



Subject Area: Social Skills and Teamwork
Unit Title: Building Classroom Community
Grade Level: 6-12
Lesson Number: 1 of 10

Duration: 60 minutes
Date: [Insert Date]
Teacher: [Insert Teacher Name]
Room: [Insert Room Number]

Curriculum Standards Alignment

Content Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6-12.1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6-12.2: Integrate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the reasonableness of an argument and detecting possible errors.

Skills Standards:

- Communication: Students will be able to communicate effectively with their peers and teacher.
- Teamwork: Students will be able to work collaboratively with their peers to achieve a common goal.

Cross-Curricular Links:

- English Language Arts: Students will practice communication and teamwork skills through discussions and group work.
- Character Education: Students will learn about the importance of respect, empathy, and responsibility in building a positive classroom community.

Essential Questions & Big Ideas

Essential Questions:

- What is classroom community and why is it important?
- How can we build a positive and inclusive classroom community?

Enduring Understandings:

- Classroom community is essential for creating a positive and inclusive learning environment.
- Building classroom community requires effort and commitment from all members of the class.

Student Context Analysis

Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%



Pre-Lesson Preparation

Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a circle or small groups to facilitate discussion and group work.
- Ensure all necessary materials are available, such as whiteboard markers, paper, and pencils.

Technology Needs:

- None required for this lesson.

Materials Preparation:

- Prepare icebreaker activity handouts, such as Human Bingo and The Human Knot.
- Prepare a classroom charter template for students to complete.

Safety Considerations:

- Ensure students are aware of any allergies or medical conditions that may impact their participation in the icebreaker activities.

Detailed Lesson Flow

Introduction to Classroom Community (10 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of classroom community and its importance in a school setting.
- Discuss the benefits of building classroom community, such as improved academic achievement and increased student engagement.

Icebreaker Activity 1 - Human Bingo (15 minutes)

- Distribute Human Bingo handouts and explain the instructions.
- Have students mingle and find someone who fits each of the characteristics.

Engagement Strategies:

- Encourage students to ask open-ended questions to facilitate meaningful conversations.
- Provide opportunities for students to share their findings with the class.

Icebreaker Activity 2 - The Human Knot (15 minutes)

- Have students stand in a circle and put their hands in the center.
- Each student should grab the hand of someone across from them, not next to them.

Checking for Understanding:

- Observe students during the activity and provide guidance as needed.

- Ask students to reflect on their experience and what they learned.



Differentiation & Support Strategies

For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support and guidance during the icebreaker activities.
- Offer one-on-one assistance with completing the classroom charter template.

For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges, such as creating their own icebreaker activity or leading a group discussion.
- Encourage them to take on a leadership role in the class and facilitate group work.

ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers to support language development.
- Offer one-on-one assistance with completing the classroom charter template.

Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Integrate social-emotional learning skills, such as self-awareness and self-management, into the icebreaker activities.
- Encourage students to reflect on their emotions and behaviors during the activities.

Assessment & Feedback Plan

Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Observe students during the icebreaker activities and provide feedback on their participation and engagement.
- Review student completed classroom charter templates for understanding.

Success Criteria:

- Students will be able to define and explain the concept of classroom community.
- Students will be able to demonstrate respect and empathy towards their peers during the icebreaker activities.

Feedback Methods:

- Provide verbal feedback during the activities and after completion.
- Use a feedback form to collect student feedback and suggestions for future lessons.



Teacher Preparation Lesson Plan: Building Classroom Community Through Icebreaker Activities

Guided Practice

Guided Practice Activity:

- Divide the class into small groups and assign each group a task, such as creating a classroom charter or designing a group project.
- Ask students to work together to complete the task, promoting teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.

Guided Practice Instructions:

- Circulate around the groups to provide guidance and support as needed.
- Encourage students to ask questions and seek help when needed.

Independent Practice

Independent Practice Activity:

- Provide students with a choice of activities, such as writing a reflective essay or creating a poster about classroom community.
- Ask students to work independently to complete the activity, promoting self-expression and creativity.

Independent Practice Instructions:

- Allow students to work at their own pace and provide support as needed.
- Encourage students to reflect on their experiences and think critically about the importance of building classroom community.



Teacher Preparation Lesson Plan: Building Classroom Community Through Icebreaker Activities

Assessment

Assessment Strategies:

- Distribute a survey or questionnaire to assess students' understanding of classroom community and their experiences with the icebreaker activities.
- Collect student completed classroom charter templates to assess their understanding of the concept.

Assessment Instructions:

- Allow students to complete the survey or questionnaire independently.
- Review student completed classroom charter templates for understanding and provide feedback.

Conclusion

Conclusion:

- Building classroom community through icebreaker activities is an effective way to promote social skills, teamwork, and a sense of belonging among students.
- By incorporating group work and interactive exercises, teachers can create a positive and inclusive learning environment that supports academic achievement and social growth.

Future Lessons:

- Plan future lessons that build on the concepts learned in this lesson, such as teamwork and communication.
- Continue to provide opportunities for students to practice and apply their skills in a supportive and inclusive classroom environment.



Teacher Reflection

Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate in implementing this lesson?
- Which students might need extra support or accommodations?
- What backup plans should I have ready in case of unexpected issues?

Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well in the lesson, and what could be improved?
- How did students respond to the icebreaker activities, and what did they learn?
- What adjustments should I make for future lessons to better meet the needs of my students?



Teacher Preparation Lesson Plan: Building Classroom Community Through Icebreaker Activities

Appendix

Icebreaker Activity Handouts:

- Human Bingo
- The Human Knot

Classroom Charter Template:

- A template for students to complete to create a classroom charter.

Survey or Questionnaire:

- A survey or questionnaire to assess students' understanding of classroom community and their experiences with the icebreaker activities.

References

References:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6-12.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6-12.2

