

PROHUMAN CURRICULUM - GRADE 6

OVERVIEW OF UNITS:

Unit 1	September	Optimism
Unit 2	October	Grit
Unit 3	November	Gratitude
Unit 4	December	Curiosity
Unit 5	January	Courage
Unit 6	February	Compassion
Unit 7	March	Fairness
Unit 8	April	Understanding
Unit 9	May	Humanity

UNIT 6: COMPASSION

LESSON 2: LEARNING COMPASSION FROM A NONFICTION TEXT

SUMMARY:

The Prohuman Grade 6 curriculum is aligned to two sets of standards: [Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts](#) and [Character and Social Emotional Development \(CSED\) National Guidelines](#). The full collection of units introduces all nine of the prohuman character strengths: optimism, grit, gratitude, curiosity, courage, compassion, fairness, understanding, and humanity.

In Unit 6, Lesson 2, “Learning Compassion from a Nonfiction Text,” students will learn examples of compassion from the life of Anandabai Joshee, the first Indian woman to earn a medical degree in the United States. Additionally, students will answer questions to develop their critical thinking skills and advance their academic dialogue skills through class discussion.

SUGGESTED TIME: 50 min

RELATED SUBJECT: English Language Arts

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Read a nonfiction text and demonstrate understanding of the central ideas
- Determine the author's purpose in the text
- Compose sentences that demonstrate comprehension of the following concepts: compassion, growth mindset, and intellectual character
- Demonstrate understanding of standard English sentence structure and grammar
- Practice reading and conversation skills by sharing sentences with classmates

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Article: Spiegel, Taru. "[Anandibai Joshee: The First Indian Woman to Earn a Medical Degree in the United States](#)." Library of Congress Blogs, Published March 30, 2020. Accessed December 5, 2024.
- Video: [2020 APA Legacy: Anandabai Joshee](#) by [Heritage Series](#) (~1 min)
- Prohuman Grade 6 Unit 6 Worksheet 2: Learning Compassion from a Nonfiction Text

ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS MET

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.1	Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.2	Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.3	Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).	✓

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.10	By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1.C	Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.	✓
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1.D	Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing.	✓

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.	✓
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CHARACTER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL (CSED) NATIONAL STANDARDS MET

Moral Character A5	Understand and explain why caring (and helping others) should never be motivated by the likelihood of being recognized or rewarded for your help or support	✓
Performance Character A6	Describe a role model who demonstrates a positive attitude, effort, and grit	✓
Intellectual Character A2	Identify individuals, fiction and real, past and present, who exemplify the different intellectual character strengths in a concrete and compelling manner	✓
Intellectual Character A3	Recognize and understand why the intellectual character strengths are not innate (something you are born with) but can be developed with practice and support	✓
Self-Management A4	Explain a time when you overcame a negative thought and developed a “growth mindset”	✓
Social-Awareness A1	Experience and demonstrate empathy	✓
Social-Awareness A3	Demonstrate respect for other people’s opinions and perspectives	✓
Social-Awareness A4	Analyze the impact of stereotyping, discrimination, and prejudice (at school, in the community and beyond	✓
Social-Awareness A5	Practice “perspective taking” as a strategy to strengthen your acceptance of others	✓

Social-Awareness A6	Demonstrate awareness and understanding that despite differences, all people have similar needs, feelings and wants	✓
Interpersonal/ Relationship Skills A5	Understand and practice positive collaboration and cooperation skills (e.g., teamwork)	✓
Responsible and Ethical Decision-Making A3	Write about and share a principle you want to live by that you learned from a family member, book, movie, or personal experience	✓

LESSON PROCEDURE

Step 1:

- Explain that we will be reading an article about Anandabai Joshee, the first Indian woman to earn a medical degree in the United States.
- Play the video: [2020 APA Legacy: Anandabai Joshee](#) by [Heritage Series](#) (~1 min)

Step 2:

- Have students complete the article either through in-class silent reading or as homework:
 - Spiegel, Taru. "[Anandibai Joshee: The First Indian Woman to Earn a Medical Degree in the United States](#)." Library of Congress Blogs, Published March 30, 2020.
- Have students complete the short-answer questions on the worksheet as they read the article.

Step 3:

- Allow at least 50 minutes for in-class discussion of the short-answer questions on the worksheet.

GRADE 6 UNIT 6 WORKSHEET 2: LEARNING COMPASSION FROM A NONFICTION TEXT

Vocabulary

Compassion: I see when others are hurt or need help, and I try to help them.

Growth mindset: The understanding that we can develop our abilities and intelligence. A growth mindset leads to a focus on learning, increased effort, and a willingness to learn from mistakes.

Intellectual character: Someone who has intellectual character shows the strengths of curiosity, carefulness, intellectual autonomy, intellectual humility, open-mindedness, and critical thinking. Intellectual autonomy means you can think for yourself, especially when it might go against what is popular at the time. Intellectual humility means you recognize that your knowledge is limited and that your beliefs might be wrong. Critical thinking means you question, analyze, interpret, and evaluate what you read, hear, say, or write.

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER WHILE READING THE ARTICLE “[Anandibai Joshee: The First Indian Woman to Earn a Medical Degree in the United States](#),” by Taru Spiegel. Library of Congress Blogs.

- 1.) What tragedy did Anandibai Joshee experience, and how did she show compassion in deciding to focus on medicine?
- 2.) How did Anandibai show a growth mindset?
- 3.) What is one way that you can show a growth mindset?
- 4.) How did stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination affect Anandibai in her desire to study medicine?
- 5.) How did Anandibai’s husband show compassion and support her study of medicine?
- 6.) How did Theodocia Carpenter show compassion and support Anandibai?
- 7.) In her public speech given in February 1883, what did Joshee state was her reason for seeking a medical degree in the United States?

- 8.) What intellectual character strengths did Anandibai develop and demonstrate to study medicine?**
- 9.) What did Joshee accomplish in her short life?**
- 10.) Write about and share a principle you want to live by that you learned from the life of Anandibai Joshee.**