



# Harmony Day Poster Competition: Teacher's Lesson Guide

## Years 3 & 4

**2026 Theme: *Harmony – Stronger Together***



**Dear Teacher,**

Thank you for championing the values of harmony and teamwork in your classroom. This year's theme, "**Harmony – Stronger Together**," is a fantastic opportunity for your students to explore how collaboration and inclusion make our communities better.

At this age, students can think more deeply about the actions that build a strong team and communicate that message visually. A poster allows them to combine art with purpose, creating a visual statement that celebrates unity and cooperation.

This guide provides a complete, **60-minute lesson plan** designed for Years 3 & 4. It is aligned with the Australian Curriculum and will empower your students to transform their understanding of the theme into a compelling and thoughtful piece of art.

We are excited to see the powerful ways your students show how we are stronger together!

## 1. Connecting to the Australian Curriculum

This theme-based lesson supports key learning outcomes for Years 3 & 4, blending Visual Arts with Health & Physical Education and Personal and Social Capability.

Learning Area	Curriculum Code	Content Descriptor (in plain English)
<b>The Arts (Visual Arts)</b>	ACAVAM112	Students will <b>create artworks that communicate ideas and intentions</b> about teamwork and community to a specific audience.
<b>Health &amp; Physical Education</b>	AC9HP4P04	Students will select and use <b>personal and social skills</b> to establish, manage and strengthen relationships and work effectively in teams.
<b>General Capabilities</b>	<i>Critical &amp; Creative Thinking</i>	Students will <b>generate, develop, and connect ideas</b> by brainstorming actions that show people being "stronger together" and how this can be represented with powerful symbols.
<b>General Capabilities</b>	<i>Personal &amp; Social Capability</i>	Students will develop <b>social awareness and skills</b> by exploring concepts of teamwork, cooperation, and the value of inclusion.

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## 2. The 60-Minute "Stronger Together" Poster Lesson Plan

**Lesson Objective:** Students will be able to design a poster that combines a central image, effective colours, and clear theme words to communicate a clear message about teamwork, inclusion, and community.

**Materials Needed:**

- An open space for a group activity
  - Whiteboard or smartboard
  - Markers
  - The provided "**My Harmony Poster Planner**" Worksheet for each student
  - Pencils and colouring materials (markers, pencils, etc.)
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### Step 1: The Spark – The Human Knot (15 mins)

- Ask 6-8 students to form a small circle. Instruct them to reach across the circle and grab the hands of two *different* people.
  - Once they are tangled in a "human knot," challenge them to untangle themselves into a single circle *without letting go of anyone's hands*. (This requires communication, cooperation, and teamwork).
  - After they succeed (or have a good try), lead a discussion: "Was that easy to do by yourself? What did you need to do as a team to solve the problem?" Guide them to answers like "We had to talk to each other," "We had to help people move," and "We had to work together."
  - Introduce the theme: "Just like in that game, some things are impossible to do alone. We are always **stronger together!**"
  - On the whiteboard, create two columns: "**Stronger Together Actions**" (e.g., Helping someone up, Sharing equipment, Building something as a team, Including someone in a game) and "**Key Harmony Words**" (e.g., Team, Help, Share, Friends, Unity, Care).
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### Step 2: Anatomy of a Powerful Poster (15 mins)

Explain that a great poster has three parts that work together to send a message.

1. **A Focal Point:** One strong image or symbol that grabs attention. "How could we draw the idea of 'teamwork'? (Interlocking gears, a bridge being built by many hands). What about 'community'? (A diverse group of people planting a tree together, a woven tapestry)."
  2. **A Colour Mood:** Colours create feelings. "What colours would you use to show an energetic, strong team? What colours would you use for a calm, caring community?"
  3. **Clear Theme Words:** The official theme, "Harmony – Stronger Together," is the main message. The words should be easy to read and an important part of the design.
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### Step 3: Let's Create! (20 mins)

- Hand out the "**My Harmony Poster Planning Sheet**" Worksheet. (annexed to this document)
- Explain that this is their "**idea planning sheet**" where they can practice their design.
- Instruct students: "Your job is to choose your favourite 'stronger together' idea and plan it on this sheet. Think of it as your secret team plan!"
- **Important Teacher Note:** Remind students that this worksheet is for planning. Their final competition entry will be created afterwards on a fresh, blank sheet of A4 or A3 paper. This allows them to be creative and free with their ideas first.
- Circulate the room, helping students refine their message and connect their images to the theme's message.

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### Step 4: Our "Stronger Together" Gallery (5 mins)

- Ask a few students to explain their poster plan: how their main symbol shows we are 'stronger together', and why they chose their colours to support their message. This builds public speaking skills and helps solidify their ideas.
- Celebrate all contributions: "Look at all these amazing ways we can work as a team! Our class is definitely stronger together."
- Display the posters in the classroom to reinforce the theme.

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## 3. Teacher's Tip Sheet: 5 Tips for a Powerful Poster

Help your students become effective designers with these key principles.

- **One Clear Message:** A poster should be understood in seconds. What is the single most important thing you want your audience to feel about being "stronger together"?
  - **Create a Focal Point:** Your most important image (like a bridge, a woven pattern, or a team of people) should be the first thing people see. Make it big, bold, or place it in the centre.
  - **Choose Colours with Purpose:** Colours have power! Use them to create a mood (e.g., warm colours for energy and happiness, cool colours for calm and unity) that matches your message.
  - **Make the Theme Clear:** Make the words "Harmony – Stronger Together" a key part of your poster. Make them big, bold, and easy for everyone to read.
  - **Balance is Key:** Don't overcrowd your poster. Leaving some empty space (called "white space") makes your main message stand out even more.
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## 4. From Classroom Creation to Competition Submission

The most important outcome of this lesson is the rich conversation and the pride students feel in creating their artwork. Here is our recommended process for celebrating their work and participating in the national competition.

### Step 1: Create a School "Stronger Together" Gallery

We strongly encourage you to celebrate the work of **every student**. Creating a "**Stronger Together Wall**" in your classroom, library, or school hall is a fantastic way to:

- Give every child the recognition they deserve.
- Showcase your school's commitment to the values of Harmony Day.
- Visually reinforce the powerful message that your school community is stronger together.

### Step 2: Select Your School's Finalists

The Moving Forward Together competition receives thousands of entries from across the country. To ensure every poster gets the attention it deserves, we ask schools to participate in the first round of judging.

Please select the posters that you feel best represent your school's creativity and understanding of the theme. As a guideline, we recommend submitting your top 3 entries per Year (e.g., 3 from Year 1, 3 from Year 2, etc.).

This makes being selected for submission a special achievement for the students.

### Step 3: Submit Your Finalists Online

Once you have selected your school's finalists, please proceed to the submission guide below.

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## 5. Competition Submission Guide

### 2025 Competition Theme: Harmony – Stronger Together

#### Key Rules:

- Artwork must be the student's own original work and connect to the theme.
- Posters should be A4 or A3 in size.
- Any art materials can be used (crayons, paint, markers, collage).

#### How to Submit:

1. Take a clear, bright photograph or scan of the completed poster.
2. Visit our website at [www.movingforwardtogether.org.au/harmony-day-competitions/](http://www.movingforwardtogether.org.au/harmony-day-competitions/).
3. Fill out the online entry form with the student's details and upload the image file.

**Submission Deadline:** 15 April 2026

**Thank you for helping us show that we are all stronger together.**

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## 6. Engaging Parents & Carers: Bring Harmony Home!

Connecting with families is a powerful way to extend the Harmony Day message beyond the classroom. To help you do this, we have created a simple, one-page handout for you to send home with your students.

This guide, titled "**Bring Harmony Home**," briefly explains the "**Stronger Together**" theme and gives parents and carers simple ideas on how to support their child's creative process. It also clarifies that the school will be managing the final competition submissions.

This resource is designed to be a simple, print-and-go A4 handout.  
(Annexed to this document)

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## Harmony Day Poster Competition: Parent Guide: "Bring Harmony Home!"

**2026 Theme: *Harmony – Stronger Together***  
Years 3 & 4



### **Hello Parents and Carers!**

Today in class, your child explored this year's Harmony Day Competitions theme:

#### **"Harmony – Stronger Together."**

They participated in a fun, hands-on **\*\*team challenge** about untangling a 'human knot\*\*', learning how communication and cooperation are needed to solve difficult problems!

You may have seen their "Harmony Poster Planning Sheet," which they used to brainstorm their amazing ideas. Now, they have the opportunity to create a final poster for the **Moving Forward Together Harmony Day Competition!**

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### **How You Can Support Your Child's Creativity**

The goal of this activity is to have a positive conversation about teamwork. Here are a few easy ways you can get involved:

- **Ask to See Their Ideas:** Ask your child to tell you about their "stronger together" idea for their poster and why they chose it.
- **Be a "Teamwork Spotter":** Talk about all the ways you see people being stronger together during the day—in a sports team, in your family working together to cook dinner, or characters in a book helping each other.
- **Provide the Canvas:** Your child will need a blank A4 or A3 piece of paper and their favourite art supplies (crayons, markers, paints) to create their final poster.
- **Encourage, Don't Direct:** Let their unique ideas shine! The most wonderful posters are the ones that come straight from the heart.

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### **About the Competition**

The Moving Forward Together competition is a wonderful way to celebrate the creativity of students across Australia.

**Your child's teacher will have all the information about the school's process for selecting and submitting posters to the official competition.**

Thank you for helping us build a stronger community, together.

**Visit Website for Details:** [www.movingforwardtogether.org.au/harmony-day-competitions](http://www.movingforwardtogether.org.au/harmony-day-competitions)

**The Moving Forward Together Team**



# My Harmony Poster Planning Sheet

2026 Theme: *Harmony – Stronger Together*



**My Practice Sketch Box** - Use this sheet to plan your amazing ideas! Your final poster will be on a fresh, blank piece of paper.

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My 'Stronger Together' idea is: \_\_\_\_\_