

**9 - Empathy
Lesson Plan
(Ability level: elementary to pre-intermediate)**

Grade level: Primary 1–2
Time: approximately 40 minutes

Suggested Activity 1: Debrief (approximately 5 minutes)

- T asks clarifying questions such as, “Where did Rose want to keep Fluffy?”, “Why couldn’t Fluffy stay at school?”, etc.
- T reiterates the meaning of empathy—*feel what others feel*. Explain that when Rose thought about how her family cared for her, she wanted a home for Fluffy too.

Suggested Activity 2: Feel what others feel at school (approximately 25 minutes)

- Invite volunteers to “act” the following scenarios (realia might be required):
 - A student taking their classmate’s stationery without permission
 - A student bringing a box of juice to the classroom and dropping it, making the floor very difficult to clean
 - A student receiving a low mark in their dictation and feeling visibly upset
 - A student struggling in PE class
 - A student being left alone in group activities
 - Students chatting loudly in the morning assembly when a guest is speaking on stage
 - A student jumping the queue at the tuck shop
 - A student getting paint on their shirt in art class and being mocked by their classmates
 - A student slipping in front of everyone in class
- Give the class a role to “play” after each scenario, e.g., “If you were the classmate whose stationery was taken, how would you feel?”, “If you were the janitor, how would you feel?”
- Move on to what the students could do in each scenario. Invite volunteers to share their ideas.
- Explain that depending on the scenario, there are things students could do to show their empathy, e.g., asking the question “Are you okay?”, giving their classmate a note of encouragement, inviting a classmate to join their group, showing respect to the speakers, etc.

Suggested Activity 3: Feel what others feel at home (approximately 10 minutes)

- Give students a few examples of showing empathy at home, e.g., “Your parent came home from work looking stressed.”, “Your sibling was upset about homework”, etc. Ask volunteers to contribute ideas, if possible.
- Write this on the board, “I feel what [the person] feels. I would _____.” Give an example to illustrate what could be done, e.g., “I feel what my mom feels. I would give her a kiss.”