



Students take their “CURIOSITY” to their relationships and ask each other questions to get to know each other better.



No materials needed.



Total 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.

4 C's		SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING		SERVICE LEARNING	
•	Critical thinking	•	Self-awareness		Integrated learning
•	Communication	•	Self-management		High quality service
•	Collaboration	•	Social-awareness		Collaboration
•	Creativity	•	Relationship skills		Student voice
		•	Responsible decision-making		Civic responsibility
					Reflection
					Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Discover how challenging our biases and being open to new things can lead to more fulfilling lives for ourselves and others
- Invest in others by bringing genuine “CURIOSITY” to our relationships
- Find creative ways to gain knowledge about our own lives, families, and communities
- Understand how “BE CURIOUS” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS UNDERSTANDING”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: "THE FIVE WHY'S"

- 1) **SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: "THE FIVE WHY'S"**
- 2) **ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY'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 are some ways that you can "BE CURIOUS" with other people?
- How can "CURIOSITY" help you meet new people or get to know other people better?
- Do you like meeting new people?
- What are some ways that you can learn new about others?
- How can asking questions help you learn about other people?
- Is it always easy to get to know someone new?
- Is it always easy to deepen a relationship with someone else?
- How could your relationships benefit from genuine "CURIOSITY"?
- Do you think "BEING CURIOUS" about others can help you "UNDERSTAND" them better?
 - How so?
- How can "BEING CURIOUS" and "UNDERSTANDING" someone better help them know that they MATTER to you?

- 3) **SET UP "THE FIVE WHY'S" ACTIVITY:**

- **Explain:**
 - Asking questions is an important way to "UNDERSTAND" others and learn new things about them
 - Sometimes it can take a little practice to act on our "CURIOSITY" and to get to know others better
 - Which is exactly what we're going to do today
 - Because when we can show others that we're "CURIOUS" about them and we care enough to "UNDERSTAND" them better, we show them that they MATTER to us
- **Ask:**
 - When was the last time you met someone new?
 - When was the last time you got to know someone even better?
 - How can asking questions help you get to know someone even better, no matter if they are new or old friends?

- 4) **START "THE FIVE WHY'S" ACTIVITY:**

- **Have students stand up with a partner somewhere in the room, facing each other**
- **Explain:**
 - In just a moment, we are going to use our natural "CURIOSITY" to get to know each other better
 - As we have conversations together, we are deepening our "UNDERSTANDING" of other people
 - We are also strengthening these same relationships
 - To begin the game, you will start with the person you are currently standing with
 - The first person will share a fact about themselves while the second person asks, "Why?"
 - The first person will respond, and the second person will ask "Why?" again
 - You will do this until the second person has asked "WHY" "FIVE" times, then you will switch roles
 - After you both have done "THE FIVE WHY'S," you will find a new partner and play the game with the new person using a new phrase
 - Doing "THE FIVE WHY'S" helps us practice asking questions and being genuinely "CURIOUS" with the person we're talking with

- If helpful, give students an example: The first partner states a fact, such as “I like cake.” Then the second partner asks a “WHY” question, such as, “Why do you like cake?” After the first person answers, a second “WHY” question will be asked. This goes on until there are “FIVE” “WHY” questions asked to get to the root of the original statement
- Encourage students to practice active listening skill during their conversations by making eye contact and really listening when the other person is talking
- Make sure students understand the instructions and ask them to begin
- Support students as helpful and necessary as they are playing “THE FIVE WHY’S” game, and make sure students are switching partners once they have both asked and answered the questions
- Allow students to play “THE FIVE WHY’S” for up to 10 minutes
- When time is up, ask for volunteers to share out their experiences and what it was like to get to know each other in a new way

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***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 was it like to play “THE FIVE WHY’S” today?
- What is the most interesting thing you learned about someone else today?
- Did you learn anything new about yourself through “THE FIVE WHY’S”?
- Did anything surprise you in this activity?
- How did asking “THE FIVE WHY’S” help you get to know someone better, and to “UNDERSTAND” them as a person?
- Did you enjoy practicing “BEING CURIOUS” in this way?
- How can you use this activity in your everyday life?
- Or, how can it inspire you to approach others with genuine “CURIOSITY”?
- Do you think your relationships would change in a positive way if you brought more “CURIOSITY” to them?
- How can you do this?
- How can “BEING CURIOUS” and searching for “UNDERSTANDING” help others know that they MATTER?
- Do you think if more people in our lives, community, and world “GOT UNDERSTANDING” more often there could be a positive impact and change?

6) THANK STUDENTS FOR ASKING “THE FIVE WHY’S” TODAY AND FOR GETTING GENUINELY “CURIOUS” ABOUT OTHERS AND THEIR LIVES. REMIND THEM THAT ASKING QUESTIONS CAN HELP THEM “UNDERSTAND” OTHERS BETTER AND SHOW THEM THAT THEY “MATTER.”

7) CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO FIND WAYS TO ASK “THE FIVE WHY’S” IN OTHER PARTS OF THEIR LIVES, OR TO USE THIS ACTIVITY AS INSPIRATION FOR BRINGING “CURIOSITY” TO THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS. CHECK IN WITH THEM TO SEE WHAT EFFECT THIS GENUINE “CURIOSITY” HAS ON THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS.

8) CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “BE CURIOUS” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION IDEAS.



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) Take Learning Home:** Encourage students to have deeper conversations with people in their lives to learn more about them. Encourage them to use “THE FIVE WHY’S” to “UNDERSTAND” more about the people they interact with daily. Allow students to share some interesting things they have learned about people in their lives through having a more in-depth conversation.
- 2) Biographies:** Encourage students to write a short biography about a person they are “CURIOUS” about. Encourage them to find out as much as they can about this person through asking “WHY” and even more questions. Allow students the opportunity to share their biographies with the class and what it was like to “UNDERSTAND” someone in this new way.

“**JUST BECAUSE YOU DON’T UNDERSTAND, IT DOESN’T MEAN IT ISN’T SO.**”

- LEMONY SNICKET