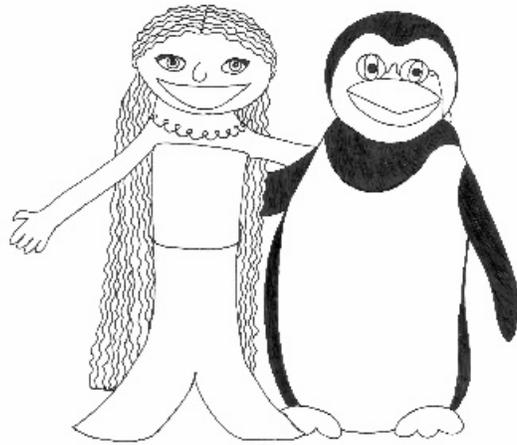


# PHILO AND SOPHIE



Philosophy for Children™

Grade 1: SUCCESS

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Day 2 - The Successful Kingdom

Teacher Resource for Beta-Test

## INTRODUCTION

*Philo and Sophie: Philosophy for Children* is a unique program for teaching the basic building blocks of moral philosophy to children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. It focuses on forming students in the essential principles of logic, ethics, and justice which they will need in later years to understand and accept Church teaching on a variety of moral issues, including respect for human life.

Students who learn these concepts in their early years have a much easier time embracing Church teaching when confronted with moral issues later. A strong early formation makes it natural for students to see the logic and truth in Church teaching on everything from sexual integrity, to moral justice, to respect for human life.

Unfortunately, our culture does not offer a default transmission of these principles through the media, entertainment, most schools, and even many homes, as it did in years past. But do not fear! Our unique tools will provide exactly what you need to pass on these principles in the classroom in a way that is fun, easy, and deeply effective.

**This project is a beta-test of the First Grade unit on "SUCCESS."** It is being provided to you free of charge, so that you can help us to perfect the project before we release it to the wider public.

Your free *Philo and Sophie* kit comes with: this **teacher resource**, access to three accompanying **video segments**, and a free **helpline** for implementation suggestions and troubleshooting. You will also receive an **evaluation tool**, which you will fill out and return to us at the conclusion of your class unit.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. God bless you for your devotion to forming young children in good principles for LIFE!

### Helpline Information:

For help between the hours of 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (PST, M-F), contact Camille Pauley at (425) 577-4340.

## Grade 1 Unit: SUCCESS

### Overview of the Entire First Grade Unit

1. Defines "success" as "achieving a goal" (or "actually getting something you want"), and a "goal" as the objective you are trying to achieve (explained as "the thing you are trying to get or the thing you are trying to do"). Explains that "failure" means "not achieving a goal," and that "not being good at something" does not mean that "you are a failure" (our ontological value as human beings is not affected by our failures). Recalls that there are four different levels of happiness – physical pleasure and material possessions, ego-gratification, love of others, and giving ourselves to God. Offers the correction that being a "successful person" is not about winning or getting to do something, and that what makes you important as a human being is not about being successful on Levels 1 and 2.

Identifies Levels 3 and 4 as the true measure success and value. Demonstrates that helping other people and caring more about others than we do about ourselves (Level 3), and that saying "yes" to God, following Him, and doing what He says (Level 4) is the definition of true success, and that those are the things that make our lives truly successful. Teaches that God wants us to be most successful on Levels 3 and 4 because He knows that will bring us the most happiness and will help us to share real happiness with other people too.

Examines the four different kinds of success. (Success Level 1 is achieving enjoyment of physical pleasures and possessions; Success Level 2 is achieving power, admiration of others, and winning; Success Level 3 is actually helping someone else, experiencing empathy, being generous, and sacrificing what we have for others; and Success Level 4 is giving up other things we like in order to honor and love God, sing praises to Him, and allow Him to fill us up with His love.) Shows that being successful on Level 4 does not require that you sing well or perform worship activities with any level of expertise; but rather that you believe in, love, and serve God with your whole heart. Teaches that children have friends in heaven and on earth to help them become truly successful people.

2. Content pending.
3. Content pending.

## DAY 2 – The Successful Kingdom

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### Essential Questions:

- What are the four different levels of happiness and the four kinds of success?
- Can you be successful if you are not wealthy or strong?
- If others are smarter or more talented than you are, does that mean they are worth more than you?
- What does the devil want you to think makes you important?
- What does God want you to think makes you important?
- Who are the most successful people in the world?
- What is missing in a world that throws away all of its weak and poor people?
- What would that world look like?
- What does a kingdom look like that treasures everyone?
- Which kingdom would you want to live in?
- Who is the Good King?

### Understandings

1. Be able to recall the four different levels of happiness and the four kinds of success.
2. Understand that wealth, strength, knowledge, and talent are good, but they're not enough to be truly successful in life.
3. Be able to identify ways the devil tricks us about what makes us successful and important.
4. Reject the idea that some people are more important than other people because of the kinds of jobs or talents they have (doctors, scientists, movie stars, musicians, sports heroes, etc.).
5. Understand that every human being was made by God for an important reason and is called to be successful on Levels 3 and 4.
6. Know that we are most successful when we are most like God, and that the most successful people are the ones who know how to love and serve God.
7. Know that the Good King represents God/Jesus.
8. Grasp that what makes God's kingdom complete is when every human being is welcomed and loved.

## Assessment Evidence

1. Verbal responses to teacher questions.
2. Correct placement of pieces in the "Successful Kingdom" activity.
3. Sing-along

## Day 2 Lesson Plan:

**NOTE:** The text in red suggests what the teacher will say.

### Prepare your classroom ahead of time:

- Cut a piece of white or brightly colored butcher paper, long enough to accommodate drawings and words (see below) from each student in your classroom. Write "Our Successful Kingdom" in large, regal letters across the top. Affix the paper to a wall with sturdy tape or push pins.
- Access the document "The Good King – Final Scene." Print out the picture as large as possible, so students will be able to see the different parts of the kingdom from their seats. Poster size is best, if possible. It might be helpful to tape or glue it to cardboard so that it is easy to hold or prop up during discussion. Alternatively, print out a copy of the scene for each student or pair of students. If you can print it in color, that will help to identify various characters during the discussion.
- Access the document "Successful Kingdom - WORDS." Note that there are 8 pages to this document Print out enough sheets on white paper for each student in your classroom to have a word to EXCLUDE and a word to INCLUDE. Cut the words out. If you have less than 20 students you can give out more than one word from each category to some students. If you have more than 20 students, there are blank spaces for you to add words.
- For each student, set out a word to exclude, a word to include, a piece of paper, crayons, scissors, and glue or tape, on activity tables.
- MOVEMENT SUGGESTION: Move students to three different parts of your classroom for the three segments of today's class, such as: floor for the INTRODUCTION, chairs for the VIDEO, and tables for the ACTIVITY.

### Introduction to the day's concepts. (10 minutes)

*Gather students into a circle on the floor. Collect the Success-o-Meter sheets from the day before. You can post them on a wall or bulletin board later.*

**Who remembers what the word "success" means?** (Pause – "achieving a goal," "actually getting something you want," or "actually doing something you are trying to do.") **Right!**

There are lots of different things you might want or could be trying to do, so there are a lot of different ways that you can be successful. Like, for example, let's pretend that you are learning to ride a bicycle. You try really hard for many days. First you use a tricycle with three wheels. Then you get a strider with two wheels but no pedals, and you push yourself along, learning how to balance. Then you get a real bicycle with training wheels to keep from tipping over. One day, your parents take off the training wheels and you practice for several hours. Finally, you grab hold of the handlebars, push off, put your feet on the pedals, and... you're doing it! You have achieved your goal. You are successful!

Who do you think of when you imagine someone who is successful? *(Encourage answers like: someone who has won a sports game, someone who had made a lot of money, a person who can play a musical instrument really well, someone who gets the answers correct in math or spelling, a child who has won a prize at the fair, someone who can fit together the pieces of a toy or project just right, etc.)*

Yes! These are all people who wanted to get something, or be able to do something, and they tried to do it, and then they did! We would say that these people were successful.

What have you been successful at? *(Pause.)* Have you learned how to tie your own shoes? Did you try to read a difficult story in a book, and you did it? Did you try to solve a math problem, and you did it? Did you try to reach something high up on a shelf, or to pick up something heavy, and found you were able to do it? If you did, you were successful! You experienced "success."

What does the word "fail" mean? *("Not achieving a goal" – "not getting something you want" or "not being able to do something that you are trying to do.")* Yes. And just like there are a lot of ways that you can succeed, there are also a lot of ways that you can fail. You probably are not able to flap your arms and fly. Who would like to try? *(Call on a student to stand in place and try.)* It didn't work so well, did it? If you tried to walk from one tall building to another on a tightrope, you would probably fail at that, too. If you tried to memorize the entire Bible in three days, you would most likely fail. There are a lot of things that you would fail at if you tried.

But are there other things that you could succeed or fail at, besides things like being smart, or talented, or rich? Sure! *(Encourage answers like: succeeding at making a new friend, succeeding at telling the truth when you really wanted to avoid getting in trouble by telling a lie, succeeding at making someone feel better when he is sad, or succeeding at apologizing when you've done something wrong.)*

So, remember from yesterday that there are four different kinds of success, just like there are four different kinds of happiness. You can be successful in four different ways. And each one is like one of the levels of happiness.

*(Point to the Level 1 poster in the corner of your room.)*

**There's LEVEL 1.** Everybody point at it. God wants you to work hard at getting the things you need for your body to be healthy. He wants you to eat good food, have good clothing to cover your body and protect yourself from the sun and the cold weather. He wants you to grow up and earn money so that you can buy the things that you and your family need. Does God want you to be successful at Level 1? (Yes!)

**There's Level 2.** Everybody point at that corner. God wants you to work hard at being smart and talented. He wants you to be good at something – like art or music, dancing or sports; schoolwork, building things. Does God want you to be successful at Level 2? (Yes!)

**There's Level 3.** Point at Level 3. God also wants you to work hard at doing good for others. He wants you to be truthful and fair. He wants you to be patient and kind. He wants you to be generous and loving to others. Does God want you to be successful at Level 3? (Yes!)

**There's Level 4.** Let's point at it. God wants you to work hard at being His friend. He wants you to love Him more than anything else in the world. He wants you to follow His commandments and to come to Him when you have done wrong and need forgiveness. He wants you to tell other people about Him and teach His commandments to others. Does God want you to be successful at Level 4? (Yes!)

You children are amazing. Now I have a really difficult question for you. What level do you think God wants you to be the **MOST** successful at? (Levels 3 and 4.) Right! Why? (Because those are the levels that will make you the happiest, and that will make the world a better and more welcoming place for everyone.) Yes. God wants you to be most successful at Levels 3 and 4 because those levels will make you happier, and when you are successful at them, you will be able to help other people find happiness, too.

What if we were super successful at Levels 1 and 2, but we forgot all about Levels 3 and 4. Do you think we would be happy? (Pause.) No. We would not really be happy, and we would end up hurting other people.

We're going to watch a video that tells a story about what happens when people forget about being successful on Levels 3 and 4. It's called "The Good King." I want you to pay careful attention to what happens in the story. Okay?

**Show the Video** (12 minutes)

Show the "The Successful Kingdom" video segment for Day #2.

<https://philoandsophie.org/grade-1/>

**Discussion and Activity** (20 minutes) — Creating a Successful Kingdom

Did you like that king? *(Pause.)* Me too. What was the command that the king gave to his friend, Lord Mahendra? *(To build the most successful kingdom in the world.)* Right. What did Lord Mahendra do to build a successful kingdom? *(Gathered all the rich people, gold and jewels; built tall buildings, gathered the smartest and most talented people, etc.)*

The kingdom Lord Mahendra built was pretty impressive, wasn't it? *(Pause.)* But he didn't do what the king asked. What did he do wrong? *(He kicked out all the poor, weak, elderly, children, pregnant mothers, not-so-smart, etc.)* Yes. The devil can trick us into thinking that we are more successful when we have Levels 1 and 2, can't he? *(Pause.)* And he can trick us into thinking that people who don't have as much Levels 1 and 2 are not as important, can't he?

So, what was the most important ingredient to a successful kingdom that was missing? *(Love.)* Yes. When Lord Mahendra kicked out all the weak people, he kicked out love, and he also kicked out the chance for all the strong people to be kind, gentle, loving, caring, generous, and compassionate... didn't he? *(Pause.)* Yes! They were only focused on themselves!

When the Good King got back, do you remember what he said about that? *(The most successful people in the world are the ones who know how to love.)* Right. How did he ask Lord Mahendra to help him make the successful kingdom complete? *(By changing from being unkind to being good.)*

Lord Mahendra didn't think he could do that. He said, "But Sire, I have nothing left to give." What did the king show Lord Mahendra that he had? *(A good heart.)* And what did he become known as? *(Uncle Mahendra.)* That's right!

*(Hold up your printout of "The Good King – Final Scene," or hand out copies to the children to look at.)*

Here is a picture of the last scene in the video. Look! There's Uncle Mahendra. He's got children all over him now. How did the kingdom become "the most successful kingdom the world had ever known?"

Help the children to point out various things that show this in the picture:

- Doctor is caring for the sick person
- Scientist is trying to find a cure for the sick person
- Woman on the left is giving bag of jewels to a young girl
- Man in green is giving gold to a poor woman
- Mathematician is patiently trying to teach the not-so-smart people to read

- Lord Mahendra is playing with the children
- Woman is playing the violin for the elderly lady in the wheelchair
- Rich and poor people are shaking hands and becoming friends
- Painter is painting the apple tree that the poor people planted.
- Judge is making an announcement to tear down the gate
- Strong man is breaking down the gate that separated the people
- The good king is celebrating everybody

What do you notice about the Good King? (Holding his arms out, standing in front of the little church.) Who do you know who stretched out his arms for you like that? (God/Jesus.) Yes! Do you think the Good King is just like Jesus? I think the Good King is supposed to remind us of Jesus. What do you think?

(Move children to the activities tables.)

### Successful Kingdom Wall Activity

We're going to make our own Successful Kingdom. (Show them your butcher paper on the wall.) Over here I have a blank kingdom with nothing in it. It looks kind of sad and lonely, doesn't it? Let's build it up to make it really successful! Who should go in it?

(Help the children to name out various people who need to be part of the kingdom. As children call out ideas, assign each one to a child to draw.) Yes! We need some children! Jessie, you draw a child on your sheet of paper. Then color and cut it out, okay. What else, children? Yes! A mother. Anne, you draw a mother, who else? ... (Old person, doctor, poor person, rich person, baby, scientist, farmer, teacher, priest, nun, sick person, person on crutches, blind person, pregnant mother, father, person in wheelchair, strong person, musician, artist, etc.)

(Give students a few minutes to draw their person, cut it out, and tape or glue it into your kingdom. If you don't have enough students for all the characters listed above, have some stick-figure drawings of your own handy, so that no one gets left out of the kingdom.) Students – look at how beautiful our kingdom is! The most successful kingdom in the world is the one that has room for everyone in it – poor and rich, old and young, born and unborn, mothers and fathers, strong and weak, smart and not-as-smart, abled and disabled.

But these people need more things to make our kingdom really successful. Each of you has some words cut out on pieces of paper. Can you find those? One of those is a word we want in a successful kingdom, and one of them would not make our kingdom successful at all. You figure

out which one goes in a successful kingdom, and I'll help you paste it on the wall in the blank spaces between your drawings. *(Spend a few minutes on this.)*

Look at our wonderfully successful kingdom! What do you think? Would you want to live here? Me too. All of these people are **IMPORTANT**, aren't they? Because they can all be part of God's **KINGDOM OF LOVE**. Tomorrow, we're going to learn more about that.

### **Sing-along** (1:30 minutes)

If you have time after the activity, you can sing "The Success Song" together with your students. You can select the song from the video playlist, without the interaction with actors and puppets. It is Segment #4 on the website. Alternatively, if you are musically talented (and if your students can read), you can hand out the words to the song which are included on the website and play the song for them on an instrument.