

Acts Of Understanding Answer Key

Sample Response

I once noticed someone who looked left out, and I decided to sit next to them at lunch. They seemed quiet at first, but when I asked about their favorite games, they started smiling and talking more. We laughed together, and soon they joined my friends at our table. I could tell they felt happy to be included. I felt proud that I helped someone feel better. I learned that empathy means noticing when someone needs a friend and taking action to help them feel welcome.

Teacher's Guide

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Offer sentence starters like "I helped by...," "They felt...," "I learned that..." to support writing fluency.
 - Allow oral storytelling or typing responses for students with writing challenges.
 - Provide examples of real-life empathy moments to help spark ideas.
- **Engagement Strategies:**
 - Have students share their stories in pairs or small groups.
 - Create a "Kindness Wall" to post anonymous empathy stories.
 - Discuss what empathy looks and sounds like in everyday life.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Ask students to write a letter to the person they helped, explaining how it felt.
 - Turn select stories into short classroom skits that demonstrate empathy in action.
 - Encourage journaling on how they can show empathy at home, school, or online.