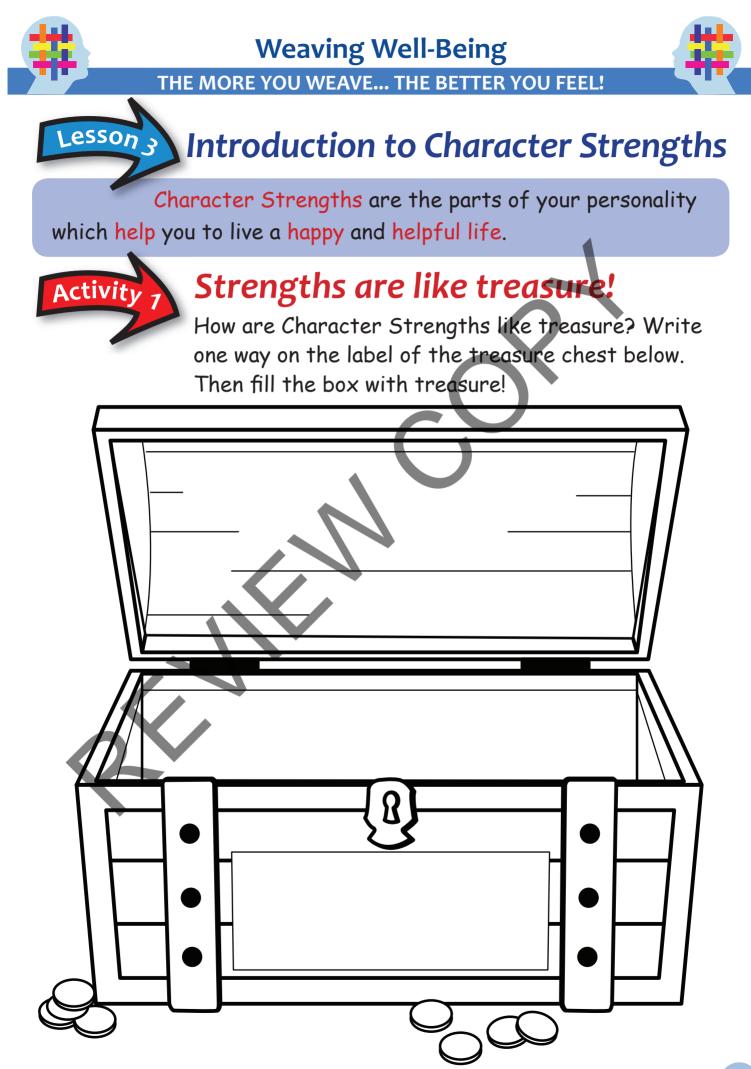
Lesson 2 Homework: My Well-Being Goal

Choose one part of your Well-Being Self-Assessment to try to improve this week. This should be something you have put a 🙁 sad or <u>…</u> neutral face for on your checklist. In the blue circle below, write your goal. In the red boxes, write two different things you can do to help you to improve in this area. Discuss this with I want to your family too! improve on this part of my well-being: This week you should use some of Parental Signature/Comment: these ways to try to improve your

well-being. Then complete your

Self-Assessment again next week

and see if anything has changed.







THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!

Activity 2

Character Strength match

We will be learning all about these 24 Character Strengths over the next few weeks. Now match the

Character Strengths to their treasure coins. The first one is done for you!

















- Self-Control
- Optimism
- Perspective
- Emotional Intelligence
- Open-Mindedness
- Curiosity
- Love of Learning
 - Teamwork
- Bravery
- . Kindness
- Gratitude
- Perseverance

- Humour
- Forgiveness
- Creativity
- Honesty
- Zest
- Caution
- Meaning
- Love
- Leadership
- Humility
- Appreciation of Beauty
- Fairness















Homework

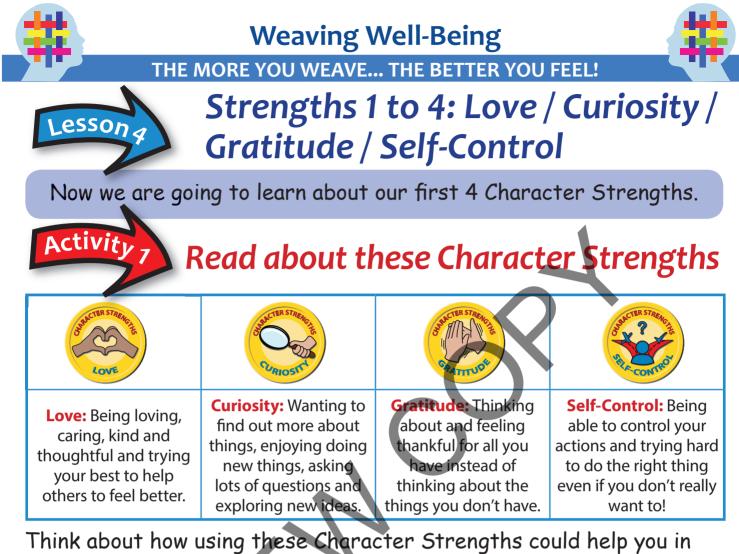


Lesson 3 Homework: Benefits of Character Strengths

There are many benefits of knowing about and using our Character Strengths. Here are 4:



Parental Signature/Comment:



school. Which one do you think you may have a lot of?

Now draw a picture showing a time when you used this Character Strength! Be a Strengths Spotter and see if you can spot anyone in your class using any of these strengths this week!



Activity

Weaving Well-Being



Being more curious!

Let's take a closer look at Curiosity. Think of a topic you are really

curious about. Here are some ideas.



Answers to riddles are: 1. A clock 2. Your name 3. An egg 4. Your age

Let's Focus on

ER STA







Lesson 4 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

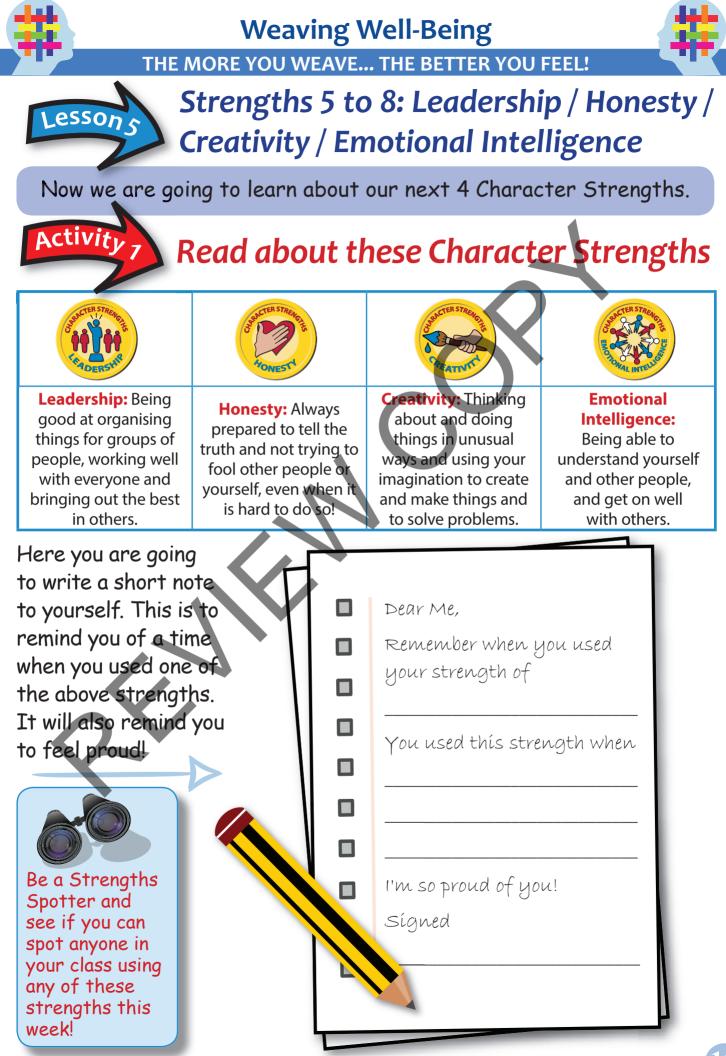
Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?

Parental Signature/Comment:

T IS NOT HAPPY PEOPLE WHO ARE TIS THANKFUL PEOPLE WHO ARE Unknown

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!





Activity

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Weaving Well-Being

THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!



Crazy-Combo-Creatures!

Let's take a closer look at Creativity. Use your creativity to design a new animal based on

combining two or three other



animals. Now you decide which animals you are going to combine and draw a picture below.

Sleebra

The animals I have combined are:

The name of my new animal is:





Homework

Lesson 5 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

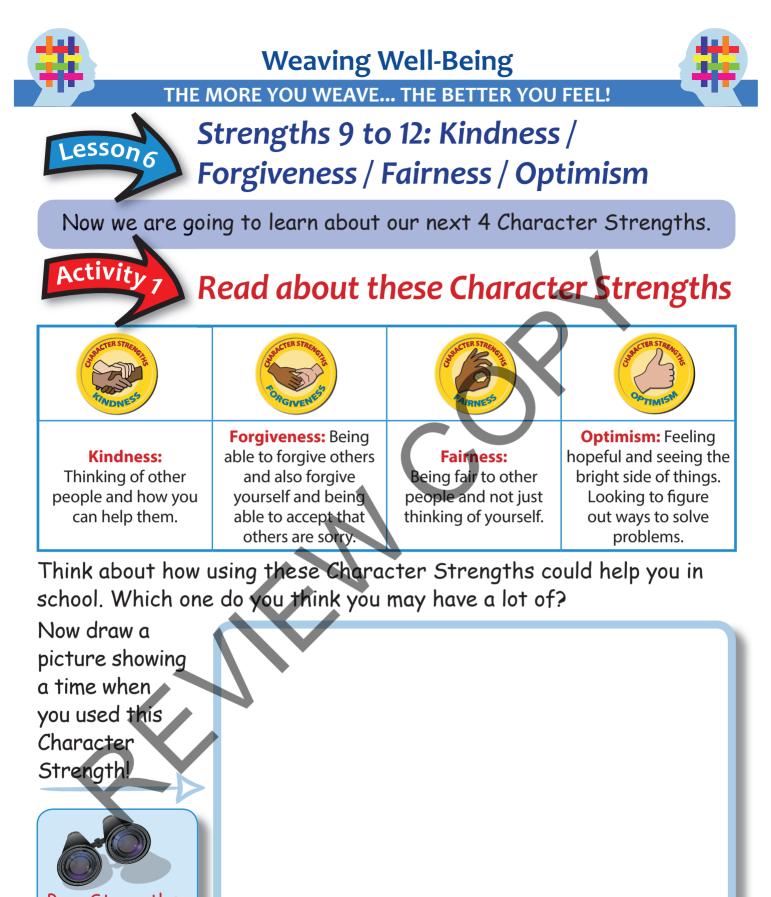
Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?



Parental Signature/Comment:

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!



Be a Strengths Spotter and see if you can spot anyone in your class using any of these strengths this week!



THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!



PARENTAL PULL-OUT

Parents: Please remove this centrefold carefully to avoid damaging the staples!

Character Strengths SPHE Programme - Parent Guide

This short booklet is designed to give parents a brief introduction to the "*Weaving Well-Being*" programme and to help them support their children as they complete the *Character Strengths* (2nd Class) section of the programme. The *Weaving Well-Being* programme is a well-being programme for children specifically designed to promote positive mental health and flourishing in children. The skills are based on current research from the field of *Positive Psychology*.

What is Positive Psychology?

Positive Psychology is concerned with the science of well-being, personal growth and resilience. It is founded on the concept of identifying and developing personal strengths. Positive Psychology uses evidencebased activities which help people to flourish, grow and engage with life on an optimal level whenever possible. Our lessons and activities introduce children to many of these strategies and activities which can empower them to become active participants **in creating, maintaining and boosting positive mental health** throughout their lives. Activities have been designed in accordance with the SPHE curriculum, and the Guidelines on Well-Being issued by the Department of Education and Skills (2015).

Character Strengths has been identified as one of the key pillars in the field of Positive Psychology. The **Character Strengths** programme consists of ten lessons which are designed to help children become aware of the different character strengths that we all possess to some degree and the benefits of using each one. They will also identify their own top strengths, which they can use in different ways to enhance their happiness and well-being. Each child has a Pupil Book which gradually builds into a highly personal portfolio reflecting their use and understanding of each strength.



Why are Character Strengths important and how can we cultivate them in our children?

Character Strengths are part of who we are. They are the elements of our personality which can help us to live a happy and helpful life. The classification of our strengths that is used in this programme (Values in Action or VIA) suggests that there are 24 different **Character Strengths** and that we all have different levels of each strength. This programme enables the children to identify their own key strengths and encourages them to use them as much as possible to enhance their well-being.

Research has shown that identifying your key **Character Strengths** and using them in different ways on a regular basis can lead to a wide range of benefits. These benefits, which can vary depending on the strengths used, include increased happiness, higher levels of life satisfaction, increased selfesteem, enhanced academic achievements and better relationships with peers.

In this programme the children are introduced to the concept of well-being in weeks 1 and 2 and the concept of **Character Strengths** in week 3. The children learn about four **Character Strengths** each week from week 4 to week 9 of the programme. The lesson names on the following pages shows the different strengths covered each week. In the final week they identify their own top five strengths.

To gain maximum benefit from the strengths, your child should be encouraged to use them as much as possible. There is a homework task each week which encourages practical use of the strengths. In order to help and encourage your child, you may find the following information useful.





Lesson 1: What is Well-Being? (Part 1)

In this lesson, children discuss and learn what well-being means and the implications of taking care of our wellbeing in our daily lives. Children learn that well-being is linked with feeling good in both our body and mind and it allows us to cope with little problems, enjoy life and accept ourselves just as we are. Other benefits of caring for our well-being are discussed in terms of friendships and feeling connected with others, having energy and being proud of our efforts. For homework, children are asked to make a list of things that make them happy. These can be activities, people, pets, favourite books, songs or movies and so on.

How to support your child: Talk to your child about the importance of taking care of their well-being. Discuss your child's *Happiness List* and what it means to them. Encourage them to do some of the things on their list this week where possible. Give examples of some of the things that make you happy. Discuss how you can care for or enhance your well-being as a family.

Lesson 2: What is Well-Being? (Part 2)

In this lesson children continue to explore and learn about what well-being means. They have an opportunity to assess how they are doing in relation to each element of their well-being by completing a simple **Self-Assessment Well-Being Checklist**. For homework they get to set a goal and decide on two actions they can take in order to improve that part of their well-being.

How to support your child: Review your child's well-being checklist. Discuss with them the reasons for the answers they gave. Ask them what support you could give them to change a neutral or sad face to a happy face. Help them decide what actions they could take to achieve their homework goal and encourage them to take these actions.

Lesson 3: Introduction to Character Strengths

In this lesson children are introduced to the concept of **Character Strengths**. They discover that there are 24 different **Character Strengths** and how we have different amounts of each strength. They learn about the benefits of using our **Character Strengths** and are asked to think about which of the strengths they have the most. They learn that they will be finding out more about each strength over the coming weeks and discovering what are their own top five strengths.

How to support your child: Discuss the list of 24 *Character Strengths* with your child. Ask your child if there are any particular strengths that they like or, that they feel they may have a lot of at this stage. Choose your own favourite strengths from the list and give your child some examples of how you may have used any of these strengths to help yourself or others in the past. Take the opportunity to notice and discuss the *Character Strengths* of others this week, perhaps other family members and of course, the strengths of your child.

Lesson 4: Strengths 1 to 4 (Love / Curiosity / Gratitude / Self-Control)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the first four **Character Strengths**. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of **Curiosity**. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.





Lesson 5: Strengths 5 to 8 (Leadership / Honesty / Creativity / Emotional Intelligence)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the next four **Character Strengths**. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of **Creativity**. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.

Lesson 6: Strengths 9 to 12 (Kindness / Forgiveness / Fairness / Optimism)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the next four **Character Strengths**. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of **Optimism**. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.

Lesson 7: Strengths 13 to 16 (Bravery / Open-Mindedness / Love of Learning / Appreciation of Beauty)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the next four *Character Strengths*. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of *Bravery*. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.





Lesson 8: Strengths 17 to 20 (Caution / Meaning / Zest / Perseverance)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the next four **Character Strengths**. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of **Perseverance**. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.

Lesson 9: Strengths 21 to 24 (Perspective / Humour / Humility / Teamwork)

In this lesson, children are introduced to the last of the 24 *Character Strengths*. A brief explanation of each of these strengths is shown in the first activity for this lesson. Your child is encouraged to think about how using each of these strengths could help them in school and which of the strengths they may have the most. There is an opportunity to focus on the strength of *Humour*. Children are encouraged to pick and try to use one of these strengths this week.



How to support your child: Talk to your child about the four strengths covered this week.

Discuss times when they may have displayed any of this week's strengths. Do they have a favourite and why? For the homework activity help your child to think of people or characters who may have one or more of these strengths. Share your thoughts on which of these four strengths you possess the most.

Lesson 10: Identifying and Using My Top 5 Strengths

In the previous six lessons the children have been introduced to each of the 24 **Character Strengths** and discovered the benefits of each of these strengths. This week they are reminded of each strength and the benefits of using our strengths to enhance our happiness and well-being. Their homework activity is to identify their own top five strengths. They are encouraged to use them every day to help both themselves and others.

How to support your child: Discuss the various strengths with your child. The full list of strengths is shown on the back page of your child's Pupil Book. Talk to your child about their favourite strengths and help them to choose their top five strengths. Encourage them to feel even better about their strengths by reminding them of times they may have displayed any of these strengths.

There are a number of relaxation and meditation tracks to support this programme available on the digital content section of our website www.otb.ie/WWB.



THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!





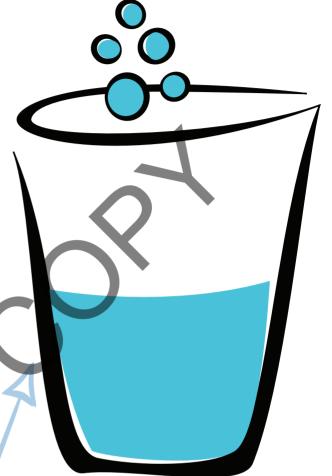
Half Empty or Half Full?



Look at this glass. Would you say that it is half empty or half full? Both are true, it just depends how we see it!

If you see it as half full, you could be an optimist because you are focusing on what is positive and hopeful.

If you see it as half empty, you could be a pessimist because you are focusing on what is negative.





Now decorate the empty part of the glass with some colourful patterns.

Now it's time to do our Well-Being Self-Assessment again. Do you remember completing it a few weeks ago and then choosing one area of your well-being to improve on? Turn to page 31 and you will see the checklist there. This time, it also has a part about using your strengths.



Using optimism can help us when we are faced with a problem or disappointment. Can you tell of any times when using optimism helped you in the past?





Homework

Lesson 6 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

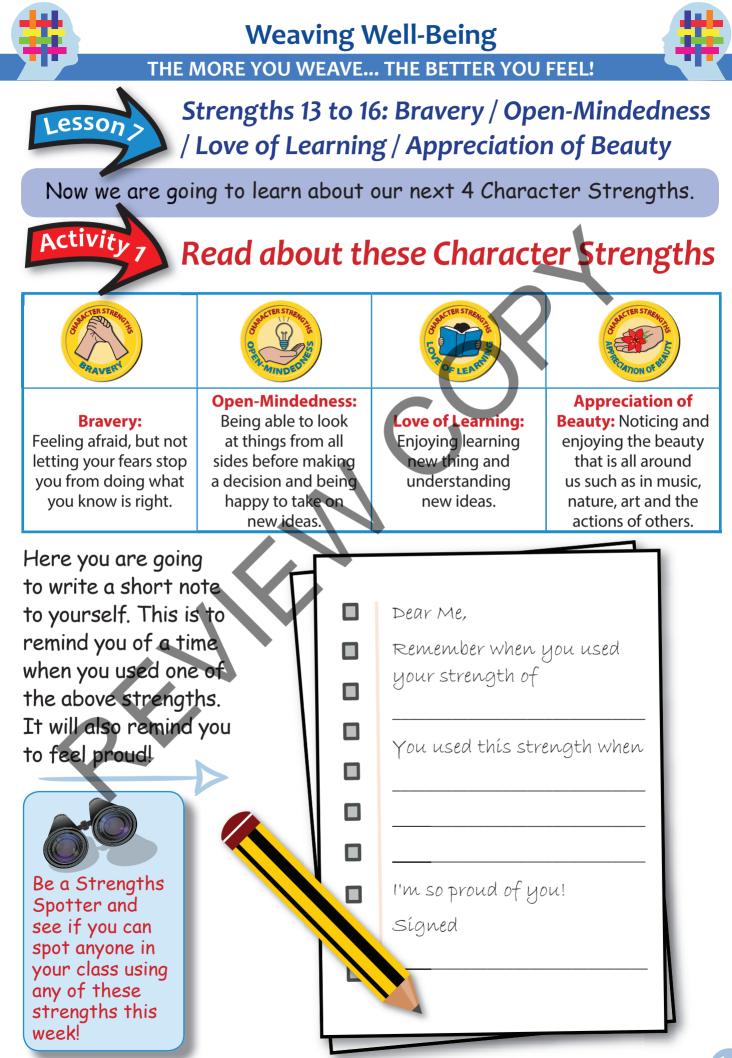
Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?

One of the most beautiful things we can do is to help one another. Kindness doesn't cost a thing. - _{Unknown}

Parental Signature/Comment:

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!



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Activity

Courage

is doing what

you're afraid

to do

- Eddie Rickenbacker

Weaving Well-Being



Let's Focus on

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THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!

Brave Self-Talk

We can help ourselves to feel brave by saying certain things to

ourselves. For example, we could

say: 'It's okay to feel afraid, but I won't let that stop me!' 'I've done hard things before, I can do them again!' 'I'm going to feel so proud of myself after I do it!'

What else could you say to yourself? Write some of the phrases in the speech bubbles here.







Lesson 7 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

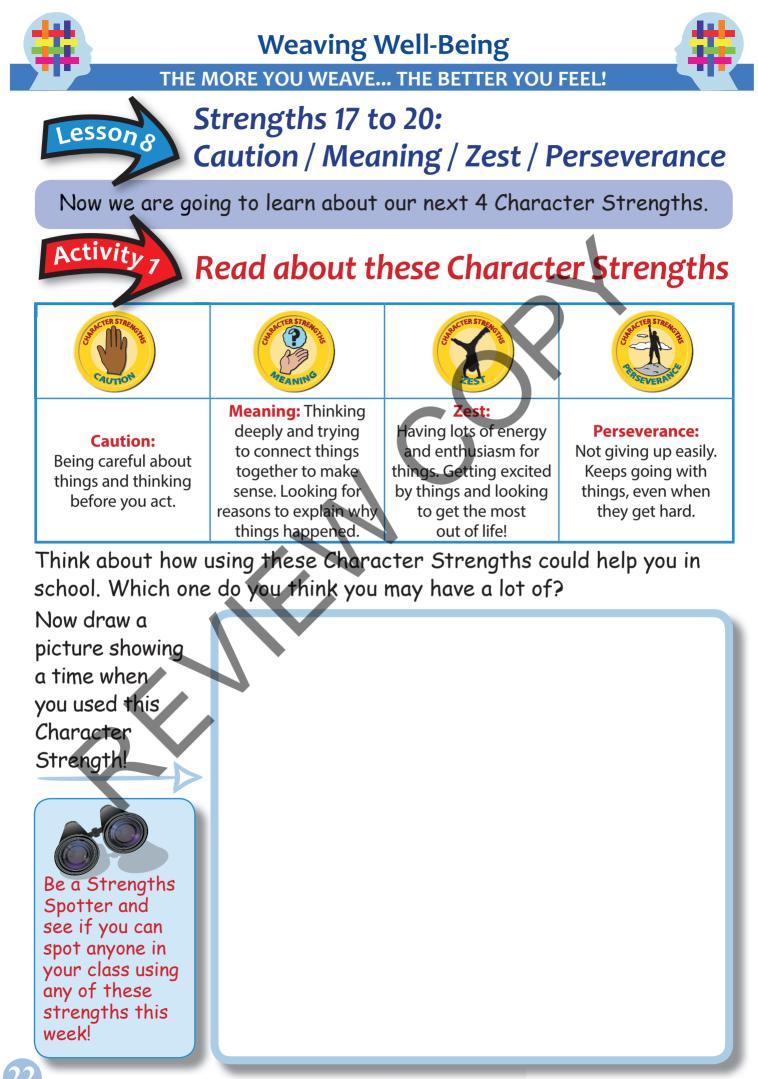
Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?

The mind is like a The mind is like a **PARACHUTE** It doesn't work Unless it is open

Parental Signature/Comment:

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!



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THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!

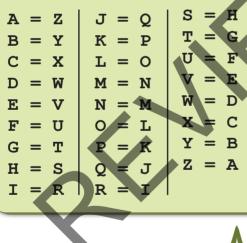


Crack the Code



Let's take a closer look at Perseverance. Use perseverance to crack the code and discover the message you can say when you want to keep going with things, even when they get hard.

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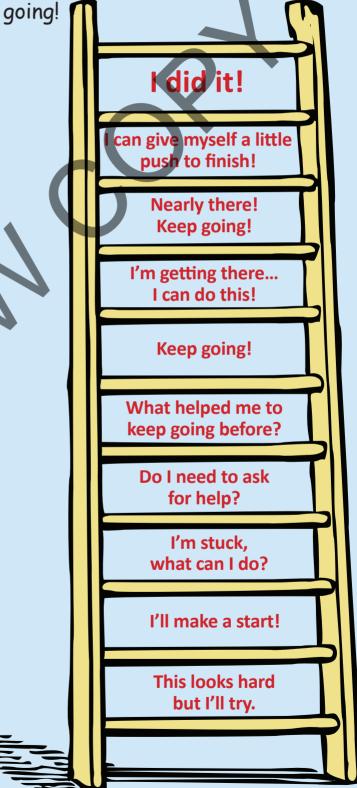
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Ladder of Perseverance: What can you say to yourself when something is difficult? Use this Ladder of Perseverance to help you to keep









Lesson 8 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer. - Albert Einstein

Parental Signature/Comment:

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!



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Activity

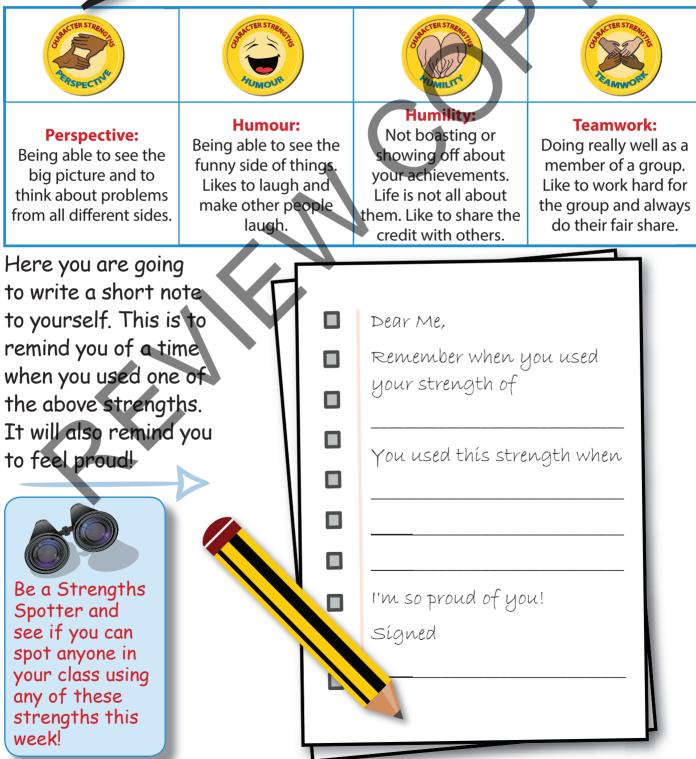
THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!



Strengths 21 to 24: Perspective / Humour / Humility / Teamwork

Now we are going to learn about our next 4 Character Strengths.

Read about these Character Strengths



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Activity

Weaving Well-Being

THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!

Let's Focus on

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Focus on Humour

Let's take a closer look at Humour. Here are some jokes that you might like.

> 'Knock knock.' Who's there?'

Cows go who?'

o, silly. Cows

Q: Why was 6

afraid of 7?

A: Because 7, 8, 9.

Cows go.'

b moo.'

Q; How does the ocean say hello? A: It waves!!

> Q: WHAT DO YOU CALL AN ALLIGATOR IN A VEST? A: AN INVESTIGATOR

Sad? A: Because his mom was a wafer so long. Q: What do

Q: Why was

the cookie

you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? A: Frostbite!

In pairs, take turns to read them to your partner.

Write your own joke or one of your favourite jokes your friends may have told you, in the box below. Share it with your classmates.

Q:
A:







Lesson 9 Homework: Exploring this week's strengths

Think about the 4 strengths we learned about this week. They were:



Try to name some people or characters (famous or not!) who have any of these strengths.

Person / Character:	Strength:

Pick one of these people or characters and think about why you feel that they have this strength.

Can you name any movie, song or story which features any of these strengths?

Parental Signature/Comment:

Choose one of these strengths and try to use it this week to help yourself and others. Think about how this makes you feel!



Decide which strength would be useful in the following situations.

1. You and your friends are playing a game in the yard and can't decide what the rules should be.

2. You have been asked to read a poem at the top of the class and you don't want to do it as you feel nervous.

3. You don't get picked to play on your team this week.







Using Our Strengths

Try to imagine what the world would be like if we all used our top strengths every day. What would there

be more of? What would there be less of?

Use words or pictures or both to describe it.





THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!



Lesson 10 Homework: Your Top 5 Strengths

Think about all of the 24 Character Strengths.

Talk to your family, and pick your top 5 Character Strengths. Write them in the coins below; then decorate the page.



Now that you know about your strengths, it's up to you to use them every day to help your well-being and to make the world a better place!

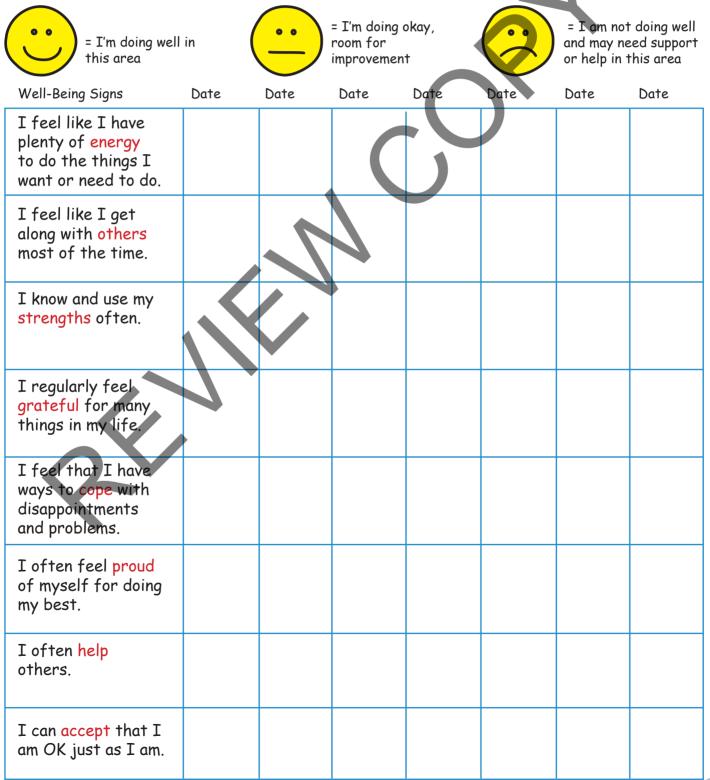
Parental Signature/Comment:





Well-Being Self-Assessment Check-Up

These Weaving Well-Being lessons have been designed to help you to notice and improve your well-being. Your teacher may ask you to fill it in from time to time to help you keep track of your own well-being. If you need help in a certain area, think of ways to improve on it and see if they work. Don't forget to ask your parents, friends and family for help, support and advice! Enjoy weaving your well-being!





THE MORE YOU WEAVE... THE BETTER YOU FEEL!







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