



Teaching notes for *You are the Light*

This quick activity makes a great December bulletin board. Throughout the fall we talk about holidays as they happen. With each holiday, students who celebrate that holiday share, and then we talk about what we all have in common, whether we celebrate the current holiday or not.

The Hindu holiday of Diwali is late October or early November. The Jewish holiday of Hanukkah and the Christian holiday of Christmas are both in December. All of these holidays involve lights. At the beginning of December, talk about this (having already learned about Diwali) and talk about how we can be lights in the world - this means to bring goodness and kindness to others. We share ways they we act as lights in the world.

After sharing, students brainstorm ideas for themselves, then write a paragraph explaining how they plan to be a light in the world in the coming weeks. They can draw their ideas in the margins to fit the candle stick pattern.

After the writing is done, students assemble their candles on construction paper to appropriately sized rectangles.

The completed candles create a lovely December/November display.

Included in this resource:

- open ended brainstorming page
- ideas to choose from (for those kids who are shy)
- lined writing paper that fits on the candle pattern (so they don't have to remake the candle craft)
- candle pattern pieces

You are the Light - Example

Candle Stick
1
White

Glue the bottom behind the candle holder.

Flame (outside)
1 yellow

"You are the Light" pattern pieces.

Teaching Notes & Craft Example, Patterns and Directions

Candle Stick
1 in blue

Candle Flame
1 in yellow

Candle Holder
1 in black



Clean your room without being asked.

Sit with someone at lunch who needs a friend.

Make a card for someone who is



Bulletin Board Signs - Three Versions