



# {Toby and Tutter}



Therapy Dogs

KINDERGARTEN LESSON **HELPING OTHERS**

Estimated time: 25 minutes

## Key Concepts/Big Ideas

- Toby and Tutter help children. They are helpers. What helpers do you know? How can you be a helper?
- I can help others. Helpers anchor chart

## ELA Standard

### CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.K.1

With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

## Objectives

With support, students will identify how Toby and Tutter help others.

With support, students will contribute to a discussion about helping others.

Students will use a combination of pictures and words to show how they help others as assessed by completion of task.

## Materials

- *Toby and Tutter* book
- Chart paper and marker or interactive whiteboard
- Copy paper or Drawing paper, crayons, pencils, markers

## Hook

Teacher shows students pictures of Toby and Tutter in their human mom's therapy room.

Teacher: "Toby and Tutter help children meet their goals. Some children need help learning to walk, or learning to hold things, for example. Toby and Tutter are therapy dogs. How do you think they help children?" Provide wait time. Field student responses.

If allowed, show this 2:52 minute video from The Good Dog Foundation about how dogs help humans heal.

<https://youtu.be/Ovul70E0pBM>

## Activity

### Large Group Discussion

Teacher: "So Toby and Tutter are dogs who help people. Who are some people you know who are helpers?"

Provide wait time. Field student responses. Teacher writes student responses on chart paper or interactive whiteboard. Examples include: teachers, nurses, doctors, therapists, occupational therapists like Toby and Tutter's mom, fire fighters, EMTs, garbage collectors, mail carriers, and more. Students can help illustrate the list at a later time, if teacher desires.



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## **Independent or Small Group**

Students will use a combination of words and pictures to tell about how they help others. Examples: helping Mom wash dishes; helping Teacher stack the chairs at the day's end; helping clean up toys after play time; helping a friend tie her shoes, etc.

## **Closing/Evaluation**

Teacher invites students back to large group meeting area. Students share their illustrations and describe how they are helpers. Drawings can be made into a class book to keep in classroom library, if teacher wishes.

## **Evaluation**

Did student contribute to class discussions, identifying ways Toby and Tutter help others, as assessed by participation?  
Yes or No

Did student complete an illustration of helping others, using a combination of pictures and words? Yes or No

## **Modifications/Accommodations**

Teachers could work in small groups or 1:1 with students who need extra support writing words for the written portion of this lesson.

## **Homeschool Modifications**

This lesson presents a wonderful opportunity for homeschoolers to get out in their community and learn about therapy dogs and other helpers in person. Contact an organization, below, and go visit a therapy dog; help arrange a therapy dog visit to a local library; visit a local fire station; plan a family/homeschool community service project to help others.

## **Extension Suggestion**

This would be the perfect lesson to bring a therapy dog to school for a visit. Many libraries utilize therapy dogs on occasion, and could be a resource for finding someone able to bring a therapy dog for a visit.

**The Good Dog Foundation is an excellent resource.**

<http://thegooddogfoundation.org/>

**The Alliance of Therapy Dogs is another great resource.**

<https://www.therapydogs.com/>

**Additional resources:**

**Petpartners.org**

<https://www.petpartners.org/>

**Therapy Dogs International**

<https://www.tdi-dog.org/>

**The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.**

<https://www.aota.org/>

**APPENDIX (PHOTOS)**







