Throw Kindness Around Like Confetti **By Being Your Own Best Friend**

The Kindness cannon is a hands-on activity, promoting discussion about the different forms of kindness –words, kind actions, and thoughts. Using a paper roll, tape and a balloon, each participant creates a Kindness cannon to launch paper confetti.

Material List:

- Craft Tubes (1 per student)
- Balloons (1 per student)
- Scissors
- Packing Tape
- Optional Art supplies to decorate outside of the Kindness cannon.

Outcome:

Participants explore kindness as they learn to observe themself without judgment.

STEAM Component. Participants build a Kindness cannon to spread their personalized ideas representing kindness using the design structure of a Confetti Popper (*DIY confetti Poppers for Kids! (STEAM Activity)*, 2020).

Mindful Component. Participants enhance their self awareness by learning about the prosocial nature of acts of being kind to self.

Group Discussion:

What does kindness look like? It can look different to all of us.

- Kindness can be words, actions, self-soothing strategies and thoughts to self.
- Treat yourself like a good friend. What would you say to a friend who is feeling sad, mad or not so glad?
- Think about what you need in times of stress. Ask yourself "What do I need?", when I feel really sad, mad or just not so glad?

Art Activity: The Kindness cannon uses a craft roll, tape and a balloon, each participant creates a Kindness cannon to launch paper confetti.

STEP ONE: Draw and cut out five 1 in. circles for Kindness confetti: Create an image, symbol &/or word of things you consider to represent how you can be kind to self when you are feeling sad, mad or not so glad, creating one circle for each sense.



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Examples:

- Vision Smile
- Touch Hug
- Hearing Compliment
- Smell Campfire
- Taste Cup of tea

STEP TWO: Assemble Kindness cannon. Using a paper tube, tape and a balloon, create a Kindness cannon to launch paper kindness confetti.

Instructions:

- 1. Take a balloon and tie the opening as you would if it was inflated (but do not inflate the balloon).
- 2. Cut the top half of the balloon off.
- 3. Stretch the knotted half of the balloon over one end of the craft tube.
- 4. Secure the balloon to the craft tube with packing tape.
- 5. Optional Decorate outside of the Kindness cannon.

STEP THREE: Test Kindness cannon with safety in mind. Follow instructions to safely launch paper kindness confetti from Kindness cannon:

- Put kindness confetti in the open end of the kindness cannon (do not use any other material in the Kindness cannon).
- Launch the Kindness cannon by aiming it toward the sky (do not aim the open end of the Kindness cannon at your own face or toward other people).
- Pull back the balloon and then let go.

STEP FOUR: Group reflection. Guiding Reflective Questions.

Sample questions include:

- How do you feel when someone is kind to you?
- What does kindness look like or sound like?
- What physical sensations happen in your body when you think of being kind?

DIY confetti Poppers for Kids! (STEAM Activity). Team Cartwright. (2020, November 23).

https://team-cartwright.com/diy-confetti-poppers-for-kids/#The_Scienc.



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