
✨ The Midnight Wish — Lesson Plan

Grade: Pre-K–2 | Duration: 40–50 minutes | CASEL Domain: Self-Management

Objective: Students will practice reflecting on the past and setting intention-based goals for the future using the wish-seed metaphor.

Essential Question: *"What's the difference between wishing for something and growing something?"*

Materials: The personalized story, Small pots and seeds (or paper cups), Paper stars, Crayons

Vocabulary: Wish, Midnight, Reflection, New beginning, Intention, Seed, Grow, Stars, Hope, Resolution

ANTICIPATORY SET (5 MIN)

Write "I wish for ____" on the board. Ask students to fill it in. Then add: "I wish to BECOME ____."
Discuss the difference.

DIRECT INSTRUCTION (15 MIN)

Read aloud. Pause at reflection. Pause at the wish. Pause at the planting. Emphasize: wishes aren't magic, they're commitments that need daily tending.

GUIDED PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Year-in-Review: draw 4 panels of the past year. Share voluntarily. Looking back before looking forward.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Write a "becoming" wish. Plant a seed. Create a star wish for the class tree.

CLOSURE (5 MIN)

Water the class wish-seeds together. Share: "This year I will grow into ____."

ASSESSMENT

Review wish stars for "becoming" vs. "getting" language. Check reflection panels. Exit ticket: "What does your wish-seed need every day to grow?"

DIFFERENTIATION

Support: Provide sentence frames: "I wish to become more ____." Use drawing for reflection.

Extend: Create a "Year Garden Planner" mapping wishes to monthly actions.

HOME CONNECTION

Send home a wish-star template and year-in-review page for families to complete together.
