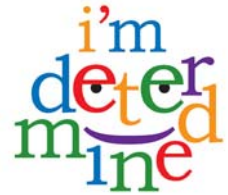


**Organizing Topic:** Self-Advocacy and Leadership (*Skills necessary to be able to speak up or defend a cause or person.*)



**Title:** Pat On the Back

**Target Level:** Elementary School

**Sample Related Standards of Learning:**

- 1.10 The student will apply the traits of a good citizen by
- a) Focusing on fair play, exhibiting good sportsmanship, helping others, and treating others with respect;
  - b) Recognizing the purpose of rules and practicing self-control;
  - c) Working hard in school;
  - d) Taking responsibility for one's own actions;
  - e) Valuing honesty and truthfulness in oneself and others.

**Objective:**

- The student will demonstrate respect for himself/herself and others.

**Prerequisite Understandings/Knowledge/Skills:**

- Understanding the concept of compliment and how good it feels to get a compliment.
- Simple writing skills or ability to communicate through voice, assistive technology, etc.

**Materials Needed:**

- Green construction paper cutouts in the shape of a hand
- Writing utensil
- Tape
- Yarn or string
- Cardboard base for a wreath
- Wreath decorations
- Digital camera
- Pictures of children

**Time Frame:** Depends on number of children in class.

**Lesson Procedure:**

1. Teacher introduces the concept of positive remarks – compliments - by asking students to write down nice things about the principal (or other school staff member) on one of their green hand cutouts. The teacher or student places the hands with the compliments on the cardboard

base of the wreath after he/she has read the compliment aloud. The class then presents the wreath to the principal or staff member.

2. Next, select one student to receive their "pats on the back."
3. Instruct all students to write one compliment about the selected student on a green hand cutout.
4. Students take turns sticking their compliments on selected student's back.
5. Teacher or students read "pats on the back" aloud and places them on circular cardboard cutout in the shape of a wreath.
6. Teacher takes a picture of the student and attaches the picture in the center of wreath with yarn or string.
7. Student can decorate wreath with berries, ribbons, glitter, etc.

**Specific Options for Differentiating this Lesson:**

- Students can use a choice board or word bank to select compliments, draw a picture on the hand, or give compliment verbally to the student.
- Can be used for different holidays – *"You're a Good Egg"* at Easter.

**Evaluation:**

- Teacher observations to ensure students are involved and understand the concept of a compliment. Make sure students are giving meaningful compliments.

**Extending Understanding:**

- Students will present wreath to staff member as a class and observe the way "pats on the back" can make another person feel valued.
- Students display wreaths in hall so that other classrooms can read "pats on the back."
- Students take wreaths home to show family.