

## Positively Kind



**Lena Ford, 15, values kindness. She starts and runs programs that help kids in need.**

**LEXILE:** 970L

**SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD:** Individual Development and Identity

**COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS:** RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.6, SL.6-8.4

### ENGAGE THE READER

Ask students to think about the different forms that kindness can take. Have them talk to a partner or write about a time they performed or received an act of kindness. How did it feel? What impact did it have? Call on volunteers to share their stories with the class. Then ask students why acts of kindness are important. Do they think showing kindness and positivity should qualify someone as a Kid of the Month? Why or why not?

### QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- What inspired each of Lena Ford's acts of kindness?
- How is kindness powerful, according to the article? Do you agree?
- What effects of kindness have you witnessed? Does an act of kindness have to be large to have an effect?

### EXTEND LEARNING

Have students write about times when they could have benefitted from kindness. You can provide ideas such as giving the wrong answer in class or having an argument with a family member before school. After sufficient time, tell students they'll be coming up with scenarios for classmates to respond to, in order to practice showing kindness. Give each student a note card and have them write a scenario on the card. Put the scenarios in a hat and have each student pick one out. Ask them to put themselves in the shoes of the person in the scenario. How would they feel? How would they want others to respond? Then have them write how they would react if they encountered someone in this situation. Have students share their scenarios and responses aloud, or pair them up and have them act out their scenarios. Remind them that a small act of kindness can go a long way.

### COVER STORY QUIZ + ANSWER KEY

The cover quiz can be found on page 2 of this guide.

To create a digital quiz, you can use our template [here](#).

**1. C** (RI.1) **2. A** (RI.3) **3. A** (RI.6) **4. D** (RI.7) **5. B** (RI.2)

**6. D** (RI.8) **7. Answers will vary.** (W.3)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Use this week’s cover story, “Positively Kind,” to answer the questions below. For questions 1–6, circle the letter next to the best answer. If you need more space to write your response to question 7, use the back of this page.

<p><b>1.</b> Why did Lena start Arting for You?</p> <p><b>A.</b> She was raised in foster care.</p> <p><b>B.</b> The world is a tough place and she wanted to spread positivity.</p> <p><b>C.</b> She was inspired to give back by her granny.</p> <p><b>D.</b> She wanted to share her love of art.</p>	<p><b>4.</b> The photo “Packing Positivity” illustrates which detail from the text?</p> <p><b>A.</b> “Kindness is powerful.”</p> <p><b>B.</b> “Part of the money she earns goes toward her charitable efforts.”</p> <p><b>C.</b> “It sells products with uplifting messages, including a book Lena wrote to help kids deal with bullying.”</p> <p><b>D.</b> “Every few months or so, Lena hosts a packing party at a local shop called the Book Worm.”</p>
<p><b>2.</b> How are Lena Ford’s positivity pouches and Embrace Their Roots kits similar?</p> <p><b>A.</b> Lena hosts packing parties with volunteers to put them together.</p> <p><b>B.</b> They contain hair products.</p> <p><b>C.</b> They include Lena’s book.</p> <p><b>D.</b> Her granny inspired both projects.</p>	<p><b>5.</b> Which detail would be included in a summary of the article?</p> <p><b>A.</b> Lena’s hometown is Marietta, Georgia.</p> <p><b>B.</b> Lena’s goal is to spread positivity.</p> <p><b>C.</b> The world can be a really tough place.</p> <p><b>D.</b> Lena’s mom and her brothers were raised in kinship care.</p>
<p><b>3.</b> Which best describes Lena’s view on kindness?</p> <p><b>A.</b> Kindness can make someone’s day.</p> <p><b>B.</b> It can be difficult to be kind all the time.</p> <p><b>C.</b> She likes receiving compliments.</p> <p><b>D.</b> Being kind is fun.</p>	<p><b>6.</b> Lena can best be described as</p> <p><b>A.</b> kind.</p> <p><b>B.</b> giving.</p> <p><b>C.</b> creative.</p> <p><b>D.</b> all of the above</p>

**7.** Describe a time when you showed or were shown kindness. Explain its impact.

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