



Can one good deed from an ordinary girl change the world? It can when she's Ordinary Mary - an ordinary girl from an ordinary school, on her way to her ordinary house - who stumbles upon ordinary blueberries. When she decides to pick them for her neighbor, Mrs. Bishop, she starts a chain reaction that multiplies around the world. - *Gibbs Smith*

BIG IDEAS To Reinforce



Encouraging Others, Kindness, Exceeding Expectations, The Rewards of Working Hard

Build Background

Key Vocabulary

After watching "Kindness Changes Everything" - song (www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKTGyNJBvgs), ask if the students have heard of the phrase *pay-it-forward*. Brainstorm possible meanings for this phrase. Ask students to think about a time when someone was kind to them and then they were kind to someone else in turn. Record answers on a class board or have student share in partners.

ordinary	pg 1, 3, 21, 26
extraordinary deed	pg 21, 26
pay-it-forward	pg 26
encourage	

Student-Friendly Learning Target



I can use details to tell about the characters' actions in the story.
I can recall an act of kindness and write about it in detail.

Discussion Starters



1. Review the good deeds from the story and create a list.
2. How are the good deeds the same? How are they different?
3. How did the people who were giving/receiving feel?
4. What makes something a good deed? Does it always matter if you get something back?
5. Did Mary know that her kind act would come back to her?

Writing Prompt



Create a class book. The E in NED is about kindness! Have students recall one of their own acts of kindness. Give each student one page to write and illustrate in the book, using the printable template provided. Copy the first and last page text from the following: **PRINTABLE**

First Page: *Ordinary kids in [teacher]'s ordinary classroom would never guess they could change the school. This ordinary group of kids? They did it! They changed the world...*

Last Page: *[School name] was changed! And all the kids agreed it was all because on an ordinary day, ordinary kids from [teacher]'s ordinary class did a perfectly ordinary, stunningly earthshaking, totally extraordinary deed!*

Activity



Brainstorm acts of kindness that kids could do at school in an ordinary day. Post the list in the classroom and add to it over a few days. Challenge students to look for opportunities to do acts of kindness and come back and tell the class. Have students describe what happened and add it to the list. Help kids who aren't coming back with stories to seek out opportunities. *Idea: Create a classroom display celebrating these acts of kindness. Create a tree trunk and cover it with leaves. Each leaf could name the specific act of kindness performed.*

More Resources

- Accelerated Reading Quiz: 69926
- randomactsofkindness.org

Aligned to Common Standards

Every lesson plan aligns with grade-level standards in **Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and Literacy.**

Every lesson plan supports **ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors.**

One ordinary day...

Ordinary _____ your name _____ was walking down
the ordinary hall when _____ he/she _____ passed an ordinary....
