**Learning and Teaching Resources on**

**Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes**

**through English Sayings of Wisdom (SOW) at Primary Level**

“Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom” is a cross-curricular campaign that connects English Language education with values education. Sayings of wisdom (SOW), which include proverbs, quotes, maxims and adages, usually provoke thinking, share insights and experience, and explore meaning in life. In this connection, four sets of learning and teaching materials, each of which centring around an inspirational English saying of wisdom, are developed to support the campaign.

**Aims**

Exposing students to narrative texts enhances their literacy skills and helps promote positive values and attitudes. The captioned learning and teaching materials aim to support English Language teachers in

* promoting positive values and attitudes through English sayings of wisdom (SOW) in line with the themes of My Pledge to Act (MPA), i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic;
* promoting reading of inspirational texts and developing students’ writing skills; and
* developing students’ multimodal literacy, which is one of the key emphases of the *English Language Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Guide (Primary 1 – Secondary 6)* (CDC, 2017).

**Content**

Among the four sets of learning and teaching materials, which are based on a selected SOW respectively, two of them are designed for use at Key Stages 1 and 2 and the other two at Key Stage 2. Each set of materials comprises an inspirational text adapted from a fable and suggested reading and writing activities with teaching steps to illustrate the meaning and use of the SOW, cultivate positive values and attitudes, introduce different elements of a story and analyse the personality of the characters. The writing task (i.e. creating a 4-panel comic strip or writing a story with a moral) provides opportunities for students to further explore and reflect on the SOW introduced in the learning and teaching materials / the appendix.

To enrich students’ knowledge of SOW, promote self-directed learning and multimodal literacy, a list of 20 selected SOW under the moral themes “SOW a grateful heart”, “Cherish what we have”, “SOW a proactive attitude” and “SOW an optimistic mind” is provided in the Appendix of each set of the materials.

**Learning Task 1 – The Crow and the Pitcher (KS1/KS2)**

Students learn the SOW “Where there’s a will, there’s a way.” and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be optimistic) through reading an adapted fable “The Crow and the Pitcher”. In the writing task, students are asked to write a 4-panel comic strip to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

**Learning Task 2 – The Dog and the Reflection (KS1/KS2)**

Students learn the SOW “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. cherish what we have) through reading an adapted fable “The Dog and the Reflection”. In the writing task, students are asked to write a 4-panel comic strip to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

**Learning Task 3 – The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons (KS2)**

Students learn the SOW “A stitch in time saves nine.” and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be proactive) through reading an adapted fable “The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons”. In the writing task, students are asked to write a story to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

**Learning Task 4 – The Lion and the Mouse (KS2)**

Students learn the SOW “One good turn deserves another.” and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be grateful) through reading an adapted fable “The Lion and the Mouse”. In the writing task, students are asked to write a story to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

**How can the resources be used?**

The resources consist of learning tasks and teaching ideas for teachers’ reference on how to promote positive values and attitudes among students with SOW in the primary English classroom. Teachers might like to select and use the learning materials and teaching ideas in the resources or adapt them to suit their students’ needs, interests and abilities. Posters and videos on selected SOW are available on the website of the Education Bureau (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/sow>) for teachers’ further development of other learning tasks.