

I Am Respectful Pledge

GIVING

To encourage students to reflect on their behaviour and commit to respecting others by creating and displaying a personal "I Am Respectful" pledge in the classroom.



Learning Intentions

I can reflect on the importance of respecting others' feelings, personal space, and opinions:

- This encourages students to consider how their actions and words affect others and to actively practice respect in their interactions.

I can commit to respecting others by creating a personal pledge:

This allows students to take ownership of their behaviour and create a meaningful promise to treat others with kindness and respect.

I can display and honour my pledge as a reminder to practice respect every day:

This helps students internalize the values of respect and encourages them to consistently act in ways that uphold these values.



Success Criteria

Creating and Signing the "I Am Respectful" Pledge:

Students can create and sign their own "I Am Respectful" pledge, ensuring they are actively engaged in the process of committing to respectful behaviour.

Explaining What Respect Means and How to Show It:

Students can explain what respect means and how they can show it to others, encouraging them to think deeply about the concept of respect and how it applies in different situations.

Displaying the Pledge as a Reminder:

Students can display their pledge as a daily reminder to be respectful, reinforcing the idea of respecting others and serving as a constant reminder to practice respect.



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Objective: To encourage students to reflect on their behaviour and commit to respecting others by creating and displaying a personal “I Am Respectful” pledge in the classroom.

Players: Ideal for small groups or entire classrooms.

Materials:

- Paper (construction paper or cardstock).
- Markers, crayons, or coloured pencils.
- Stickers or other decorative items (optional).
- Tape or pins to hang the pledge.

Time Required: 15-20 minutes

Setup: Provide each student with a piece of paper or card to create their pledge. Give them coloured pencils, crayons, and any other decorative materials they might want to use.

Gameplay:

1. **Introduce the Concept of Respect:** Begin by discussing what respect means and why it is important. Talk about respecting others’ feelings, personal space, and opinions, and how this helps create a positive environment where everyone feels valued.
2. **Create the Pledge:** Have each student create their own “I Am Respectful” pledge. This can include a promise to:
 - Respect others’ feelings.
 - Respect others’ personal space.
 - Respect others’ opinions, even if they are different from my own.
3. Encourage students to make the pledge personal and meaningful to them. Have each student write on their own pledge how they like to be respected. How do they expect others to show them respect? They can also decorate the pledge to make it special and reflective of their commitment.
4. **Sign the Pledge:** Once the pledges are complete, have each student sign their pledge to make their commitment official. This act of signing reinforces the seriousness of the promise they’ve made to themselves and their peers.
5. **Display the Pledge:** After signing, students can hang their “I Am Respectful” pledge in the classroom, where it can be a daily reminder to practice respect. This can be on a bulletin board or a wall that is easily visible to everyone.

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6. Extension activity: As a class create a 'Respectful Class Motto', drawing from the students' responses in their pledges, agree on a set of respectful behaviours and create a motto that incorporates them. If you can create a visual representation of your motto and put it up in the classroom wall that would be awesome!

7. Reflection Time: After displaying the pledges, gather the students together and discuss the importance of respecting each other. Pick 5 random students and ask them to share how they like to be treated. Look for similarities you can draw upon and highlight them to the class. Ask questions like:

- "How can we show respect to others in our classroom?"
- "What does it feel like when someone respects your feelings, space, or opinions?"
- "How can we remind ourselves to be respectful each day?"

Winning the Game: There is no winner in this activity. The goal is to promote a culture of respect and reflection on personal behaviour. Success is measured by the student's active participation in creating, signing, and displaying their pledges and the positive changes in their behaviour toward others.

Additional Notes: The "I Am Respectful" Pledge is a powerful way to promote respect and positive behaviour in the classroom. By creating and signing a personal pledge, students take ownership of their actions and develop a deeper understanding of how respect plays a key role in creating a harmonious and supportive environment. This activity fosters personal growth and helps build a sense of community where everyone feels valued and heard.

