

# Thank You Song

# GRATITUDE

To express gratitude in a creative and musical way by creating, learning and performing a thank you song, helping students share appreciation with others.



## Learning Intentions

**I can express gratitude through music and song:**

This encourages students to use creativity as a way to express appreciation for others, helping to make gratitude a fun and regular practice.

**I can recognise the importance of expressing thanks in a heartfelt and joyful way:**

This helps students understand that expressing gratitude not only makes others feel appreciated, but it also creates a positive and uplifting environment.

**I can participate in group singing to share gratitude and foster a sense of community:**

This promotes teamwork, as students join together to sing a song of gratitude, enhancing their social connections through music.



## Success Criteria

**Creating, Learning and Singing the Thank You Song Confidently:**

Students can co-create and learn the lyrics to their thank you song and sing it confidently, ensuring that they are actively engaged in the learning process and are comfortable performing the song.

**Using Voice and Actions to Express Gratitude:**

Students can use their voice and actions to express gratitude to others, reinforcing the importance of expressing thanks in both words and through the emotions conveyed in the song.

**Participating in Group Singing to Show Gratitude:**

Students can participate in group singing and contribute to a shared expression of gratitude, encouraging participation and fostering a sense of community as everyone joins in to show appreciation together.



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**Objective:** To express gratitude in a creative and musical way by creating, learning and performing a thank you song, helping students share appreciation with others.

**Players:** Ideal for small to medium-sized groups (5-26 students).

**Materials:**

- An example of a gratitude song - Here is a link to an example of a song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeSdQmO51Ps>
- Paper for the students to create the lyrics to their song.
- Pencils for writing.

**Time Required:** 15 - 20 minutes

**Setup:** Have an example song ready to play to the class, there is a link to one in the materials section above. Create pairs or small groups for the students to work within.

**Gameplay:**

1. **Introduce the Song:** Start by explaining that today's activity is all about expressing gratitude in a fun and creative way. Discuss why it's important to say "thank you" and how expressing thanks can make people feel happy and appreciated.
2. **Create the Song:** In their pairs or small groups students create a gratitude song, encourage them to use a simple and familiar melody, such as a popular nursery rhyme tune, or a well known song. You may choose to have each group create just one verse of a song, when completed all the groups bring their verses together to make one class gratitude song that they can all sing together (this would work better if using 3-4 small groups as opposed to pairs).
3. **Learn the Song:** Once the class song has been created or individual groups/pairs have finished their songs give the students time to practice and learn them. If feeling super creative and brave, encourage them to come up with a few dance moves too.
4. **Sing the Song Together:** Once the students know the song or their songs, gather them in a circle or at the front of the room and sing it together (if doing the one class song). Encourage students to sing with enthusiasm and joy, using body movements or hand gestures to express the gratitude in the song. If doing the individual songs in pairs, have each pair sing their song in front of the class one at a time.
5. **Show Gratitude:** After singing the song, encourage students to choose someone (e.g., a teacher, parent, or classmate) to sing the song to as a way of showing their appreciation. This helps reinforce the idea of gratitude and encourages students to express their thanks in a meaningful and positive way. This could be a cool homework task for the day/week.

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**6. Reflection Time:** After the activity, gather the students and discuss how it felt to sing the thank you song. Ask questions like:

- "How did it feel to sing a song of gratitude?"
- How did it feel working as part of a team to create the song?
- "How do you think the person receiving the song felt?"
- "What are other ways we can show appreciation to people?"

**Winning the Game:** There is no winner in this activity. The goal is to celebrate gratitude and create a joyful, positive atmosphere in the classroom through music. Success is measured by students' participation and their ability to express gratitude through the song.

**Additional Notes:** The Thank You Song is a simple yet effective way to help students practice gratitude in a fun, engaging, and musical way. It encourages them to express appreciation in a creative and memorable form, reinforcing positive social behaviours while also building a sense of community in the classroom. This activity can be repeated regularly and adapted with different songs or creative gestures, ensuring gratitude is celebrated throughout the year.

