

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

MINI-FESTIVAL

WARM-UP → PLAY → REFLECT

MATERIALS (SUPER LOW-PREP)

- Paper + pencils/markers
- Orange Shirt Day Activity Bingo card, word search, and coloring page
- Trivia page (optional)
- Certificates (recommended: let kids show their after-school achievement proudly)

1

WARM-UP — PLAYFUL, NO “TEACHING”

3–5 MIN

Script you can read:

“We’re doing a small remembrance activity for Orange Shirt Day. It happens every September 30 in Canada to honor Indigenous children who went to residential schools and to remind us that Every Child Matters. Ready for thoughtful activities?”

Pick ONE quick starter:

- **Group shout (10s):** On 3, everyone says “Every Child Matters!”
- **Quick draw (60s):** On the board, draw an orange shirt + a heart + a child. Ask, “What do you think this day is about?”
- **Guess in place (30s):** “If you believe every child matters, do one silent jump or give a thumbs-up!”

2

PLAY — CHOOSE ONE PATH

15–45 MIN

Path A: Activity Bingo (high-energy)

- One card per student (or pairs).
- Goal: 4 in a row. 10–15-minute timer. Spooky background music helps.
- When someone finishes, they call “Every Child Matters!”

Path B: Word Search + Doodle (calmer)

- When finished, circle a meaningful word (like “respect,” “truth,” “child”) and add a 20-second doodle with a tiny caption.

Path C: Color & Tell (art-first)

- Hand out the coloring page. Invite kids to draw an orange shirt and symbols of care (hearts, children, sun).

3

REFLECT — FAST & FEEL-GOOD

3–5 MIN

Choose ONE:

- **High-five checkout:** say one new thing you noticed.
- **Thumbs check:** 👍 = “I learned a little,” 👍👍 = “I learned a lot!”
- **One-word exit:** Each student says one word (examples: respect, care, truth, child, love, fairness).

4

CELEBRATE

2-3 MIN

Hand out certificates and, together, say “Every Child Matters.”

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

WITH ANSWERS

● **When is Orange Shirt Day?**

A) September 30 B) July 1 C) December 25 D) March 21

Answer: A

● **Why is the shirt orange?**

A) It was the color of a shirt taken from a child at school B) It stands for the sun
C) It is Canada's flag color D) It means autumn leaves

Answer: A

● **What is the main message of Orange Shirt Day?**

A) "Every Child Matters" B) Always wear orange C) Schools are fun
D) Eat more oranges

Answer: A

● **Which country marks Orange Shirt Day?**

A) Canada B) France C) Japan D) Mexico

Answer: A

● **What do people often wear on this day?**

A) Blue hats B) Orange shirts C) Green shoes D) Yellow ties

Answer: B