

Lesson Plan

Getting Involved and Feeling Welcome

Sub-indicator 5.2: Sense of Belonging

Common Core Standard

Students will be able to “prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.”

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1](https://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/CCRA/SL/1/)

Learning Objective(s)

Students will be able to identify the various places that they belong and evaluate new groups that they can join.

Students will identify areas that they belong and learn more about community groups that might promote a sense of belonging.

Materials

SmartBoard/ projector
Pad/Computer access for students
Writing Materials

I belong! Activity paper or digital format
Community group graphic organizer (paper or digital format)

Opening Activity – Whole Class, 10 Minutes

Activity Purpose: Students learn and be able to define what it means to have a sense of belonging

Description of Activity:

1. State: “Today, we are going to talk about the ways that we belong-at home, in school, and in our community. We are also going to discuss areas that we can get involved in to promote a sense of belonging. What does it mean to have a sense of belonging? (*Gauge students background knowledge on the topic by allowing students to share their thoughts about 1-2 minutes*)
2. State: “Having a sense of belonging means you are respected and cared for by others around you. When you feel that you belong, people meet you where you are which makes you feel confident in yourself and comfortable with who you spend your time with. Being a part of groups helps to promote a good sense of belonging.”
3. Watch this [7:20 min video](#) about what it means to teens to belong



Activity Purpose: Students will be able to identify places that they belong.

Description of Activity:

1. Introduce activity by stating “We all belong somewhere and could have various places that we feel we belong. Again, belonging means we do not have to change to please those around us, instead others accept us for who we are which makes us confident in who we are as people. This activity is going to help us reflect on where we belong, where we feel confident, and why those areas promote those feelings within us.”
2. Students should have a paper copy or a digital copy to fill out for this activity which can be found at the end of this lesson.
3. Allow students time to reflect and guide as needed
 - a. Option: Allow students to share their reflections if they want to

How will students demonstrate their learning?

Students will reflect on places that they know that they belong as well as why.

Activity 2, Day 2 – Individual, 50 Minutes

Activity Purpose: Students will learn and compare various community groups that they could get involved in

Description of Activity:

1. State: “ As we think about the places that we already belong, it is important to learn about other groups or organizations that we can join within our school and our community. Today, we are going to look up various groups and how they could help us have belonging.”
2. Students will research various groups within their school and/or community
 - a. The graphic organizer (Community Groups) is general and not community specific. Before starting this lesson, it may be helpful to have several community organizations in mind that students can research.
 - b. Students may fill this graphic out on paper or digitally
3. Allow students time to research various groups that they can get involved and guide students as needed

Closing Activity – Individual exit ticket, 5 Minutes

1. Hand each student a blank strip of paper
2. Instruct each student to list one community group that they want to explore connecting to and 1 reason why
3. Instruct them to turn them in as they leave class as their exit ticket

I Belong!

I belong in my school/class!

My teachers are

My classmates/friends are

My teacher says I am good at

My friends make feel included by

I belong at home

I live with

My favorite place is

My favorite meal

My favorite family activity

My family says I am

I belong in my community!

My favorite place to go is

When I go to this place, I feel

The people I meet or know here are

People in this place say I am

My happiest day here
