



No materials required.

Prep Time: 0 mins.



As this is the last 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: "MIND YOUR MANNERS"**
- 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 "COMMUNITY"?**
 - Answer: A group of people who are joined together by common interests
- **What do you think it means to "COMMIT TO COMMUNITY"?**
 - Answer: To dedicate or devote oneself to their "COMMUNITY" or "COMMUNITIES", whatever they are
- **What is one "COMMUNITY" that you are a part of?**
 - Do you have more than one "COMMUNITY" that you are a part of?
- **Why are you a part of your "COMMUNITY" or "COMMUNITIES"?**
 - Did you choose to be a part of them?
 - If so, why did you choose to be a part of them?
- **What are some reasons to be a part of a "COMMUNITY" of people?**
- **What types of "COMMUNITIES" are there?**
- **Have you ever wanted to explore and see if there are other "COMMUNITIES" you could be a part of?**
- **Have you ever been a part of a "COMMUNITY" that accepts you just as you are?**
 - What was that like?
- **What is an ideal "COMMUNITY" for you to be a part of?**
 - Do you think that "COMMUNITY" exists somewhere already?
 - Do you think you could help start that "COMMUNITY"?

- Why is “COMMUNITY” important?
- What are some things you can do as a member of a “COMMUNITY”?
- What are some ways you can show that you are “COMMITTED” to your “COMMUNITY”?
- How can “COMMITTING TO COMMUNITY” help you “GET ENGAGED”?
- Do you think that “COMMITTING TO COMMUNITY” can help you understand that YOU MATTER?
 - How so?
- How can “ENGAGING” with others and “COMMITTING TO COMMUNITY” help you show others that they MATTER?
- What would the world be like if we all “COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITIES” more often?

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

Community means a lot of different things to a lot of different people. That’s a beautiful thing! There are so many communities in the world that people are a part of. This allows people to find others who are like them—who believe similar things, have similar identities, and want similar things out of life. And, once they find them, they can live life together, growing together and challenging each other in powerful ways. This week, we want you to not only find a community, but to COMMIT TO COMMUNITY. We’ll learn about the importance of community and the benefits of committing to be a part of them. We’ll realize that our choices have real effects on our community, and what we can do to make the communities we’re a part of supportive and welcoming for everyone. We’ll discover that when we make community a priority in our lives, we can show others that they can engage in community in similar, powerful ways. This week, find your place in a community and commit to it. Committing to community matters.

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

- **Explain**
 - All of us have different experiences with “COMMUNITY”, and that’s okay!
 - Some of may have one or more groups that we belong to, while others of us feel like we have a hard time fitting in anywhere
 - The good news is, whoever you are, there is a “COMMUNITY” out there where you can be your true self
 - It can sometimes take us a while to find those “COMMUNITIES”, and sometimes we can make those “COMMUNITIES” ourselves for others to find and join
 - “COMMUNITY” is a powerful thing! Think about how amazing it would be if everyone felt accepted and at home somewhere, and if each of us knew how to make others feel welcome and accepted just as they are
 - This week, we’re going to learn about the importance of “COMMUNITY” and what can happen if we “GET ENGAGED” and “COMMIT TO COMMUNITY”
 - Because when we do that, we remember how much we MATTER and we can show others that they MATTER, too
- **Ask:**
 - Are you ready to see just how powerful and important “COMMUNITY” is this week?

5) PRESENT THE WEEKLY GOALS:

- Discover how our actions can build “COMMUNITY” and help others feel accepted just as they are
- Practice being our true selves and show others that they can do the same
- Find creative and welcoming ways to bring people together in a positive environment
- Understand how “COMMIT TO COMMUNITY” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS ENGAGED”

“**THE GREATNESS OF A COMMUNITY IS MOST ACCURATELY MEASURED BY THE COMPASSIONATE ACTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS.**”
 - CORETTA SCOTT KING