



No materials required.

Prep Time: 0 mins.



As this is the third Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing the Monthly Kick-Off activity, and if appropriate, video at www.everymondaymatters.org. Additionally, a three-minute recap of the previous weeks may add extra context to this week and help connect the dots around the monthly theme.

WEEKLY KICK-OFF

1) SHARE THIS WEEK'S THEME WITH STUDENTS: "BE CIVIL-MINDED"

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.*

- **Have you heard the word "CIVIL" before? What does it mean to you?**
 - Possible Answer: "CIVIL" includes all decent behavior and speech, like being kind, courteous, and respectful
- **What do you think it means to "BE CIVIL-MINDED"?**
 - Possible Answer: To think and act in a "CIVIL" way
 - What kinds of things might someone do or say if they are "CIVIL-MINDED"?
- **What are some ways you've seen people "BE CIVIL" with each other?**
- **What kinds of things happen when people forget to "BE CIVIL-MINDED"?**
 - How do those things have consequences on people's relationships and also globally?
- **How could small acts of "CIVILITY" lead to positive change in your community and world?**
- **How can we "BE CIVIL-MINDED" with people who may be difficult for us to get along with?**
 - How can we be "CIVIL" with people who do not share our values or opinions?
 - How about when we are using social media?
- **How do you think "CIVILITY" plays into being an "HONORABLE" person?**
- **How does being courteous, kind, and respectful help us to truly "HONOR" those around us?**
- **Why do you think "BEING CIVIL-MINDED" MATTERS?**
- **How can "BEING CIVIL-MINDED" help you show others that they MATTER?**
 - How can it help you remember that YOU MATTER?

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- **What would the world be like if we all acted with “CIVILITY” more often?**
 - How might it change for the better?

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

When we talk about being kind and honorable to one another, it's easy to think that it's... well, easy to do. But the reality is, being kind and honorable can be tough. There are a lot of people in the world, and it's a fact that we won't agree with or get along with every single one of them. It's important to remember that it's okay to not agree with everyone. What is important is to act with civility. This week, we want you to start putting intention into how you act and **BE CIVIL-MINDED**. Instead of focusing on what you wish others were like, we invite you to be respectful, kind, and courteous. We are asking that you get motivated by the good of humanity and start acting in a way that makes the world better. Think about how you want the world to be and consciously and intentionally build it that way. Act on the goodness in you and invest in the goodness of others. This week, try being civil—whenever you can, to whomever you can. Being civil-minded matters.

4) REVIEW HOW THIS WEEK SUPPORTS THE MONTH'S THEME OF “MONDAY GETS HONORABLE”:

• **Explain:**

- Being kind, courteous, and respectful—in other words, “BEING CIVIL-MINDED”—may seem to us like an obvious way to behave
- But it is needed now more than ever in society
- All around us are examples of people lacking “CIVILITY,” like internet trolls, criminals, or dishonest leaders
- Sometimes it seems like “BEING CIVIL-MINDED” is a dying art
- This week, though, we will revive it as much as possible

• **Continue:**

- “CIVILITY,” or “BEING CIVIL-MINDED,” means treating others with respect, both when we are with them and when they aren't in our presence
- Even if we don't agree with them on something, we can still maintain “CIVILITY” and kindness
- “CIVIL-MINDEDNESS” is all about putting the common good above our own egos, and letting go of always being right
- It also means we become people who are good leaders, friends, and neighbors
- Acting “CIVIL” isn't just a thing we do; it's a way to be
- And that is a large part of being “HONORABLE”
- After all, the most “HONORABLE” people we know have one thing in common: They are kind to themselves and to other people

• **Ask:**

- Who is the most “CIVIL-MINDED” person you know?
- How has someone who has “BEEN CIVIL-MINDED” toward you affected your life?
- Do you think you can grow to be more “CIVIL-MINDED” in your life?
- Are you ready to learn more about “CIVILITY” this week and start acting that way, too?

5) PRESENT THE WEEKLY GOALS:

- Identify different elements of decency and “CIVILITY,” and their practical applications
- Make and implement a plan to practice daily habits of courtesy
- Discover how integrity contributes to being a leader in the community and in other aspects of life
- Understand how “BE CIVIL-MINDED” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS HONORABLE”

**“MORALS ARE PRIVATE.
DECENCY IS PUBLIC.”**
- RITA MAE BROWN