

Changemaker Challenge

Recommended Lesson Plans

Middle School/Ages 11-13



In addition to the featured curriculum and learning resources you can find [here](#), we also wanted to share some relevant and helpful lesson plans by grade and age range to help enhance your team's learning through the Changemaker Challenge. Explore these lessons below that range in duration and topical focus.

Name and Source	Description	Duration, Grade/Age
Changemaker Story Series From Ashoka	A lesson focused on youth changemakers, Ashoka has compiled four stories from young leaders making a positive difference in their communities. These readings are based on the idea that storytelling is a powerful force in shifting mindsets and inspiring action – and that peers can uniquely inspire each other. Each story includes a narrative and video, discussion questions, and a changemaker challenge to encourage your students to engage with issues in their own community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 5-8• Ages 11-14• Duration 45 min-3 hours
I am a Changemaker From Ashoka	Learn what it means to be a Changemaker. Students will think about and understand the qualities and skills needed to be a changemaker, and hear inspirational stories from fellow agents of change. Students will create their own definition of what a changemaker is and declare that they are changemakers. Includes large and small group activities, videos, recommended reading, and more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 6-8• Ages 12-14• Duration 45 min-3 hours
Change Agents in Our Own Lives From Teaching Tolerance	Role models play a crucial part in helping children answer questions about the way they want to be in the world. Kids need people to look up to and identify with, and they also need opportunities to think about what exactly it is they admire or question in heroes. Often, curriculum focuses on heroes on a large scale, outside of our own communities. This lesson will allow students to identify individuals in their own lives who embody heroism by being change agents. Using the structure of the writing process, students will profile someone who, in their eyes, has made a difference. Students will also think about what other roles people play in conflicts and why people might choose not to stand up for principles they believe in.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 6-8• Ages 11-14• Duration 45 min-2 hours

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<p>Civic Engagement and Students From PBS Newshour</p>	<p>Today's high school students are becoming more interested in changemaking at a larger scale, becoming civically engaged and passionate about local and national social justice issues. This lesson helps learners understand the importance of civic participation and the tools which allow individuals to engage in the political process. Using videos on civic movements, class discussion, interviews, and reflection – students will explore their local governments and how activists effectively address community issues to make change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 6-8• Ages 12-14• Duration 60 min
<p>Character Strengths and Changemakers From The Character Lab</p>	<p>Character strengths like kindness, leadership, social intelligence, and gratitude all play into both <i>being</i> a Changemaker and <i>recognizing</i> a Changemaker. Check out these great Playbooks from the Character Lab to learn more about the following strengths...</p> <p>Kindness Playbook Social Intelligence Playbook Grit Playbook Gratitude Playbook Purpose Playbook Proactivity Playbook Creativity Playbook</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grades 6-8• Ages 12-14• Duration 45 min-2.5 hours

*Please note that some lessons may come from free sources that require establishing a website login to access materials