Dear Preschool Educator,

The Care Bears, beloved by generations of kids and adults alike, are celebrating their 30th anniversary with a new series on The HUB Network, Care Bears: Welcome to Care-a-Lot, and your children are invited to join in the fun during Care Bears Week, November 5-10, 2012.

This teaching kit, created by the curriculum experts at Young Minds Inspired (YMI) in cooperation with American Greetings Corporation, features a free DVD with specially selected episodes from the new series, a colorful teaching poster, and easy-to-implement creative play activities designed to support social and emotional growth—plus take-home activities for children to share with their parents.

We hope that you will share this program with other teachers so that every child can take part in the Care Bears Week celebration. The materials are copyrighted, but you may make as many copies as necessary to meet your students’ needs.

Please use the enclosed reply card to let us know your thoughts on this program, or comment online at www.ymiclassroom.com/carebears.html. We depend on your feedback to continue providing free educational programs that make a real difference in students’ lives.

Sincerely,
Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief, Young Minds Inspired

Target Audience: Children ages 4-6.

Program Objectives

• To support character development.
• To enhance positive social-emotional communication.
• To encourage child and parent interaction at home.

How to Use This Program

Photocopy this teacher’s guide and the three activity sheets before putting the poster on display in your classroom. Schedule the activities for use during Care Bears Week, November 5-10, 2012. Children will need a copy of the activity sheet and crayons or markers for each activity.

How to Use the Poster

Use the poster to introduce Activity 1, then refer to it during Care Bears Week for each day’s circle time activity. Keep the poster on display as a reminder to share and care throughout the year.

Activity 1 Meet the Care Bears

Begin Care Bears Week by pointing to the poster and reading the following aloud:

Welcome to the delightful world of the Care Bears, high above earth in the rainbow-filled land of Care-a-lot! With their caring ways and magical belly badges, the lovable, huggable Care Bears work together to help children everywhere understand their feelings and emotions. That’s why Care-a-lot is an awesome place where anything is possible and no problem is too big!

Pass out the activity sheets and refer to the poster as children color the Care Bears and draw lines to their correct belly badges. Then ask the children to pretend that the Care Bears have come for a visit. Use the poster profiles and these prompts to get to know each Care Bear through role-play activities.

• Tenderheart Bear helps kids share their feelings. He knows when a kid needs a hug. Tell about a time when you needed a hug.
• Here comes Cheer Bear. Let’s each give her a different cheer to say hello (e.g., yippee, wahoo, hirp-hirp-hooray, etc.).
• Share Bear is a bear-y good baker. What would you ask Share Bear to bake for you? Pretend to share your treat.
• It’s always raining on Grumpy Bear’s belly badge, but he still likes to have fun. What fun do you like in the rain?
• Funshine Bear loves all kinds of sports. What’s your favorite sport? Show everyone how you play it.
• Harmony Bear knows lots of songs. Pretend she’s here and share your favorite song. Then everyone sing, “If You’re Happy and You Know It.”
• Wonderheart Bear is always asking questions. Do you know the answer to this question: What has four legs, but can’t walk? (a table). What other riddles do you know?

Activity 2 “Bearied” Treasure Hunt

Begin by watching the “Bearied Treasure” episode on the DVD. (Visit ymiclassroom.com/carebears.html for discussion questions to enrich children’s viewing of this episode.) Then have children complete the maze and find the belly badge treasures. Follow up with an in-class treasure hunt by challenging the children to find things that match with each of the Care Bears—for example:

• Tenderheart Bear: something you can hug
• Cheer Bear: items that match the colors of her rainbow
• Share Bear: items that come in pairs, like her lollipops
• Grumpy Bear: something handy for his carry-all
• Funshine Bear: something you play with outside
• Harmony Bear: something you can use to make music
• Wonderheart Bear: a book you like to read

Last, have children take turns putting their treasures away while the others cover their eyes. Ask the group to guess what’s missing from the treasure pile each time.

Activity 3 I’m a Care-a-lot Kid!

After children create their own badges, have them take the sheet home to cut them out and wear or display as they complete the remaining activities with their parents.
Meet the Care Bears™

No one makes caring cooler than the Care Bears! Match each Care Bear to his or her belly badge.

Tenderheart Bear
Cheer Bear
Funshine Bear
Wonderheart Bear
Harmony Bear
Share Bear
Grumpy Bear

And be sure to visit CareBears.com for lots of Care Bears fun, including coloring sheets, activities, music, and more!
What’s a Care Bear treasure?
A belly badge, of course!

Complete the treasure map maze. Find all seven Care Bears’ belly badges.

Start

Finish!

Check local listings to learn when airs on The HUB Network in your area.

And be sure to visit CareBears.com for lots of Care Bears fun, including coloring sheets, activities, music, and more!
Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child's preschool is celebrating Care Bears Week, November 5-10, 2012, with a special educational program celebrating the Care Bears’ 30th anniversary of helping children everywhere understand their feelings and emotions through love, belly badge magic and, of course, big Care Bear hugs!

Use your child’s belly badge design to celebrate at home. Help your child cut out the belly badge and pin it on, or display it in your child’s room. Then try some of these fun Care Bears adventures together!

- Let’s be like Tenderheart Bear and give each other a hug!
- Hooray for Cheer Bear! Let’s make up a cheer together!
- Share Bear is the bear-y best baker. Let’s bake something we can share at dinner!
- Grumpy Bear is always building something. Let’s pretend he’s here and make a project together!
- Let’s go outside like Funshine Bear and play a game together!
- Harmony Bear says it’s song time. Let’s sing her a song together!
- Little Wonderheart Bear sure asks a lot of questions. Let’s read a book together so we know the answers!

Watch the new series, Care Bears on The HUB Network (check local listings) and take a magical trip to Care-a-lot together with your child. And, for even more Care Bears fun, visit CareBears.com, where you and your child can enjoy Care Bears games, songs, videos, and more together!
Welcome to Care-a-Lot for a Care Bears Week Celebration!
November 5-10, 2012

Harmony Bear
She’s the bear with a song in her heart. Her belly badge can turn into a musical instrument and a shield!

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Monday: Harmony Bear starts every day with a song. What song do you want to sing?

Tuesday: Today let’s talk about the weather. Is it a Grumpy Bear or a Funshine Bear day?

Wednesday: Can you name the colors on Cheer Bear’s belly badge? What other colors can you find in the poster?

Thursday: It’s Share Bear day. What did you bring to share during circle time?

Friday: Wonderheart Bear has a heart on her belly badge. How many other hearts can you find on the poster?

Saturday: Do you like to play outside on the weekend? Funshine Bear says, “Have fun!”

Sunday: It’s a great day for sharing and caring! Give someone an extra hug from Tenderheart Bear!