

LIT KIT

KINDNESS



We Can All Be Heroes!

The MagicHouse
St. Louis Children's Museum

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Kindness means choosing to be helpful and caring to people, animals and your community, even when it is difficult. When have you done something kind? When has someone done something kind for you?

IN THIS KIT: STORIES OF FOUR ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO SHOWED KINDNESS IN THEIR LIVES. AS YOU READ, THINK ABOUT HOW KINDNESS LOOKS DIFFERENT FOR EACH OF THEM.

- Dolly Parton
- Jim Henson
- Gandhi
- Abraham Lincoln

DISCUSS: AFTER READING EACH BOOK, USE THESE QUESTIONS TO SPARK DISCUSSION.

Dolly Parton

- Dolly Parton experienced many hard things in her life. How did this inspire her to do good?

Jim Henson

- What did Jim Henson's grandfather teach him about making people laugh?

Gandhi

- How did Gandhi use nonviolence to make the world a better place?

Abraham Lincoln

- When did Abraham Lincoln choose to show kindness even when it was hard?

PLAY:

Roll the "Be Kind" cubes to practice different forms of kindness.



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ACT: LIVE OUT THE VALUE OF KINDNESS.

Dolly Parton started her Imagination Library to help all kids have books to read. Can you find a book you've already read that you can give to a friend or neighbor? Or, grab some paper to write and illustrate your own book to give away!

KEEP READING: Read more about these heroes, the times that they lived and the theme of kindness.

- "Coat of Many Colors" by Dolly Parton
- "Sojourner Truth's Step-stomp Stride" by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- "Jim Henson: The Guy Who Played with Muppets" by Kathleen Krull
- "Who Was Gandhi?" by Dana Meachen Rau
- "Be Kind" by Pat Zietlow Miller
- "Punch!: A Story about Kindness" by Michael Hall
- "Catching Kindness" by Kara Mitchell
- "Yours, Mine, Ours: A Celebration of Service and Community" by Arun Gandhi

*"If you see someone without a smile today,
give 'em yours." - Dolly Parton*

"My ambition was to be one of the people who made a difference in this world. My hope is to leave the world a little better for having been there." - Jim Henson

"Kindness is the only service that will stand the storm of life and not wash out."
- Abraham Lincoln

"I offer you peace. I offer you love. I offer you friendship. I see your beauty. I hear your need. I feel your feelings." - Gandhi

Please keep this insert inside the kit.

The Hero Quest exhibit was created by The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum. This project is part of the Fostering Character Through Children's Museums, a Lilly Endowment initiative designed to help children's museums develop or expand programs that encourage the development of positive character traits.



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