

# TOOLS FOR TEACHERS

TEACHING CURRICULUM FOR HOME AND THE CLASSROOM



By Linda Kranz  
Rising Moon  
ISBN 13: 978-0-87358-901-7

## One One You

Adri's mama and papa share some of the wisdom they have gained through the years with their eager son. Their words, simple and powerful, are meant to comfort and guide him as he goes about exploring his world.

### Curriculum Connections:

Life's Messages  
Character Traits  
Visual Discrimination  
Individuality  
Graphing  
Story Elements

### Activity #1 We Are a School of Friends

**Book Connection:** In the book *Only One You*, Adri's parents hope to guide him with their wisdom as he sets out to explore his world.

The first piece of wisdom his parents impart is, "Always be on the lookout for a new friend."

Encourage your students to make new friends with the following activities, which are especially ideal to use at the beginning of a new school year.

Materials: paper, markers or crayons, scissors, large googly eyes, glue sticks

Distribute one piece of paper to each student in your class. Have them trace their hand on the paper with a crayon or marker, and then cut out the shape. Note: kindergarten and early first grade students may need assistance cutting and/or tracing.

Model/explain that each hand shape is going to become a fish. Fish live in schools. Each hand-fish made in class is going to become part of a "school of fish, a school of friends."

Explain that as a class, there will be many opportunities to make new friends throughout the year.

Have each student write their name on their cut-out using a black marker or crayon.

Have each student glue a googly eye on their hand-fish in the palm area, and decorate their fish using crayons or markers. The fingers represent the back fin.

After each child has made his/her own fish, display them on a bulletin board with the heading: We Are a School of Friends.

Discuss these things with students:

1. What is a friend? What qualities do friends have?
2. What friends have students made since being in school?
3. What are some things friends do together?
4. How can we be friends to other people?



Photocopy for classroom use  
see back page for  
further information.

## Activity #2 Proud to Be Me

**Book Connection:** In the book *Only One You*, Adri's parents share, "Blend in when you need to. Stand out when you have the chance," and, "Find your own way. You don't have to follow the crowd."

After reading the story, discuss with students:

1. What makes a person stand out from other people?
2. How can people stand out in a good way in the classroom? In the cafeteria? On the playground? At home?

Discuss how it might feel to perform standout behavior. Do you feel pride? Happiness? Satisfaction?

Using a large piece of butcher paper, create a heading: Stand Out Behavior! We Sparkle and Shine in Room (your room #).

Continue brainstorming ways people can stand out in a good way, and list them on the chart. Use the chart as a reference for modeling and encouraging standout behavior in the classroom, such as:

- Taking turns
- Holding the door for others
- Listening politely when someone is speaking
- Following directions
- Helping others
- Sharing smiles with one another

Adri's parents also share that you don't have to follow the crowd. Use this wisdom to discuss:

- What does it mean to follow the crowd?
- When might it not be a good idea to follow the crowd? (When the crowd is making bad choices or misbehaving, etc.)

Ask students to share instances of when they've made their own choices, without following the crowd.

## Activity #3 Who, What, Where, When, and Why?

**Book Connection:** *Only One You* shares wisdom offered by parents to their child. After reading the story, allow students to identify the primary elements of the story by answering the following questions in response to who, what, where, when, and why:

Who is the story about?	What happens during the story?	Where does the story take place?	Why does the story take place? (Why do Adri's parents share their wisdom?)	When does the story take place? (What approximate age is Adri?)

## Activity #4 I Spy a Fish

**Book Connection:** *Only One You* is illustrated using photographs of painted fish, each one unique. Even though each fish is unique, Linda Kranz, the author/illustrator, used one or two fish repeatedly in each illustration.

After reading the story with children, go back to the first page and ask students to study Mama and Papa fish. What unique markings do each have? (Mama has a heart. Papa has a sun on his back and tummy.)

Encourage your students to practice their visual discrimination skills by seeking out Mama or Papa fish, which are featured singly or together, on each page. Allowing students to “read” the illustrations is a concept all children must master to become strong readers.

Key:

*Always be on the lookout for a new friend:* Papa

*Look for beauty wherever you are:* Papa

*Blend in when you need to:* Mama

*Find your own way:* Mama

*Know when to speak:* Mama

*No matter how you look at it there is so much to discover:* Mama

*If you make a wrong turn, circle back:* Papa and Mama

*If something gets in your way, move around it:* Mama

*Set aside some quiet time:* Papa

*Appreciate art:* Mama

*Make wishes:* Papa and Mama



Create a bulletin board of fish that children can “read.” Distribute the fish pattern (next page) to each student, and allow them to color their own fish.

Study the fish patterns author/illustrator Linda Kranz used. Take note: What shapes are used on the fish in the book? (circles, stripes, triangles, zig-zags . . .)

Encourage students to design their fish using geometric shapes, or shapes of their own creation.

First, have them draw their design on the fish shape using a pencil.

After they are satisfied with the design, have them color it in.

After each fish is designed and colored, display them in a group or school on a bulletin board.

Use the following headings to make the bulletin board interactive:

Look At Our Fish!

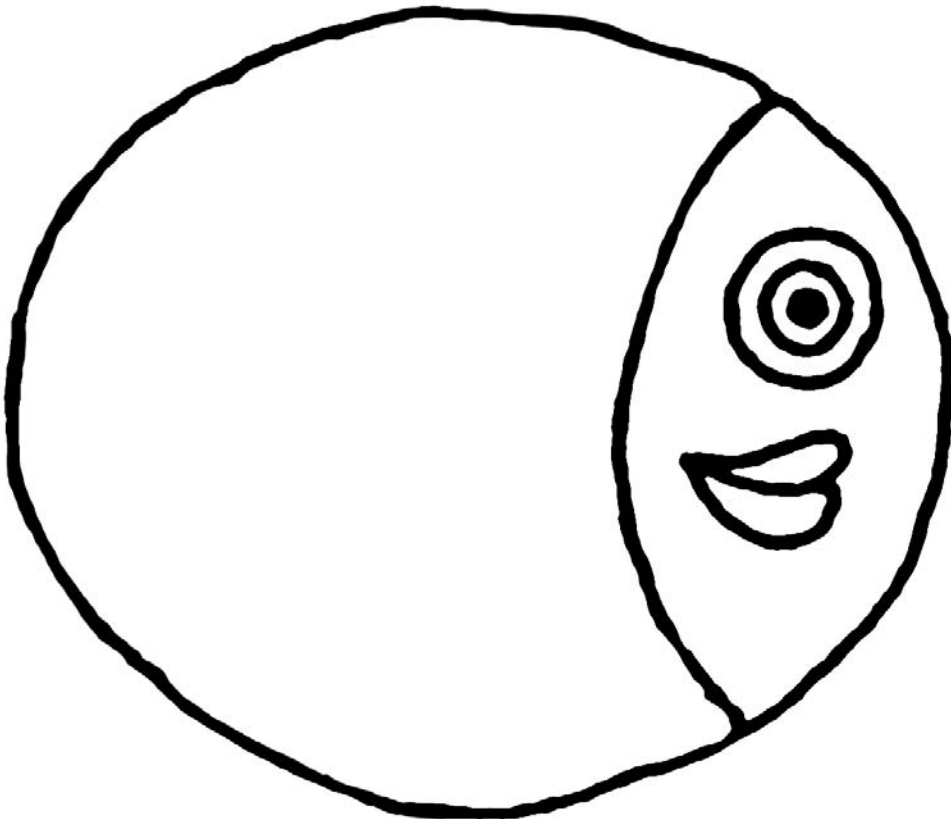
- How many fish can you find with triangles on them?
- How many fish can you find with circles on them?
- How many fish can you find with primary colors (red, yellow, & blue)?
- How many fish can you find with stripes?
- How many fish are there all together?

As an extension, create a graph. Allow students to graph (next page) and analyze the fish created by classmates.

(Copy and use as a worksheet, or reproduce on a large piece of butcher paper)

# The Fish In Our School

Fish with Circles																
Fish with Stripes																
Fish with Triangles																
Fish with Primary Colors																
Fish with Other Shapes																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16



## Activity #5 Scientific Rock Hounds

**Book Connection: The author and illustrator of *Only One You* collected rocks and hand painted each one used in the illustrations. The rocks the author used were smooth and round shaped.**

Allow your children to observe the illustrations, looking at each painted rock and its shape.

Discuss: What texture are the rocks the author/illustrator used?

What shape are the rocks? How are they the same? How are they different?

Would bumpy rocks have worked for the illustrations? Would sharp and jagged rocks have worked?

Ask the children to consider how each rock became so smooth and round. Ponder where the author/illustrator may have collected the rocks from, geographically.

Gather books from the library about rocks and their qualities. Share and discuss the properties of different rocks with students.

Encourage each child to find and bring a rock to class, explaining that each will be used in a center where students can sort and classify the rocks by various properties, such as:

- sparkly rocks
- smooth rocks
- rough rocks
- crumbly rocks
- speckled rocks
- striped rocks

Do some rocks fall into several categories for classification? What other categories can students come up with for classifying the collection of rocks?

Give students the opportunity to write about their rock. Use prompts such as:

Where did you find your rock? I found my rock \_\_\_\_\_.

Describe your rock. My rock is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Encourage students to be as descriptive as possible with their word choice and adjectives.

## Activity #6 Only One You

**Book Connection: Each of us is unique. After reading the book, *Only One You*, explain to children that being unique makes us special. Although we may have features (eyes, hair, body shapes, etc.) that are alike, no two people are exact. Each of us has our own thoughts and our own feelings. Ask children if the world would be an interesting place if everyone were identical in appearance and personality**

Celebrate the uniqueness of your students. One definite unique feature is our fingerprints. No two are alike!

First, instruct your students to draw a self-portrait.

Offer hand held mirrors or set up a station with a mirror that children can refer to, if they feel they need to.

After the portraits are complete, set up a station with inkpads. Explain that each student will place their thumb on the ink and make a simple border around their portrait with thumbprints.

Note: Make sure the inkpads aren't too wet, or the thumbprint won't be detailed.

After the portrait and thumbprint border is complete, provide lined paper to each student, and have them complete the following writing prompts:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old. I have \_\_\_\_\_ hair and \_\_\_\_\_ eyes.

I love \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Activity #7 Fish Mobile

### A Bonus Activity from the author.

**Book Connection:** *Only One You* shares ideas for how to live offered by parents to their child. These wisdoms may apply to the students in the classroom. After reading the story, allow students to choose which pieces of advice they relate to and make a mobile to bring home.

#### Supplies you will need per mobile:

- 2 6-inch pieces of wire. Use a wire hanger or green floral stem wire, 16 gauge. You can find this at your local craft store, prepackaged in a package of 12 pieces.
- 1 8-inch piece of green floral wire, 24 gauge.
- Polyester string.
- 1 20-inch piece for hanging the mobile
- 1 14-inch piece for center fish
- 4 18-inch pieces for the four outside fish.
- Glue stick
- Crayons or colored pencils

#### Tools you will need:

- Needle nose wire cutters.
- Scissors.



#### The hanger:

Hold the end of one of the 6-inch pieces of wire with the wire cutters and twist to make a “hook” for the string to hang on. Do this for all 4 ends of the wire. Cross the two 6-inch wires to make a + in the middle. Wrap the thin 8-inch wire around the +. Pull the wire tightly as you turn it. Twist in at least three directions. Leave a loop at the top so you can tie string to hang your finished mobile.

#### The fish:

Chose and color five fish. (One will be extra.)

After all fish are colored, cut out fish number 1. Cut on the OUTSIDE of the black line. Leaving the black line to accent the shape of the fish. Leave some white space in front of the black line for trimming later.

#### The words:

Select your words you want for the back of fish number 1. You will have three choices for each fish back. Now cut on the INSIDE the black line. Do the same for the words for the rest of the fish. Notice on the middle fish you have one choice “Make the world a better place.” I decided that middle fish should only have that saying. I hope you agree!

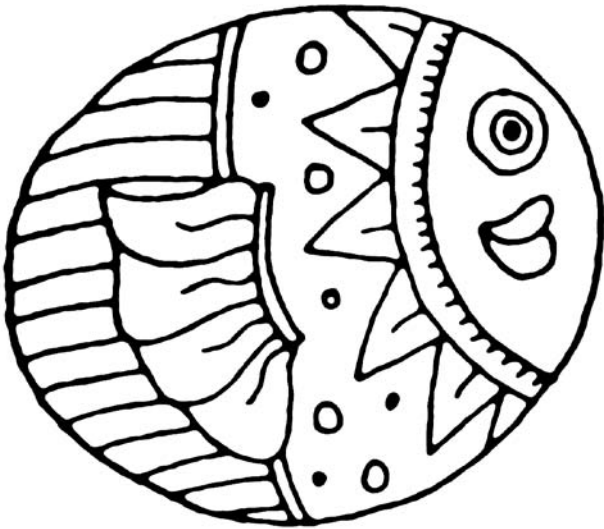
#### Finishing your fish mobile.

Place your finished colored fish, number 1, colorful side down, blank side up. Rub a glue stick over the blank side. Take precut 18-inch string in your hand. Make a small circle and place the string circle down on top of the glue. Arrange so that the rest of the string goes straight up, so the fish will swim straight. Next on the inside of the words that you have chosen to put on fish number 1 rub the glue stick. Make sure the words line up with the way the fish is traveling. Then carefully place the two pieces together. Lightly press down on the fish so the two pieces are connected. Now complete the same process with the remaining fish.

Once the fish are together, you can “clean up” overlap of the two patterns. If the white paper overlaps to where you can see it on the front side of the fish you can trim the excess. Be sure to trim so that the outline of the fish remains in tack. Be careful not to cut the string when trimming.

Now tie the four fish onto the top wire pieces. Tie the center fish “Make the World a Better Place” around the + in the middle. You decide the right length for the fish to hang in the other four points. Trim off excess string after you have decided on the right length.

**Hang your mobile and be inspired!**



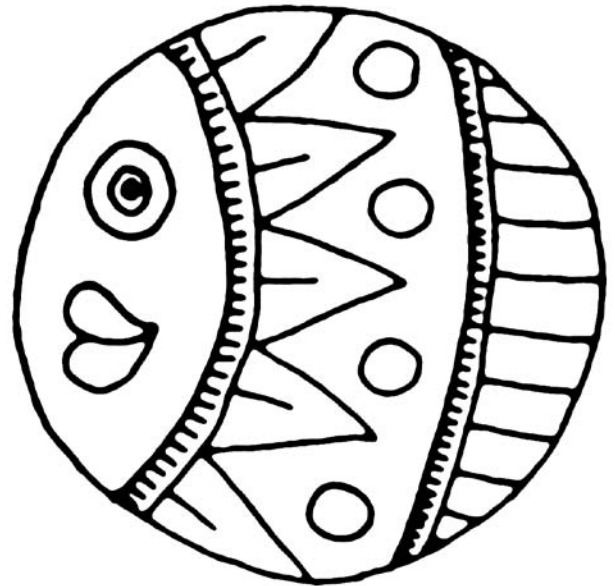
Fish #1



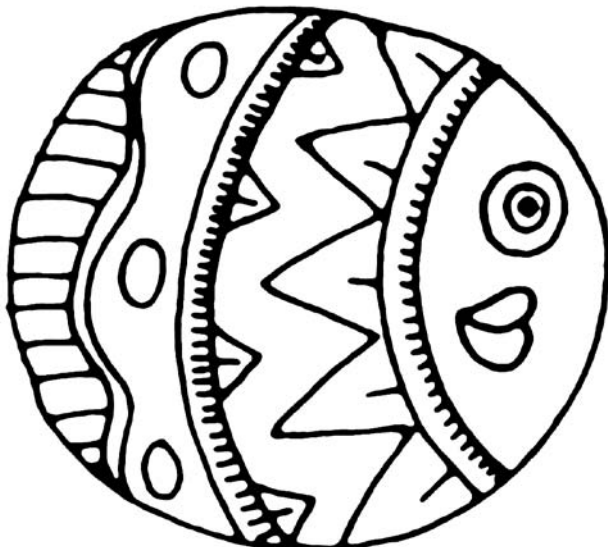
Fish #2



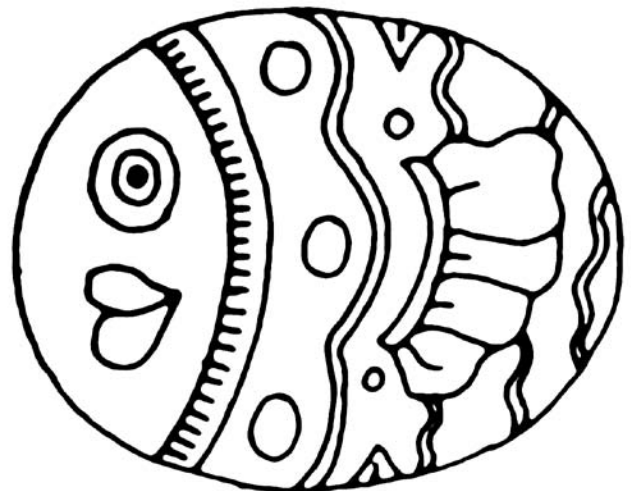
Fish #3



Center Fish



Fish #4



Fish #5

**Go after  
your dreams!**

*Treasure your  
family and  
friends!*

**You can do  
anything that  
you set your  
mind to.**

**Enjoy the  
*simple* things  
in life.**

***Always look  
on the  
bright side!***

**Think  
positive  
thoughts!**

Fish #1

Fish #2



***Believe in  
Yourself!***

***Make the  
world a  
better place.***

Only One You by Linda Kranz

***Take time  
to dream!***

Make the  
world a  
better place.

Only One You by Linda Kranz

***Do something  
nice  
for someone.***

Make the  
world a  
better place.

Only One You by Linda Kranz

**Fish #3**

**Center Fish**

**Dream Big!**

Be  
Enthusiastic!

**Use Your  
Imagination!**

**Never  
Give Up!**

***Enjoy  
Every  
Day!***

***Look for  
BEAUTY  
wherever  
you are!***

**Fish #4**

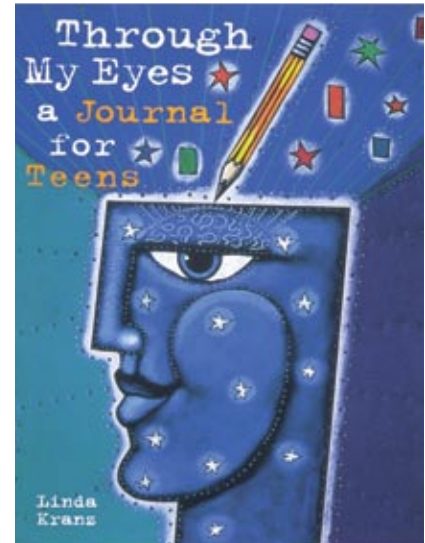
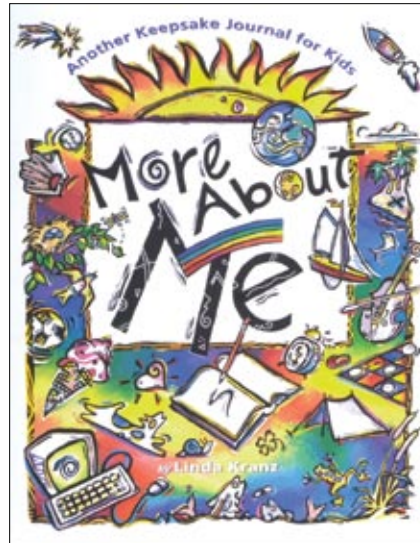
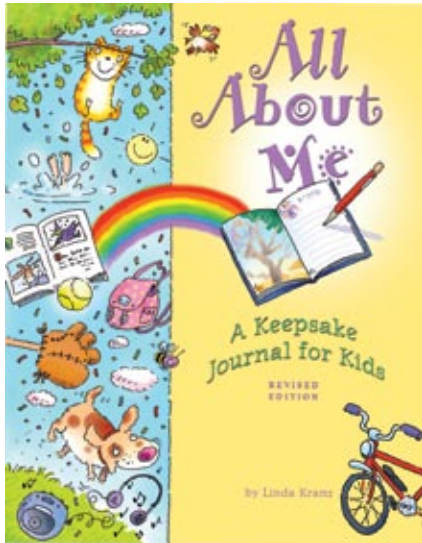
**Fish #5**

If you like *Only One You*, try other great Rising Moon books by Linda Kranz:

*All About Me: A Keepsake Journal for Kids*

*More About Me: Another Keepsake Journal for Kids*

*Through My Eyes: A Journal for Teens*



P.O. BOX 1389  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86002  
1-800-346-3257  
[www.risingmoonbooks.com](http://www.risingmoonbooks.com)

*Illustrations © 2006 by Linda Kranz. Tools for Teachers © 2007 by Rising Moon. The activities in this Tools for Teachers were compiled by Jennifer Ward. Rising Moon permits photocopying of Tools for Teachers for nonprofit educational purposes and encourages you to make multiple copies for classroom use. To see a complete list of Tools for Teachers, visit our website at [www.risingmoonbooks.com](http://www.risingmoonbooks.com).*