



Students play a game of hangman to learn what “TENACITY” is.



Whiteboard or flipchart paper; Dry erase markers or markers.

Total Prep Time: 5 mins.



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

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

- Spend time discovering what we each believe in the most
- Find ways to support others as they stand up for their passions and beliefs
- Build a strong community by making space for confident and resilient voices of people who are working for good
- Understand how “BE TENACIOUS” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS EMPOWERED”



## **STUDENT ACTIVITY:** **“HANGMAN”**

### **1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “HANGMAN”**

### **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 do you think it means to “BE TENACIOUS”?**
  - Answer: To keep a firm hold on something; to be stubborn and persistent
- **What are some words that you associate with “BEING TENACIOUS”?**
- **How are you “TENACIOUS” in your everyday life?**
- **What are some things that you believe in very strongly?**
  - Do you stand up for these beliefs with others?
  - How do you do this, or how can you do this?
- **What are some words that you would use to describe yourself and your personality?**
  - Do you think that these traits are “TENACIOUS”?
  - If not, do you have other traits that are “TENACIOUS”? What are they?
- **Do you have strong opinions about things?**
  - Do you share these with others? Why or why not?
- **Do you think it is important for people to “BE TENACIOUS”?**
  - Why or why not?
- **Do you think it’s possible to learn to be more “TENACIOUS” in your life?**
  - Would you like to try?
- **How can “BEING TENACIOUS” help you to “GET EMPOWERED”?**
  - Or, how can “GETTING EMPOWERED” help you to “BE TENACIOUS”?
- **How can acting with “TENACITY” help you remember that YOU MATTER?**

### **3) SET UP THE “HANGMAN” ACTIVITY:**

- **Explain:**
  - We all have things that we feel strongly about, but we don’t always stand up for those things when others don’t agree
  - It is important to stand up for our beliefs and “BE TENACIOUS”
  - When we’re “EMPOWERED” and believe in our own voice, thoughts, and opinions, it’s easier to “BE TENACIOUS”
  - “TENACIOUS” is a big word and some of us might not be too sure what “BEING TENACIOUS” even means
  - Today, we are going to learn to “BE TENACIOUS” by learning what “TENACITY” can mean in our everyday lives
- **Ask:**
  - What are some of your best qualities, or the parts of yourself that you are really proud of?
  - Are you ready to see if those make you “TENACIOUS” or if there are other parts of yourself that are “TENACIOUS”?

### **4) START THE “HANGMAN” ACTIVITY:**

- **Have students gather around so they can all see the whiteboard or paper**
- **Draw the basic setup for “HANGMAN” on the board or paper**
- **Explain:**
  - We are going to play a group game of “HANGMAN” themed around “TENACITY”
  - We’ll practice learning some words that are similar in meaning as “TENACIOUS”

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- That way, we can start seeing how each of us have traits that are “TENACIOUS” that we can build on in our own lives
  - **Tell students that you will be in charge of the “HANGMAN” game at first and they will go around the room taking turns guessing letters and words**
  - After you do the first round, you can have students come up be in charge of the game
  - **Use the following words for the game, but feel free to use others words if you think of them, as well: Strong, brave, relentless, insistent, stand-up, steadfast, diligent, patient, purposeful, tireless, and persistent**
  - **As students guess the words, discuss their meanings and some examples of how to act that way in their daily lives**
  - **Allow up to 10 minutes to play “HANGMAN”**

**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.*

- **Did you enjoy playing “HANGMAN” today?**
- **Did you learn anything new about what it means to “BE TENACIOUS”?**
  - What did you learn?
- **What are some of the new words that you learned today?**
  - What do those words mean?
- **Going forward, how will you incorporate some of these “TENACIOUS” qualities into your daily life?**
  - What kind of impact will this make on your life?
- **What are some things you will stand up for with “TENACITY”?**
- **What would your life be like if you were “TENACIOUS” more often?**
- **How can living your life in a “TENACIOUS” way help you to “GET EMPOWERED”?**
- **How can “BEING TENACIOUS” help you to know that YOU MATTER?**

**6) THANK STUDENTS FOR PLAYING “HANGMAN” TODAY AS A WAY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT “BEING TENACIOUS”. REMIND STUDENTS THAT THEY AND THEIR BELIEFS “MATTER”.**

**7) ENCOURAGE THEM TO INCLUDE “TENACIOUS” QUALITIES IN THEIR LIVES GOING FORWARD. CHECK IN WITH THEM TO SEE HOW THEIR NEW “TENACIOUS” LIVES ARE GOING AND WHAT THEY ARE LEARNING NOW THAT THEY ARE ACTING WITH MORE “TENACITY”.**

**8) CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “BE TENACIOUS” 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) More Hangman:** Have students get into small groups and come up with new words to play a “TENACIOUS” version of “HANGMAN” with. Then, have each group partner with another group and play their versions of “HANGMAN” together on paper.
- 2) Tenacious Acts:** Have students keep track of how they are acting with “TENACITY” this week by writing down when they are acting and feeling “TENACIOUS”.
- 3) The Tenacity of Journaling:** Have students journal about how they are “BEING TENACIOUS” currently and/or how they could add this quality to their daily lives. Tell them to write down examples of when they are “TENACIOUS”, times where they wish they were more “TENACIOUS”, things that improved due to them “BEING TENACIOUS”, effects, causes, etc. Allow students to share aloud throughout the week if they would like.

**“OUR LIVES BEGIN TO END THE DAY WE BECOME SILENT ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER.”**  
- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.