

Appreciating NSmen Art Jam 2026
Lesson Plan for K1&K2 (5-6 years old)

Theme: Appreciating NSmen Art Jam 2026	Duration: 90 minutes
Level: K1&K2 (5-6 years old)	Setting: Classroom

Learning Objectives:

1. (Pre-lesson) Children will be encouraged to ask their fathers or other family members about their National Service experience and role.
2. Children will be able to understand the importance of National Service in safeguarding Singapore's defence and security, as well as cultivating an environment that paved the way for our nation's progress and growth.
3. Children will learn about NSmen's contributions and duties as part of the 6 Services through simple everyday examples.
4. Children will be able to complete the Appreciation NSmen Art Jam activity.

Resources:

1. Appendix A: The 6 Services of National Service
2. Appendix B: Our way of life
3. Appendix C: International brands in Singapore
4. Appendix D: SAF providing humanitarian aid to Thailand flood victims
5. Appendix E: The 3 areas that National Service contributed to Singapore's growth
6. Appendix F: Guide for Preschool teachers on the Art Jam activity
7. Appendix G: Appreciating NSmen Art Jam template
8. Appendix H: Letter/e-memo to parents
9. Crayons/colour pencils. Other decorative materials such as stickers.
10. Scissors
11. Glue

Pre-lesson Preparation:

- Teacher will prepare letter/e-memo (Appendix A) for parents. The letter/e-memo will inform parents about the upcoming lesson on Appreciating NSmen Art Jam, and fathers/male family members are encouraged to share their National Service involvement and experiences with the children prior to the lesson.

Lesson:

Activities	Resources
[10 mins] Introduction/Tuning In: - Teacher will tell children that 1 July is SAF Day, and it is a day that we show appreciation to the individuals who have served National Service to defend our country and keep our community safe. - Teacher will explain what National Service is and the 6 Services of National Service. <u>What is National Service?</u> - National Service is a compulsory duty that every male citizen and Permanent Resident of Singapore must do when they reach 18 years old. National Service can be served in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) or Singapore Police Force (SPF). - They will serve Full-time National Service for 2 years. After their 2 years of service, they go on to serve as Operationally Ready National Servicemen (NSmen). They continue to keep themselves ready through regular training. <i>Note to teacher: Teacher can, at this point, ask children if they have seen their fathers or family members wear the SAF, or Police or Civil Defence uniform and not be home for a few weeks. Teacher can then explain this is because the fathers/family members go for their in-camp training to ensure they upkeep and enhance their skills which are required to keep Singapore safe and secure.</i> - Teacher will then tell children that there are 6 Services of National Service, and they are: Army, Air Force, Navy, Digital and Intelligence Service, Police, and Civil Defence. Teacher can ask children if they know what each Service does. (Spend a few minutes for discussion) - Teacher will share the role of each Service: <u>Army</u> – Our Army defends our land during peace-time and should there be a war. <u>Air Force</u> – Our Air Force protects our airspace and is the first to respond to any threats in our skies. <u>Navy</u> – Our Navy guards our seas and also responds to dangers posed by piracy. <u>Digital and Intelligence Service</u> – Our DIS builds capabilities to protect and keep Singapore safe from digital and online threats. <u>Police</u> – SPF’s role is to prevent, deter and detect crime. Their work makes	Appendix A Image 1 to 6

Singapore a safe place to live. 6. <u>Civil Defence</u> – SCDF ensures the safety of the people through firefighting, rescue and emergency medical services.	
[45 mins] Main Lesson: - Teacher will explain that, in addition to their role in each Service, our national servicemen’s contributions in NS have also played an important part in shaping Singapore into the country we are today. - Teacher will illustrate the importance of National Service and how generations of national servicemen have supported Singapore’s growth as a nation in these 3 areas: 1) <u>Our Independence and Freedom</u> - Teacher will show images of Singapore’s way of life and have a small discussion with children on life in Singapore. Discussion points can include: - The people in these photos look happy. What are the things that make you happy? - Do you think people in Singapore get to do the things they like, such as playing, exercising and working? - Teacher will explain that because Singapore is an independent nation, we can have our own place to call home where we are free to live happily, make our own choices and build our future. Teacher can give simple examples using ‘home’ as an analogy: - At home, we can freely hug mummy and daddy to show them our love. - We can choose what toys we want to play with, which books we want to read and what games to play. - We can enjoy eating a meal together with our parents (and siblings). - Teacher will explain that sometimes our parents lock the doors at home to prevent bullies from entering and hurting us. Just like that, Singapore is a big home to many families and we also need to protect it from dangers so that we can continue to enjoy our way of life. - Our fathers and family members who serve NS help keep Singapore safe because they love and care for us. <i>(Note to teacher: This will lead to the next section on how NSmen protect Singapore).</i>	Appendix B Image 1 Appendix B Image 2

2) <u>Peace and Security for Singapore to Grow</u> - When our homes are safe, neat and clean, our friends and neighbours will like to visit us and spend time in our homes. Your friends will also like to come and play with you. Just like our homes, when Singapore is a safe and peaceful country, people from other countries will want to come to Singapore to live, work and be our friends too. - Next, teacher can show images of international brands that have set up businesses in Singapore and ask children if they recognise them. (Spend a few minutes on discussion. Teacher may also explain what each brand is known for): - Play: Disney Cruise Line, Trickeye Museum - Shopping: LEGO, Decathlon - F&B: Sushiro, Swensen's - The teacher will explain that when NSmen keep Singapore safe and peaceful, businesses and people from other countries, like the ones we saw, would like to come here to live and work together with us. 3) <u>Singapore as a Helpful Neighbour</u> - Teacher will share that in many instances, Singapore was also able to help others in need as good neighbour. Teacher to tell children about the flood in Thailand in December 2025. - Storms and monsoon rain caused severe flooding to the city of Hat Yai, Thailand. Many families lost their homes and did not have clean water or electricity at that time. - Singapore, as a good, kind and helpful neighbour, helped them: - The Singapore Armed Forces sent relief items that include food, water, medicine and daily essential needs. - Teacher will explain that when Singapore helps others, we make strong friendships, just like how we help each other in school. And we are able to continue to enjoy peaceful interactions with them.	Appendix C Image 1 to 6 Appendix D Image 1
[5 mins] Closure: Teacher will conclude the lesson by recapping the 3 areas in which national servicemen's contributions in NS have played an important part in shaping Singapore into the country we are today. Teacher can ask children one point/example they can remember for each area.	Appendix E

Area 1: Safeguarding our Independence and Freedom Area 2: Maintaining peace and security for Singapore to grow Area 3: Positioning Singapore as a helpful neighbour • Teacher will iterate that it is important that we appreciate the contributions made by NSmen. Without their contributions, we would not be able to enjoy the life that we have now. • Besides their fathers, children should also appreciate other men, young and old, who have served National Service in the past, such as their grandfathers, uncles, neighbours, bus drivers, and hawker stall uncles. • Teacher will tell children they are going to do an art activity to show their appreciation for these NSmen.	
[30 mins] Appreciating NSmen Art Jam: • To help children understand why they need to show appreciation for their NSman father/male family members, teacher will explain that National Service training is tough, but they train hard out of love—to protect us, our homes, and our families. • Children will proceed to do the art jam activity with guidance from teacher.	Appendix F