



No materials required.

Prep Time: 0 mins.



As this is the first Monday of the month, please consider sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity and if appropriate, video at [www.everymondaymatters.org](http://www.everymondaymatters.org).

## WEEKLY KICK-OFF

- 1) **SHARE THIS WEEK'S THEME WITH STUDENTS: "FIND YOUR POSSE"**
- 2) **ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WEEK'S FOCUS:**

**\*NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What is a "POSSE"?**
  - Answer: A group of people who have a common interest, occupation, or purpose
- **What do you think it means to "FIND YOUR POSSE"?**
- **How can "FINDING YOUR POSSE" help you "GET CONNECTED"?**
- **Who are some people in your "POSSE"?**
- **How often do you "CONNECT" with your "POSSE"?**
- **What are some things you do with your "POSSE"?**
- **What are some of the similarities that you and the people in your "POSSE" share?**
- **Do you think it matters how many people are in your "POSSE"?**
- **Why is "FINDING YOUR POSSE" an important thing to do?**
- **Is it always easy to "FIND YOUR POSSE"?**
  - Why can it be challenging to "FIND YOUR POSSE"?
- **How does it make you feel when you make new friends?**
- **Do you think it can be fun to meet new people?**
- **How would it feel to strengthen your "CONNECTIONS" with the people you already know?**
- **How can "FINDING YOUR POSSE" help you know that YOU MATTER?**
- **How can "FINDING YOUR POSSE" help you "GET CONNECTED" in ways that MATTER?**
- **What would our lives be like if we all "GOT CONNECTED" and "FOUND OUR POSSES"?**

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### 3) READ THE WEEKLY INTRODUCTION ALOUD OR ASK A STUDENT TO DO SO:

The saying goes that quality is better than quantity. That's true in many things, and especially with friends. It's not a bad thing to have lots of friends, but what's most important is having those few close people that you can really live life with. To get deep with. To walk through the messy stuff with. This week, we invite you to **FIND YOUR POSSE**, and discover who life is meant to be lived with. We'll examine how we're creating our group of friends and how we're giving our time and attention to them, just as we hope they give to us. We'll find out how we can trust others and let them into our lives so we can celebrate the good, the bad, and everything in between together. This week, create your inner circle and find out what it takes to be a member of their inner circles, too. Finding your posse matters.

### 4) REVIEW HOW THIS WEEK SUPPORTS THE MONTH'S THEME OF "MONDAY GETS CONNECTED":

- **Explain:**

- Take a moment and think of your "POSSE," or the people you walk through life with
- Your "POSSE" can be made up of your friends, family, neighbors, or anyone else you have fun with
- Now, think about what it's like to be "CONNECTED" with the people in your "POSSE"
- Are you always there for one another? Do you listen to each other? Do you have fun together? Can you count on them always?
- This week, we are going to think about the people in our lives and the relationships that we have
- We will reflect on what we have and what we want to have in order to "FIND OUR POSSES" and build stronger, more "CONNECTED" relationships to last and be more meaningful
- Because when we "FIND OUR POSSES" and "GET CONNECTED" with the people who matter in our lives, it can have very positive effects and can show all of us that I, YOU, and WE MATTER

- **Ask:**

- Do you have a good "POSSE" that you feel "CONNECTED" with?
- What would it feel like to reflect on all of your friendships and "CONNECTIONS" with others?
- Do you think you can contribute in positive ways to your friendships and "CONNECTIONS"?
- Are you ready to "FIND YOUR POSSE" this week and rejoice in all of your relationships and "CONNECTIONS"?

### 5) PRESENT THE WEEKLY GOALS:

- Explore how putting effort into relationships with others can change our lives and the quality of our "CONNECTIONS"
- Discover how we can build meaningful, two-sided relationships where we can count on each other
- Find new ways to make others feel special and cared for
- Understand how "FIND YOUR POSSE" is an important part of this month's theme, "MONDAY GETS CONNECTED"

**“MANY PEOPLE WILL WALK IN AND OUT OF YOUR LIFE, BUT ONLY TRUE FRIENDS WILL LEAVE FOOTPRINTS IN YOUR HEART.”**  
- ELEANOR ROOSEVELT