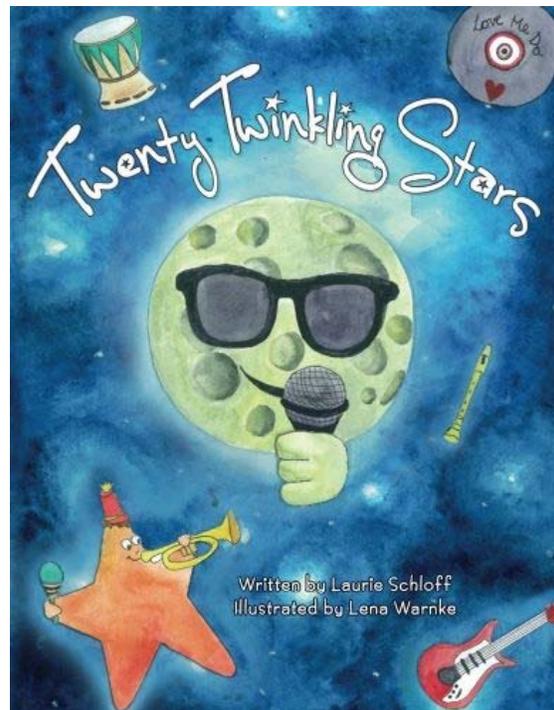


# Twenty Twinkling Stars Lesson Plan

to accompany

## Twenty Twinkling Stars written by Laurie Schloff

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# Twenty Twinkling Stars Lesson Plan

## Objectives:

1. To enhance student's ability to identify and discuss positive character traits and identify real-life examples of these characteristics.
2. To increase student's awareness of and to reflect upon their own personal characteristics in connection with the character traits discussed in the book *Twenty Twinkling Stars*.
3. To create a safe and fun environment where SAVE members can engage students in thoughtful, meaningful discussion and activities.

## Materials:

- ☆ Supplemental activity packet or select pages photocopied for each student
- ☆ Crayons, colored pencils or markers (see Contents of Student Activity Packet for specific materials needed for each activity page)
- ☆ Questions and Talking Points Bookmark Sheet (Pre-cut bookmarks for each page with questions and talking points that you feel are appropriate for the student group you are working with. Paper clip/insert selected bookmarks to *Twenty Twinkling Stars* book)
- ☆ One copy of the *Twenty Twinkling Stars* book with question and talking point bookmarks attached
- ☆ Optional: Copy of *Twenty Twinkling Stars* Book and Student Activity Packet to leave with classroom teacher at the conclusion of the lesson.

## Activity pages that require additional materials:

- ☆ Color Caring Star page requires crayons/colored pencils/markers
- ☆ Create Your Own Star page does not require, but recommends crayons/colored pencils/markers
- ☆ Create Your Own Star cut-and-paste version requires scissors and glue
- ☆ Create Your Own Star Badge requires tape, scissors and crayons/colored pencils/markers (badges can be pre-cut in order to eliminate need for student scissors)

## Contents of Student Activity Packet:

Note: Before implementing the lesson, please take a moment to discuss (amongst yourselves as well as with the classroom teacher) the activities that are most appropriate for the age group, maturity level and ability of the students you are teaching. Please also keep in mind the amount of time allotted as well as materials available in the classroom you are visiting.

Please choose the activities that you feel are most important to you and most appropriate for the group being taught.

Student Activity Packet Table of Contents (pages with asterisks (\*\*\*) require materials other than pencil and activity packet)

1-Caring Star Coloring (\*\*\*)requires crayons, colored pencils or markers)

2-Circle and Count

3-Draw a Picture

4 Create a "Me" Star

5-Create a "Me" Star (cute and paste version, \*\*\*)requires scissors and glue) Note: these can also be pre-cut

6-Draw a Line

7-Create Your Own Star Badge (\*\*\*)crayons/colored pencils/markers helpful but not required, tape required)

8-Star Word Search 1

9-Star Word Search 2

Implementation:

1. **Intro and Ground Rules:** Begin by introducing yourself to the students, and explain that you have a very special book you would like to share with them that is meaningful to you. Remind the students that you will be asking questions while reading out loud and they must raise their hand and wait to be called on before answering. Please also mention to students that there are no right or wrong answers to the questions, and that any thoughtful and appropriate answer is welcomed. You may also mention that they need to look and listen closely and carefully as it will help them complete their fun activity packet.
2. **Reading the book out loud:** It is recommended that you collaborate with the classroom teacher to find an ideal set-up/seating plan for the students to listen to the book being read out loud to them. While reading, make sure to read slowly, announce, and project your voice. You may want to check in with the students and ask them to raise their hand if they can hear your voice before beginning to read aloud. While reading, have a partner (or yourself) hold the book out to the students after reading each page. Stopping to bring the book (images) up close to students and making sure that your audience can see is very important! Please refer to the pre-selected and attached “Questions and Talking Points” bookmarks to pause after pages and ask the students questions. Depending on time allotted, allow for one to three students to contribute to each question. Try to make sure to call on different students each time so as to allow for as full participation as possible.

Discussion Topics/Questions:

See attached “Questions and Talking Points Bookmark” page.

Caring Star Conversation:

If time allows, please discuss the Caring Star page in detail with students after reading the book.

- ☆ Open the book up to the Caring Star Page
- ☆ Have on teenager draw a large star with a smile on the whiteboard/large classroom teacher’s notepad
- ☆ Explain to the students that this is a particularly important star that you would like to discuss a little further. Explain that you would like their help in understanding a little bit more about the caring star what it means to “care” in general.
- ☆ Ask the students to raise their hand and provide their own definition of what “caring” means to them. You can encourage them to look at the caring star and use the visual references to come up with a definition.
- ☆ Ask students to raise their hands and offer other ideas of how they themselves are/can be caring, kind or helpful. You can ask “Who or What do YOU take care of? How are you a helper? What are some examples of acts of kindness?”
- ☆ Ask students to describe ways in which they can be helpful in the following scenarios/contexts (here are example answers to offer in order to help facilitate):
  - family/household: hugs, listening to parents, chores, making bed, setting the table, cleaning bedroom
  - pets: petting, walking, feeding
  - friends/classmates: sharing, taking turns, using kind words

- school/classroom: polite, thank teachers at the end of class, hold the door, do classroom chores
- dolls/toys: brush hair, put on clothes, put away nicely, play gently
- the earth: don't litter, pick up trash and throw away, not pulling up grass or yanking off branches, planting seeds, walking on path not grass.

Note: Students can (if you chose) go directly to the "Draw a Picture" page and create a drawing after this discussion, or it can be completed along with the other pages or brought home for completion.

#### Demonstration:

Depending on the age, ability and time allotted, you may want to demonstrate how to complete some of the worksheets.

Note: Word Search and Circle and Count page keys/solved version has been provided at the end of this manual for reference.

#### **Pages that may need demonstration or explanation before student completion:**

##### Circle and Count Page :

##### Demonstration:

What to say: "On this page, it is asking you to take a very close look at all of the stars on the page and see what they are doing. What does this star look like it is doing?" (Point to star holding cupcakes).

Ask students "is this star doing something caring, kind of helpful?"

Answer: No not really, it is just holding cupcakes, not sharing or doing much at all

Ask students "what about this star? what is this one doing?" (Point to the star holding the other star on his shoulders on the bottom right corner of the page)

Ask students "is this star doing something kind, caring or helpful?"

Answer: "yes, they seem to be helping another star reach a book he wouldn't be able to reach on his own"

Tell students to look closely to see how many kind, caring and helpful stars they can find. You can inquire about a few more stars so that they get the gist of it.

Ask students to count how many stars they circled and write the total at the top of the page.

##### Draw a Picture Page:

##### Demonstration:

You may use the completed example provided in this lesson plan (below), or you can create your own personal version. Explain how your drawing depicts you doing something kind, caring or helpful.

Ask students (if they are able) to describe their drawing at the bottom of the page.

##### Create a "Me" Star Page:

##### Demonstration:

You may replicate this example or create your own personal version. Share with students that you are creating a star that shows many different parts/qualities of YOU. Explanation of your drawing might include things like "I drew a magnifying glass because I love exploring nature" or "I drew a band-aid because I'm a good friend like the caring star" or "I gave myself a superhero outfit because I think I am brave" or "I drew cookies because I'm like the yummy tummy star and I love to bake".

Note: The cut and paste version requires that either the squares be pre-cut or that students cut them out themselves. This version allows students to use pre-drawn images to select and glue down the images that resonate with them.

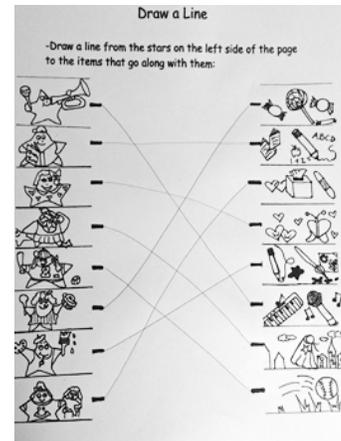


### Draw a Line Page:

#### Demonstration:

You may use the key to help you guide the students in this activity. Explain to students that there are the stars that they met in the book on one side, and objects that belong/go along with those stars on the other side. Explain that it is their job to match them up. You can do one or two in front of the class to demonstrate. Use the trickiest one (protecting star) to demonstrate.

Explain that “I see the protecting star with his binoculars, lets see if I can find something on the other side of the page that might belong to him. Oh look! There’s protecting stars cape flying over the city just like the picture in the book we read!”



### Create Your Own Star Badge:

#### Demonstration:

Explain to students that they should choose a star from the book, or make up their own kind of star that represents them. For example, you might say “I am making my star badge a Courage Star because I am courageous when I stand up to bullies” or “I am a Big Sister star because I have a new baby sister and I love helping to take care of her”.

### Conclusion:

- Which star was your favorite?
- Which star do you think you are most like?

### Transition:

Thank you for being such wonderful listeners and for letting us share this book with you. Now let’s talk about some of the other fun activities and discussions we have in store for you today. The conversation can transition to a lengthier discussion about the caring star (see Caring Star Conversation for more detail) or a demonstration of the pages to be completed in the Student Activity Packet.

## Questions and Talking Points Bookmarks

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### 1. Learning Star:

- ☆ Look at all of these learning star smiles right in front of me today
  - ☆ Today we are going to learn and talk about all kinds of special stars
  - ☆ What is your favorite subject to learn about?
  - ☆ What would you like to learn more about?
  - ☆ Touch your head if you think you are a learning star...You are all learning stars going to school and learning new things every day
- 

### 2. Goofy Star:

- ☆ Touch your “clown nose” if you are silly like the Goofy Star
- 

### 3. Love Bug Star:

- ☆ How do you show love?
  - ☆ Who or what do you love?
  - ☆ Give yourself a hug if you think you are a Love Bug Star
- 

### 4. Muscle Star:

- ☆ What does it mean to be brave?
  - ☆ What have you done that is brave?
  - ☆ Flex your muscle if you are a Muscle Star too
- 

### 5. Taco Star:

- ☆ Lick you lips if you are hungry too
- 

### 6. Protecting Star:

- ☆ What does the word “protecting” mean? (to keep safe, to guard)
  - ☆ Can you name a job that requires protecting people?
  - ☆ How could you protect someone or yourself? (i.e. stand up for yourself, wear a helmet when riding a bike, defend a friend who is being bullied)
- 

### 7. Cozy Blanket Star:

- ☆ When someone you know is sad, what could you do to make them feel better?
  - ☆ How do you cheer yourself up?
-

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**8. Sporty Star:**

- ☆ Pretend to catch a ball if you are like the Sporty Star
  - ☆ Raise your hand if you play basketball, soccer, etc
- 

**9. Courage Star:**

- ☆ What does the word “courage” mean?
  - ☆ Why is the Courage Star wearing a firefighter outfit?
  - ☆ What have you done that was courageous?
  - ☆ Pretend to put on your “courage hat”
- 

**10. Birthday Star:**

- ☆ Hold up your hand and show me with your fingers how many years old you are
  - ☆ How do you celebrate birthdays in your family?
- 

**11. Curious Star:**

- ☆ What does the word “curious” mean?
  - ☆ What are you curious about?
- 

**12. Swirly Whirly Star:**

- ☆ Can you do a little (seated) wiggle?
- 

**13. Yummy Tummy Star:**

- ☆ Rub your belly if you like baking or eating sweets
- 

**14. Question Star:**

- ☆ Why is it good to ask questions?
  - ☆ Hold up your pretend magnifying glass just like the Question Star
- 

**15. Artist Star:**

- ☆ Pretend paint in the sky if you like to make art
  - ☆ Raise your hand if you would like to share with us what your favorite color is
- 

**16. Mr. Music Star:**

- ☆ Raise your hand if you play an instrument or like to sing
  - ☆ Can you pretend to play the guitar?
-

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**17. Caring Star:**

- ☆ How is the Caring Star helping the sheep?
- ☆ What do you take care of?
- ☆ How can you be a caring friend?
- ☆ What does it mean to be a caring student? (keeping classroom neat, following rules, helping classmates)

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**18. Ms. Animal Star:**

- ☆ Pretend to pet Ms. Animal Star
- ☆ Raise your hand if you have a pet at home
- ☆ Raise your hand if you love animals

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**19. Sleepy Star:**

- ☆ Put your hands together and rest your head on them
- ☆ Make a silent yawn if you are sleepy too

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**20. Angel Star**

- ☆ Who do you know who is far away? Your grandparents? Your friend who moved away?
- ☆ Let's pretend to flap our wings like the Angel Star