

Classroom salad and friendship book



Concept:
**Me and my
community**



Recommended:
Kindergarten



Length:
20-60 minutes

About this lesson

In this lesson, students will learn about being a responsible member of their classroom community. They will also create a friendship book that emphasizes the importance of friends and friendship. While we suggest Kindergarten as the recommended grade level for this activity, you can adapt it to suit the needs and interests of your class.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Identify the classroom as a community
- Describe ways a helpful classmate acts in the classroom
- Identify their own strengths that help them be a good classmate

Driving question

How can we each help make our classroom a kind community?

Future-ready skills

Collaboration

Self-management

Self-confidence

Reflection

Responsibility

Lesson Breakdown

30-40
minutes

Activity 1 - Classroom salad

In this activity, students make a "Classroom Salad" where each fruit represents a positive character trait, helping them visualize how individual contributions and behaviors shape their entire classroom community.

20-30
minutes

Activity 2 - Friendship book

In this activity, students will illustrate how they're a good friend to create a classroom "Friendship book" that visually celebrates kindness within the classroom community.

In-app My Files

Upload a photo of students' "I am a good friend" drawing to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad** and include a link to the digital class Friendship book.

Lesson vocabulary

- Community
- Responsibility
- Friendship
- Kindness
- Cooperation

ASCA standards

B-SS 2. Positive, respectful and supportive relationships with students who are similar to and different from them

B-SS 4. Empathy

B-SS 9. Social maturity and behaviors appropriate to the situation and environment

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Inquiry prompts

- What does it mean to be a good friend in our classroom?
- If our class was a fruit salad, what "flavor" or quality would you bring to the bowl?
- What happens to the whole salad if we add one piece of rotten fruit?

Instructions

In this activity, students make a "Classroom salad" where each fruit represents a positive character trait, helping them visualize how individual contributions and behaviors shape their classroom community.

- 1 Begin by telling students that a fruit salad is like a classroom: all of the different parts work together to complement each other. There are many important things that students need - especially good friends and happy days at school.
- 2 Ask students to name an important quality that a responsible member of the class should have. For example, classmates should:
 - Be kind
 - Be generous
 - Be polite
 - Work hard
 - Listen to others
 - Try their best
- 3 Pick one of the fruits and explain that it represents one of those characteristics (kindness, for example) and pour some into the serving bowl. Ask students if they think a fruit salad only needs one kind of fruit. Explain that there are a lot of qualities that go into making a great classroom community.
- 4 Continue composing the salad, using the fruit to represent the qualities that students suggest.

Tip: You can incorporate math standards by asking students to count scoops or fruit slices that are included.

- 5 Bring out the rotten banana (or other piece of rotten fruit). Ask your class if they think you should add the rotten fruit to the salad. Ask them to explain what would happen to the salad if you added it. Explain that demonstrating rotten qualities, such as being mean or not sharing, can affect the whole class.
- 6 Portion out the salad to students. Encourage them to try fruit they're not familiar with.

Materials required

- Variety of washed, trimmed, and sliced fruit, such as strawberries, oranges, pineapple, cantaloupe, apple, grapes, etc., in bowls
- Compost bin for scraps
- Mini marshmallows or chocolate chips
- Hand wipes and napkins
- Small bowls or cups
- Serving spoon
- A piece of rotten fruit
- Large serving bowl
- Spoons

Artifacts

None for this activity

Classroom salad



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20-45 minutes

- 7 As you scoop out salad for each student, ask the other students to name some of the “good” qualities that the student you’re serving demonstrates in the classroom (e.g. the student cleans up after himself, the student shares her markers). This is a great way to teach young students how to be kind and compliment each other.
- 8 Offer a sprinkling of the sweet treats (marshmallows or chocolate chips, for instance) and explain that these are like the kind or encouraging words that students should use in class, such as “please,” “thank you,” “You can do it!” or “Good for you!”

Friendship book



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Length:
20-30 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- What is one thing you do to make your friends smile?
- Can you think of a time you were helpful today or on another day?
- How can we show our friends we are a good community member through a picture?

Instructions

In this activity, students will illustrate how they're a good friend to create a classroom "Friendship book" that visually celebrates kindness within the classroom community.

- 1 Hand out a piece of paper to each student that has the pre-printed phrase "I am a good friend when..." at the top with a large blank space for drawing. Explain that the class is making a special book filled with pictures of all the ways they are kind to one another.
- 2 Show an example of a picture you drew of yourself helping a friend; then, ask students to draw a picture of a time they were helpful, shared a toy, or used kind words.
- 3 Invite all or a few students to show their drawings to the class and describe what is happening in their picture.

Materials Required

- Paper with the pre-printed phrase "I am a good friend when..."
- Your "I am a good friend when..." sample drawing
- Crayons

Artifacts

A physical "Friendship book" binder for the classroom and/or a digital version. Upload a photo of students' "I am a good friend" drawing to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad** with a link to the digital class Friendship book.