WE Well-being

The WE Well-being Foundational Module: Creating caring classrooms by bringing social and emotional learning together with service-learning

WE Well-being



Building a caring and supportive learning environment enables students of all ages to create positive change and promote wellbeing!

WE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students recognize and understand the meaning of community and what a caring community looks like/feels like.

Students develop an action plan to support actions to increase inclusion and belonging in the classroom and school.

Students are able to describe and communicate the meaning of community and a shared community building experience

SERVICE-LEARNING SEQUENCES WE

4 STEPS OF WE SCHOOLS

INVESTIGATE AND LEARN

Students explore topics related to a real-world challenge or opportunity.

TAKE ACTION Students implement their action plan.

ACTION PLAN

Students develop a plan to implement their service-learning project, including one local and one global action.



REPORT AND CELEBRATE

Students present the results of their service-learning initiatives.

1. Getting Started

Discussing what "community" means and how to create a caring, supportive learning environment



Introduction to WE Schools



Building a Foundation

This module is built on social and emotional learning and service-learning, providing students with the skills to become caring, respectful, and responsible citizens and the opportunities to apply those skills and values.



Ice-Breaker Activity

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

Find a partner you haven't worked with before.

Take turns answering 2-3 questions by rolling a die.

Introduce the other student to the class with one interesting fact.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

Listen to the "Would You Rather" question.

Move to the side of the room based on your answer to the question.

Discuss your opinion with your peers and the class.



What is a community?



Community is "a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society."

~Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Caring Community Brainstorm

What does the word "caring" mean to you?

What would a caring community look like and sound like?

What are some examples of caring words and actions?



Community Think/Pair/Share

What would we like our community to be like?

Write down some key things that are important to you.



Today, we began thinking about what a caring community might look like in our classroom.

Next time, we'll begin to make a plan to put into action, to create the community where we feel we all BELONG.



REFLECT

Write or draw about one new connection you've made or similarity you've discovered and are grateful for





2. Investigate and Learn

Exploring and reflecting on what makes a caring class/school environment and hearing each other's perspectives



Reflecting as a class...

Let's reflect on any connections we made to one another and what we brainstormed so far about what makes a caring class/community

LOOKS like, SOUNDS like, FEELS like...

What does a caring class/school **LOOK** like?

How is the room organized? With desks, chairs, etc. What does a caring class/school **SOUND** like?

What do the voices, language and communication sound like? What does a caring class/school FEEL like?

How do you want to feel in our classroom?

DISCUSSION

Small group

What do you notice about our list?

Are there common themes?

Is there anything missing?

Whole class

Share the most common conditions or themes that emerged.

Synthesize 3-5 core values or themes that emerged.





Be here. Be you. Belong. *This classroom belongs to all of us.*



3. Action Plan

Working together to plan actions for creating a caring class/school community to increase inclusion and belonging.



Reflecting as a class...

Let's reflect what we said a caring class/school **looks**, **sounds**, and **feels** like.

What core values did we identify as important to us?



COLLABORATION means to work together with others to make or produce something.

What skills do you need to collaborate?



With your group, create an ACTION PLAN

Be creative and realistic!

What can we do...

to make our class/school LOOK like a caring class/school?

What can we do...

to make our class/school **SOUND** like a caring class/school?

What can we do...

to make our class/school FEEL like a caring class/school? WE

Let's get creative and dig deeper! What have you done in previous classrooms? Are there any models you've seen outside of school?

What do we already do that we can do better?

Are there any good ideas that you can find on the internet?

Consider time and materials as you brainstorm.

What will help us remember to take these actions?



DISCUSSION

Sharing

Each group presents their ideas to the class

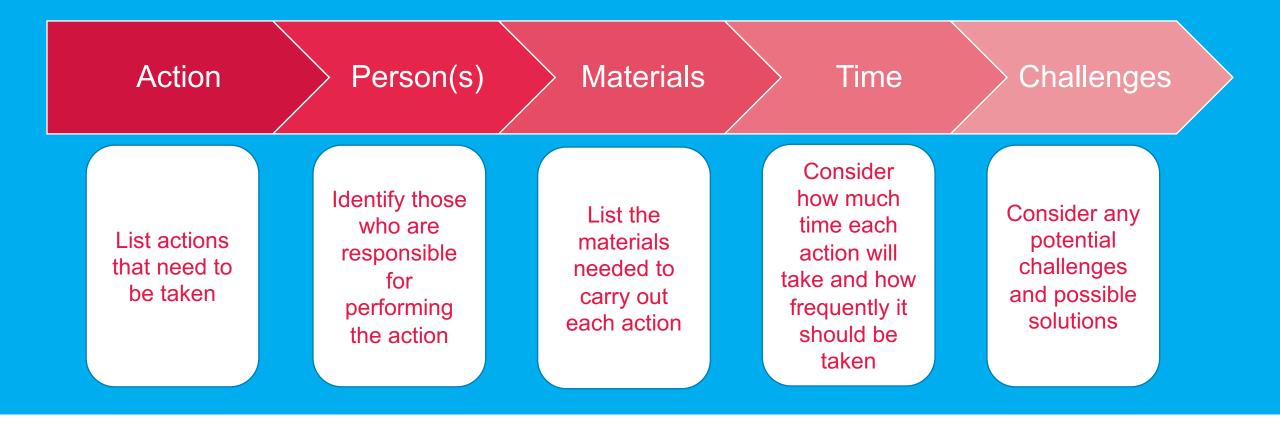
Questions are feedback are welcomed!

Voting on Ideas

Present each idea on a poster

Vote to see which ideas have the most classroom energy!

WE Caring Community Action Plan Organizer



4. Take Action

Working together to take actions for creating a caring class/school community to increase inclusion and belonging



Reflecting as a class...

Let's reflect on our process so far of a caring class/school community.

Do you feel connected to one another in this important work?

Is your voice being heard and represented?



Caring Community Action Plan Organizer

Ac	tion	Person(s)	Materials	Time	Challenges
List ac that ne be ta	eed to	Identify those who are responsible for performing the action	List the materials needed to carry out each action	Consider how much time each action will take and how frequently it should be taken	Consider any potential challenges and possible solutions



Show us how it's done!

Put your plan into action!

5. Reflect

Reflecting on our shared experience of creating a caring class/school community to increase inclusion and belonging

Reflect on the following questions:

How did it feel to work together?

How are you feeling now, after our work together?

Think to yourself!

What more would you like to contribute to our community?



Discussion

Pair up

With a partner, share a reflection –something you noticed, something you would like to do, or something you felt while engaging in this project.

Shared reflection

Share out loud as a community

Listen respectfully

Record reflections in writing

WE NEXT STEPS

How do we ensure accountability for our actions and ideas? Do we check in our action plans as a group? Frequency? How



What happens if we stray away from our core values we establish as a group? How do we get ourselves back on track?



What happens if one of our members does not feel connected to our community? How will they let us know, and what will we do?

WE SIMPLE ACTIONS TO BUILD COMMUNITY









SELF

Explore what community means to you through written reflections/artistic portfolios/etc.!

SCHOOL

Find ways to foster a sense of belonging throughout our school community!

COMMUNITY

Plan a service project to help support the wider community around our school!

HOME

Share your action plan for creating a caring class/school community with your families!



Write a letter to yourself imagining how our class/school community will look, sound, and feel at the end of the school year.



WE Well-being

End of Lesson