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Morning meeting and closing circles: a sense of community, positive learning environment, and increased social interactions in an elementary classroom

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Morning Meeting and Closing Circles: A Sense of Community, Positive Learning Environment, and Increased Social Interactions in an Elementary Classroom

## A Master's Project

In Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements of the Degree

Master of Science in Teaching

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#### **Abstract**

This action research study was implemented over a three-week period in a first-grade classroom, collecting qualitative and quantitative data. The purpose of the study was to determine the effects of Morning Meetings and Closing Circles on a sense of community in an elementary classroom. Preliminary findings show an increase in student social interactions, positive learning environment, and a climate of belonging. This presentation will also provide information on Morning Meetings and Closing Circles as an intervention to combat social and emotional competencies lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Introduction

Teaching the whole child is an educational approach which focuses on the social, emotional, and cognitive skills taught alongside and with as equal importance to academic learning. With the implication of the COVID-19 pandemic, students' opportunities in the classroom to master these skills has declined (Rivera et al, 2020). The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning states "The pandemic has underscored social and emotional learning as an essential part of high-quality education- highlighting our relationships, resiliency, and collective problem-solving as fundamental to teaching and learning" (Rivera et al., 2020, Webinar 6:40). COVID-19 has negatively impacted children's time in the classroom, which is fundamental to building, supporting, and developing relationships. To address this issue, it is important to build an environment that supports and promotes social and emotional learning (Rivera et al., 2020).

The Responsive Classroom approach is a program which focuses on social, emotional, and academic learning. According to the Responsive Classroom, "In order to be successful in and out of school, students need to learn a set of social and emotional competencies-cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control-and a set of academic competencies-academic mindset, perseverance, learning strategies, and academic behaviors" (Responsive Classroom, 2021). The approach utilizes many techniques to enhance social and emotional learning skills, such as Morning Meetings and Closing Circles. This small-scale literature review will attempt to answer the question: What are the effects of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles on a sense of community in an elementary classroom?

### **Literature Review**

As I began my research on Morning Meetings and Closing Circles, I found many articles on of the Responsive Classroom approach. Every article found pertaining to studies displaying Morning Meetings and Closing Circles represented positive effects on student development.

### **Searching for Articles**

I utilized the SUNY Cortland library website, where I narrowed down my research through ONEsearch and ERIC databases. I found numerous articles on the Responsive Classroom and narrowed the search further to specifically elementary education. I found many commonalities between these articles and chose to highlight six literary sources consisting of longitudinal studies and short-term case studies. Most of the articles included the relationships between the Responsive Classroom and the benefits on peer interactions and prosocial behavior. I reread the articles to find more minute commonalities. These included teacher/student relationships and a sense of belonging on the classroom environment. Therefore, I decided to sort these articles into three categories; teacher/student relationships, peer interactions/prosocial behavior, and a climate of belonging.

#### **Climate of Belonging**

Two of the six articles in the review note an increase in a climate of belonging with the daily implementation of Morning Meeting. Bondy and Ketts (2001) performed an interview study on a third-grade classroom, of which outperformed three other third-grade classes in Iowa on standardized tests. The case study attributed the teacher and students' success on the one characteristic that differed from the rest of the classrooms, the implementation of a daily Morning Meeting. According to Bondy and Ketts, the interview study found the third graders

emphasized Morning Meeting as a time where students feel they are "being known and knowing each other" (2001, p. 147). The teacher noted the climate of belonging that developed in respect to Morning Meetings. She described her classroom as a family climate where everyone was willing to give and receive help. One student stated, "When I'm in Morning Meeting, I feel like I'm at home saying good morning to my mom and dad and my sister....Then the classroom feels like you're at home eating breakfast with your family. It's a comfortable, good feeling" (Bondy & Ketts, 2001, p. 147). Rimm-Kaufmann (2006) found similar results her three-year, longitudinal study. Teachers at three schools were trained in for two weeks in the Responsive Classroom approach. The three schools were compared to three additional schools, which did not receive any training in the Responsive Classroom approach. After completing questionnaires and analyzing the data, the study determined students who attended a school trained in the Responsive Classroom approach had more of a positive outlook on their teachers, school, and classmates (Rimm-Kaufmann, 2006). According to Rimm-Kaufmann, the "findings are consistent with a body of research-based theory in education and developmental psychology suggesting that caring school environments produce classroom environments that are conducive to learning, and ultimately, higher-achieving children with better social skills" (2006, p. 15). This three-year research found students who were in Responsive classroom environments felt closer to their teacher, were less fearful while trying new things, and had more positive attitudes toward school (Rimm-Kaufmann, 2006). These two studies attribute to the climate and quality of the classroom environment to the students' sense of belonging, comfort, and ability to learn.

### Peer Interactions/Prosocial Behavior

Dooly (2019) observed students in a first-grade classroom to calculate the effect of Morning Meeting on student behaviors over a six-week period. This study found a decrease in

negative behaviors and an increase in prosocial behavior after the implementation of Morning Meetings. Students were less likely to participate in verbal conflict while increasing their empathy and compassion toward their peers (Dooly, 2019). Similarly, Giannitano found implementing a daily Morning meeting to positively impact peer interactions through and increase in structured talk (2011, p. 43). This study observed a fifth-grade classroom and reflected on observations through anecdotal notes. Student's thoughts and experiences were also included in the study through journal entries. Prior to the implementation of the study and the use of daily Morning Meetings, the literature noted peer talk was not common and student's described the lack of community within the classroom (Giannitano, 2011). The study found implementing Morning Meetings allowed students to have a model for student interactions and talk, therefore increasing prosocial behaviors in the classroom (Giannitano, 2011). Morning Meeting offers a time for students to observe and practice prosocial behavior.

#### **Teacher/Student Relationships**

Conlon (2009) implemented a qualitative research study in a second-grade classroom to analyze the use of Morning Meeting to enhance a community of respect. Through video recording, surveys, and student and teacher journals, Conlon found teachers learned more about their students during Morning Meeting as they had the ability to participate and share during discussion (2009, p. 39). This increase in talk time for the student opened a line of respect between the student and teacher. Students felt more open and willing to share information with their teacher and seek guidance from them. Similarly, during a two-year study of 34 third and fourth-grade teachers, Suggs found the daily implementation of Morning Meetings positively affected teacher/student relationships (Suggs, 2019). Students were more willing to go to their teacher for help with conflict and academic challenges than prior to the execution of the study.

Suggs stated post application of Morning Meetings, "the teachers documented that the students were voluntarily sharing personal thoughts and feelings, as well as offering honest feedback to inquiries" (2019, p. 88). These studies showed the importance of Morning Meetings as having a vital impact on the student/teacher relationship.

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this literature review was to address the questions, what are the effects of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles on a sense of community in an elementary classroom? The findings from this review expressed an increase in three relevant themes: teacher/student relationships, positive peer interactions and prosocial behaviors, and a climate of belonging. These are foundational skills in developing a sense of community in an elementary classroom. Supporting and developing relationships and practicing how to engage with each other are requisite competencies, that must be practiced daily to achieve a sense of community. By implementing Morning Meeting with the addition of Closing Circles from the Responsive Classroom curriculum day after day, students should be able to further develop positive relationships. As we strive to mitigate negative effects ensued from COVID-19, it has never been a more opportune time for relationships to be at the center of our learning.

#### Methods

### **Setting**

The community the elementary school where the action research took place was located in a suburban town just outside of a city. There were four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school spread across the town encompassing the district. The town offered many assets such as dozens of major retailers and chain stores, alongside small, family-owned

businesses. There were also numerous chain restaurants intertwined within family-run dining locations, pharmacies, gas stations, salons, spas, a post office, doctor's offices, multiple medical facilities, four parks, a canal walk, and a sports facility. There were three fire departments and a police department within the town. There were numerous apartment complexes and housing developments dispersed amongst the commercial locations. Outside of the busier part of town, there were larger housing developments entwined among farms and fields.

The elementary school was in a district with an enrollment of 4,350 students. The students were equally divided male/female, with 1% American Indian or Alaskan, 3% black or African American, 5% Latino, 1% Asian/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 85% white, and 5% multiracial (NYSED, 2021). English Language Learners were among 2% of the population, 16% were students with disabilities, 28% were economically disadvantaged, 1% were homeless, 1% were in foster care, and 1% had a parent in the military (NYSED, 2021). The district's mission statement was "in partnership with the community, to ensure that each student attains the knowledge, skills, and attitudes, necessary, not only for lifelong learning, but also for becoming a cooperative, self-directed, productive, caring citizen."

The primary school where the action research took place houses grades kindergarten through fourth. There were approximately 883 students in attendance, consisting of 53% male and 47% female (NYSED, 2021). The school included students who were 83% white, 5% Hispanic or Latino, 4% Black or African American, 2% Asian or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 6% Multi-racial. There were 29% of students who were economically disadvantaged, 3% English Language Learners, and 16% were students with disabilities (NYSED, 2021). The school was at a targeted rate for support and improvement as New York State Department of Education reports it struggled to prepare its Hispanic and Latino students for

success (NYSED, 2021). This was the largest primary school within the district. Its mission was to remain proud of its small school feeling while providing "an environment which remains strongly close knit, inclusive, and supportive of all who work and learn within its walls."

The first-grade classroom where this study took place had a total of twenty students, one general education teacher, one teaching assistant in the mornings, an Instructional Specialist during English Language Arts, and a student teacher. About a quarter of the students were economically disadvantage. Two children were from homes where Arabic and English are spoken, one was multiracial, and the rest of the students identified as white.

## **Participants**

The participants in this study were from a first-grade class. The teacher in the classroom had been employed by the district for twelve years. She completed her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and had dual certification to teach grades birth to sixth. She was a teaching assistant for one year while obtaining her Masters in Literacy. She was offered a position in as a first-grade teacher and has remained in the same elementary school since.

The Early Literacy Teaching Assistant had a bachelor's degree in Psychology and had been employed in this position for over twenty years. She had been an early literacy teaching assistant in three of the four elementary schools during her career. The Instructional Specialist had been employed by the district for over twenty years as well and was in the process of completing work for her administrative certification. The student teacher was in her first student teaching placement. She had a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Development, was completing her master's degree in Teaching, and was administering the action research.

Most of the twenty-one students in the classroom mentioned above, were strong academically. There were five students (four females and one male) who were receiving Tier II or III services. The students did well following a daily schedule, attaining to tasks, and completing work. The goals that were not being met pertain to social and emotional learning, specifically supporting a classroom community.

#### **Materials**

The collection tools were used to triangulate data to corroborate findings of the action research. These included anecdotal notes recording the date, observations, and associated social, emotional, behavioral, academic category (Appendix A). The Morning Meeting and Closing Circle activities reflection and observation (Appendix D) were recorded daily. Prior and post implementation of the action research, students completed a behavior self-assessment (Appendix F). A student interview (Appendix G) were also conducted after the conclusion of the action research to record final reactions. A teacher interview was conducted prior and post implementation (Appendix B and C). Students completed a daily assessment to gage their contributions to the classroom community (Appendix E).

#### **Procedures**

After collecting student behavioral self-assessments and a teacher interview, a plan to implement daily Morning Meetings and Closing Circles was put in place. Morning Meetings and Closing Circles are part of the Responsive Classroom Approach. The Responsive Classroom has been granted the highest designation for a SEL program through the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). The Responsive Classroom Approach's key domains are engaging academics, a positive community, effective management, and developmentally

responsive teaching with a focus on teacher effectiveness (Responsive Classroom, 2021).

Textbooks and trainings for the Responsive Classroom range from \$30 to \$850 and aligns with Every Student Succeeds Act which grants funding resources for Social Emotional Learning (Responsive Classroom, 2021).

For this action research, the Responsive Classroom website and textbooks were utilized to plan and implement Morning Meetings and Closing Circles. Daily Responsive Classroom procedures were planned and recorded (Appendix B). Slides were created to engage and guide students during the Morning Meeting and Closing Circles (Appendix H). To introduce students to the concept of a classroom community and the procedures of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles, a complete lesson was constructed and implemented the first day of the action research (Appendix R). Every day of the week, the same activities were implemented, only the Morning Messages changed. Anecdotal records were taken on student social, emotional, behavioral, and academic observations (Appendix A). Students recorded their own, peer, and teacher contributions to a sense of community daily (Appendix E). After a three-week period of application of action research, the student behavioral self-assessment, interview, and teacher interview was completed again to analyze prior and post implementation findings (Appendix B, C, F, G).

### **Type of Research Conducted**

This is a mixed methods research study that collected qualitative and quantitative data. The reporting of the findings were represented narratively utilizing anecdotal records, a daily log of activities implemented during Morning Meeting and Closing Circles, and a teacher interview prior and post implementation. Numeric representation was reported in the findings of the student behavior self-assessment (on a of scale of 1 representing the mad, red face and 5 being

the green, happy face) and the daily student assessment (on a scale of 1 meaning the contribution was way off target to 3 representing the target was met).

#### Phases/Timeline

Phases	Dates	Description
Phase I	January 2022	I collected observations and
		notes describing student
		behavior, peer interactions,
		and student-teacher
		relationships and interactions.
Phase II	February 2022	I implemented the
		intervention during Morning
		Meeting and Closing Circles
		to collect data on a sense of
		community, five days a week
		for three weeks.
Phase III	February/ March 2022	I collected post
		implementation data.
Phase IV	March 2022	I analyzed the data collected
		prior, during, and post
		intervention.

## Limitations

This study will be limited in its findings. It was implemented during a short period of time by a graduate student. The time in the classroom prior to the action research was short in nature, about two weeks. This resulted in a lack of general knowledge about the elementary student participants. This was a first-time action research project conducted by the graduate student. It is not generalized but an informative small-scale mixed methods study. Absences by student participants were common due to the quarantine guidelines of the COVID-19 pandemic. One student was quarantined for five days during the course of the intervention. Another student was diagnosed with COVID-19 and absent for one week. There were four students who were out

for one day each due to illness/appointments. Also, one student was on a family vacation in Pakistan for two weeks during this time.

## **Analysis**

Data was analyzed to determine a relationship between the implementation of daily Morning Meetings and Closing Circles on a sense of community in the classroom. It was reported through teacher and student narrative reports and numeric scales, of which were categorized into positive or negative social, emotional, behavioral, and academic findings. A narrative was used to define the overall effect on the community of the classroom utilizing the implementation of interviews prior and post intervention.

**Findings** 

### **Class Baseline Data**

Mean (55 points possible)	Median (55 points possible)	Mode (55 points possible)
40	40	40
42	42	42
44	44	44
45	45	45
47	47	47
48	48	48
48	48	48
48	48	48
52	52	52
52	52	52
52	52	52
52	52	52
53	53	53
54	54	54
54	54	54
54	54	54
54	54	54
55	55	55
55	55	55

Mean: 49.9 Median: 52 Mode: 52/54

Students self-assessed using a Likert scale of smiley face images depicting a frown as being least likely (scored as a one) to an ecstatic face being most likely (scored as a five). They assessed their ability to follow directions the first time they are given, how they care about others and show respect with their words and actions, assess if they are always on task, how they cooperate with others, if they look and listen when someone is speaking, if they give their best effort and show pride in their work, if they wait their turn to speak and raise their hand, if they always tell the truth, how well they problem solve with others, if they participate in class discussions, and if they always help others. Students were encouraged to take the assessment seriously and were truthful and forthcoming in their answers. The class baseline data indicated a mean of 49.9 points out of a possible 55. The median of the scores was 52 and the mode was 52 and 54.

### **Class Post-Intervention Data**

Mean (55 points possible)	Median (55 points possible)	Mode (55 points possible)
45	45	45
48	48	48
52	52	52
53	53	53
54	54	54
54	54	54
54	54	54
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55
55	55	55

55 55

Mean: 53.6	Median: 55	Mode: 55	

After three weeks of the implementation of Morning Meetings and Closing Circles, the students reassessed using the same self-assessment. The total possible outcome remained a 55. The mean of the results was 53.6, the median was 55, and the mode was 55.

## **Comparing Baseline and Post-Intervention Data**

Mean: (55 points	Baseline Score	Post-Intervention	Change
possible)		Score	
	49.9	53.6	+3.7

In comparing the baseline and post-intervention data there was a positive change in student responses. Student scores prior to implementation were an average of 49.9. After implementation of the Morning Meeting and Closing Circles, post-intervention scores averaged 53.6. This was a positive change of 3.7 points overall. The mean average change correlates with the median change of a positive 3 points. While the mode baseline data was split between a 52 and a 54, it steadily changed to a complete possible score of 55. Since these scores relate to an increase in sense of community and social interactions, the intervention has positively changed these aspects of the classroom.

Finding: Participation in Morning Meetings and Closing Circles promotes an increase in a sense of community and social interactions.

#### **Select Student Data**

Student	Baseline Score (55	Post-Intervention	Change
	points possible)	Score (55 points	
		possible)	
Isla	44	48	+4
John	40	45	+5
Adelle	42	53	+11
Megan	47	55	+8
Anna	45	55	+10
Giselle	48	52	+4
Mean	44.3	51.3	+7

There are a select group of students I pulled from the entire group. These students showed significant self-reflection and growth over the three-week intervention. Student scores averaged 44.3 prior to the intervention. Post-implementation, the scores averaged 51.3. This was a positive change of seven points. Some of the students in this group changed their disposition in their self-assessment over ten points. This was an increase of almost 20%. These results indicate the intervention immensely affected this group of students by increasing their view of themselves in social interactions and their role in a sense of community.

Finding: Participation in Morning Meetings and Closing Circles promotes an increase in a sense of community and social interactions.

## **Post-Intervention Student Responses**

Question: What would you like to say about the class doing Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?

- Isla "Good. It's the only time I really feel good. I don't know why. Sometimes I really hope I get chosen."
- Anna "Did you have a good day? Happy because I like when people are happy. It makes me happy."
- John "Good. It kind of helps when like we de group activities. It's a feel-good inside. I also like these self-assessments. Feels like how the class and teachers and self-contribute to class. Helped me everyday cause it's how I feel every day. I hope to do it every day and feel good about myself. Thank you."
- Ian "I like it because we do songs and activities. I like Hot Pepper a lot. I like it. It makes me feel good because I like to do all the stuff we do."
- Sean "They do super good and they listen to the speaker. I feel happy they are listening and it makes the teacher feel good. I feel good when I have a good teacher and I do fun things."
- Ken "I like sitting in a circle. I get to work together with people."
- Jason "I think really good because we are all being good listeners. Makes me feel happy because we are all nice to each other and stuff."
- Lila "I like it because I like when we do the friends in our class chant thing. I like when we say hello in different languages. I like it because everything we do makes me feel happy."
- Eva "You're nice and Mrs. M and Mrs. O. I like it because it's fun watching people say their things about their day and what they like to do."
- Amy "I like it because I like doing the chant and the other stuff too. The only thing I don't like it when we do my name chant because I'm embarrassed."
- Leah "Doing good sitting down, being patient when the teacher says to be quiet. It makes me feel proud because we are doing a really great job listening to the speaker."
- Gretch "Good because it's an awesome class and I like people playing with me."

Students responded in an interview to the question, "What would you like to say about the class doing Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?". Fourteen of nineteen students

responded. Notable responses were placed into the data table above. Students indicated the implementation of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles made them feel good, happy, and proud. They also indicated they work together, listen to the speaker, and do group activities. Every student who responded to the question had a statement that positively associated with the implementation of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles. Student responses denote beneficial aspects of the intervention to the classroom community, peer interactions, and learning environment.

Finding: Participation in the Morning Meeting and Closing Circles promotes an increase in a sense of community, a positive learning environment, and increased social interactions.

### **Teacher Post-Intervention Responses**

Question:	What did you notice about your relationship with your students over the last
	three weeks?
Response:	"There were several times this week where I was able to communicate with
	students about thing I head/learned about them from Morning Meeting that I
	otherwise may not have known/realized. Example: One student is going to see
	her mom graduate from Boot Camp next week and she is nervous to go on a
	plane. This particular student shows some signs of anxiety in school that affect
	her academic success. Knowing this about her personal life sheds light on the
	situation and is helpful to me."
Question:	What did you notice about student behavior and relationships over the last three
	weeks?
Response:	"Students are being self-reflective and are also noticing their peer's behaviors
	more. They understand the word 'community' and are willing to help support
	each other."
Question:	What did you notice about the class environment and community over the last
	three weeks?

Response:	"Sine the implementation of Morning Meeting, Mrs. Ryan and I have also		
	changed my typical morning routine (from morning work worksheets to STE		
	bins to start the day). The entire atmosphere of our greeting time in the morning		
	has become more positive overall. Likewise, Closing Circle has encouraged		
	students to reflect on positive times of their day, instead of just rushing to		
	dismiss."		
Question:	Do you have any additional comments about the implementation of Morning		
	Meeting and Closing Circles every day over the last three weeks?		
Response:	"I plan to continue Morning Meeting and Closing Circles all year. With the		
	extreme expectations of curriculum being pushed on us in the current years, it is		
	important and beneficial to remember that student relationships have the		
	biggest impact on academic success."		

This teacher interview was conducted post-intervention. The teacher indicated her interactions with the students positively increased during the intervention as activities implemented during Morning Meetings increased her awareness of student interests, needs, and activities. She stated she saw students being self-reflective and were willing to work together as a community. This intervention also changed the morning arrival process as she removed morning worksheets and replaced them with STEM bins at each table group. Students were able to communicate with each other upon arrival and start their day with conversations. This change in the day helped to instill a sense of community and positive learning environment in the classroom. The teacher stated she will continue to implement Morning Meetings and Closing Circles the rest of the year as she saw the benefits to student relationships. She emphasized the importance of student relationships as having the biggest impact on academic success. The post-intervention teacher interview stated the positive, constructive implications of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles on the learning environment and social interactions.

Finding: Participation in Morning Meetings and Closing Circles promotes a positive learning environment and increased social interactions.

#### **Discussion**

### **Sense of Community**

The importance of community was emphasized during this intervention. The first lesson (Appendix R) incorporating community in the Morning Meeting and Closings Circles was significant in the development of the classroom community over the course of the three-week period. This lesson defined community, the role the student plays, and the importance of the classroom community to students. Students continuously referred to 'being a good community member' throughout the intervention period (references extracted from Daily Responsive Classroom Logs, Appendix L).

The findings suggest an increase in a sense of community in the classroom after the implementation of the intervention. Student responses from the post-intervention surveys state the student's ability to work together and listen to the speaker. One student also stated during the meetings, she liked listening to people talk about their day and what they like to do. Listening to the speaker and working as a team are important aspects to a successful community. Being able to connect to others is vital to a classroom community as well.

A student noted in the study as John, took the premise of community as a tool to further his ability to self-regulate his behavior. John had frequent outbursts, struggled with problem-solving, and the ability to engage in positive peer interactions as noted in the anecdotal notes (Appendix M), observations during Morning Meetings and Closing Circles (Appendix L), and Daily Student Assessments (Appendix N). In the baseline self-assessment, John marked himself

low for being able to care about others and show respect with his words and actions and waiting his turn to speak and raise his hand. During the intervention, anecdotal notes were made of the teacher speaking to John about problem-solving with peers and not blurting. John was a strong participant in Morning Meetings and grasped the concept of being a good community member. In his Daily Assessments, he noted days where he or the teachers were able to partake in this well. On a particular day, the students were asked to share two stars or good things that happened today and one wish for the next day. John stated one of his stars was that he was a good community member to his friends and his wish is to not blurt out to the teacher for the next day. John was very intuitive to his actions and the classroom community. His post-intervention selfassessment showed he increased his rating two points for caring about others and showing respect with words and actions but decreased a point for being able to wait his turn and raise his hand. The post-intervention interview response mentions his like for doing group activities because it helps him feel good inside and feel good about himself. He also stated the assessments helped him everyday to self-contribute to the class. During the intervention process, John was able to verbalize appropriate goals and was working on his ability to follow through on being a 'good community member'. The intervention findings suggest this made a positive impact on John's ability to self-regulate in order to participate as a community member in the classroom.

A sense of community was also found in the teacher's post-intervention interview where she stated she saw students willing to help and support each other. This statement relates to the same findings of the teacher from the article written by Bondy and Ketts (2001). In her classroom, she found the Morning Meetings instilled a family climate where everyone was willing to give and receive help. These findings suggest a sense of belonging and classroom

community are favorably impacted by the daily implementation of Morning Meetings and Closing Circles.

### **Positive Learning Environment**

This study's findings suggest that the intervention of Morning Meetings and Closing
Circles positively impacts the learning environment. A week into the implementation, the
classroom teacher decided to change the morning routine from students arriving and sitting in
their desk spots to complete a morning worksheet to the incorporation of table groups working
with STEM bins. This change in the learning environment positively effected student arrival.

Students were able to communicate and work together. These discussions positively impacted
the classroom environment as students were able to converse about their mornings and the 'fun'
work they were completing. These findings can be reviewed and described further in the
Anecdotal Notes section (Appendix M).

During Morning Meetings and Closing Circles, students made statements in their post-intervention interview, the impact made on a positive learning environment. Students noted how the meetings made them feel and how the activities they were participating in contributed to these feelings. Similar feelings were also noticed in Bondy and Ketts (2001) findings where students stated they felt more comfortable and a sense of belonging when interacting during meetings.

To further understand the importance of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles as promoting a positive learning environment, the Daily Student Assessments (Appendix N) can further emphasize the finding. Students completed these assessments after Closing Circles every day. I reviewed the assessments prior to dismissal and checked in with each student who did not

mark the full five (ecstatic smiley face) on themselves, peers, or teachers. I asked why they marked their assessment this way and participated in a private discussion. These assessments were not scored in a data table as it ended up being more of a means of communication rather than data assessment tool. It was a time used to check-in with students who found themselves, peers, or teachers not participating in supporting the classroom community. This developed deep connections and relationships between myself and the students. It was a time to communicate and problem solve about situations that had risen that day. Some days, the evaluations of their peers encouraged discussions during the next day's Morning Message. These discussion and communications enhanced a positive learning environment for every student.

#### **Increased Social Interactions**

The information in this action research study provides a further understanding of the importance of Morning Meetings and Closing Circles to increase social interactions among students, peers, and teachers. The findings suggest an increase in positive peer interactions as described in student post-interviews. Students noted their enjoyment and involvement with peers during Morning Meetings.

Student interactions increased particularly between two students, one of which the teacher mentioned in her post-intervention interview as a child who is being observed for indications of anxiety. This child is referred to as Isla in the study. Isla self-assessment baseline data was a 44. She scored herself low on the ability to cooperate with others and problem solve well with others. Throughout the three-week period, anecdotal notes stated the increase in peer interactions with Isla and other students. Her post-intervention self-assessment shows significant increase in her ability to problem-solve and cooperate well with others. During her post-intervention interview Isla stated Morning Meetings make her feel good. "It's the only time I

really feel good. I don't know why. Sometimes I really hope I get chosen." Through anecdotal notes and observations, it can be suggested the implementation of this intervention gave Isla the tools to positively interact with peers.

This action research study also found an increase in the communication and interaction between students and teachers. The teacher noted in her post-intervention interview the important information she learned about her students during Morning Meetings. This information was helpful when interacting with Isla especially as it offered her the time and ability to share her mother had joined the Army and would be leaving for Boot Camp in a couple weeks. Not only did Morning Meeting give Isla the opportunity to express the information, it opened communication between the teacher and the student to understand and support the change taking place in her home life. These findings provide insight into the notion that Morning Meetings and Closing Circles positively benefit student/teacher relationships. Similarly, the findings are supported by the research of Conlon (2009) where she found teachers learned more about their students during Morning Meetings as they had the ability to participate and share during discussions.

#### Conclusion

This action research was conducted to answer the question: What are the effects of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles on a sense of community in an elementary classroom? To answer this question, I collected baseline data in a first-grade classroom. I planned and implemented an intervention utilizing Morning Meetings and Closing Circles to make emphasis on social and emotional skills and the importance of the student role in the classroom community. Students actively participated and engaged in Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day for three weeks. After this three-week period, student and teacher data was collected

for post-intervention analysis. The daily implementation of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles was significant in promoting a sense of community, a positive learning environment, and increasing social interactions. The findings suggest the daily use of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles are beneficial to the social emotional well-being of students and the educational community.

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# Appendix A

## **Anecdotal Notes**

Date	Category	Observations
	<ul><li>Social</li><li>Emotional</li><li>Behavioral</li><li>Academic</li></ul>	

## Appendix B

# **Teacher Interview Prior to Implementation**

How do you describe your students' behaviors?	

How do you describe your relationship with your students?

## Appendix C

# **Teacher Interview Post Implementation**

What did you notice about your relationship with your students over the last three weeks?
What did you notice about student behavior and relationships over the last three weeks?
What did you notice about the class environment and community over the last three weeks?
Do you have any additional comments about the implementation of Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day over the last three weeks?

# ${\bf Appendix\ D}$ Daily Responsive Classroom Approach Log

Date:	Reflection
Monday Morning Meeting	
<b>Greeting:</b> Various Languages, Handshakes, and Waves (Roser, 2015, p.18)	
Sharing: What's New? (Roser, 2015, p. 72)	
<b>Group Activity:</b> Emoji Madness (Dunbar, 2020, p. 95)	
Morning Message:	
Closing Circle	
<b>Activity:</b> Explain Your Day With An Emoji (Dunbar, 2020, p.199)	
Daily Student Self-Assessment	

## Daily Responsive Classroom Approach Log

Date:	Reflection
<u>Tuesday</u> Morning Meeting	
<b>Greeting:</b> Who Do You See? (Roser, 2015, p. 20)	
<b>Sharing:</b> What's A Good Book You've Recently Read?	
Group Activity: Tangled Tuesday	
Morning Message:	
Closing Circle	
<b>Activity:</b> Hot Pepper (Januszka & Vincent, 2015, p. 86)	
Daily Student Self-Assessment	

Date:	Reflection
Wednesday Morning Meeting	
<b>Greeting:</b> Friends In Our Class (Roser, 2015, p.30)	
Sharing: Would You Rather?	
<b>Group Activity:</b> Jolly Jump Up (Roser, 2015, p.114)	
Morning Message:	
Closing Circle	
<b>Activity:</b> A Wish and Two Stars (Januszka & Vincent, 2015, p. 99)	
Daily Student Self-Assessment	

Date:	Reflection
Thursday Morning Meeting	
Greeting: Ball Roll (Roser, 2015, p32)	
<b>Sharing:</b> Apples or Bananas? (Roser, 2015, p.64)	
<b>Group Activity:</b> Think Quickly (Dunbar, 2020, p.173)	
Morning Message:	
Closing Circle	
Activity: What Do You Remember (Januszka & Vincent, 2015, p.76)	
Daily Student Self-Assessment	

Date:	Reflection
<u>Friday</u> Morning Meeting	
<b>Greeting:</b> Chant Your Name (Roser, 2015, p.44)	
<b>Sharing:</b> My Favorite Game (Roser, 2015, p. 66)	
Group Activity: Feel Good Friday Song	
Morning Message:	
Closing Circle	
<b>Activity:</b> Five Senses (Januszka & Vincent, 2015, p.82)	
Daily Student Self-Assessment	

## Appendix E

# **Daily Student Assessment**

Name:		Date:
	Ť	How do you feel <b>you</b> contributed to a sense of community in the classroom today?
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		How do you feel <b>your peers</b> contributed to a sense of community in the classroom today?
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>*</b>	How do you feel <b>your teacher</b> contributed to a sense of community in the classroom today?

## Appendix F

## Student Behavior Self-Assessment (Implemented Prior and Post Action Research)

36	·_·	• •		^ ^
		_	)	

Name:	Date:
I follow directions the first time they are given.	
I care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	
I am always on task.	
I cooperate well with others.	
I look and listen when someone is speaking.	
I give my best effort and show pride in my work.	· · · · · · · · ·
I wait my turn to speak and raise my hand.	· · · · · · · ·
I always tell the truth.	· · · · · · · ·
I problem solve with others well.	· · · · · · · ·
I participate in class discussions.	
I always help others.	

## Appendix G

## **Student Post Interview**

What would you like to say about the class doing a Morning Meeting and Closing Circle every day?

#### Appendix H

#### **Morning Meeting Slides**

1/31



MORNINGI

Greeting: Handshakes, Waves, and Hellos!



English: Hello
Arabic: MarHaba

Chinese: Ni hao
French: Bonjour

German: Guten Morgen
Hebrew: Shalom
Hindi: Namaste
Italian: Buon giorno
Japanese: Ohayo
Portuguese: Bom dia

Spanish: Buenos dias

Vietnamese: Xin chao

Monday . 9ROW

TODAY IS:

## snaring:

## What's New?

#### Refrain

Sharing! Sharing! Listening and caring! Chant

What's new, [student]? Student: I ate pizza, etc. What's new, [student 2]? Student 2: I had a recital. What's new, [student 3] Student 3: I went swimming. Refrain, Chant, etc.

# 600D MORNING!

Welcome to our first Morning Meeting! Today we will continue to work on being a responsible citizen in our classroom community!

We will start our day learning a new sound and spelling pattern! It is a Music day! We will use red and blue crayons to solve math problems. During science, we will explore another planet!

At the end of the day, we will have our first Closing Circle where we will discuss how well we think we respected and helped others by contributing to our class community.

Be kind to one another! Love, Mrs. Ryan





2/1

# 600D

# MORNINGI

TODAY IS: Tuesday

## Greeting: Who Do You See?

# Chant

[Anna, Anna], who do you see?

[Anna turns to neighbor] I see [Lila] looking at me!

[Lila, Lila], who do you see? [Lila turns to neighbor] I see [lan] looking at me!



# Sharing:

What is a good book you have read this past week?





# 6000 MORNING!

Hello to our classroom community!

I saw a lot of classmates being responsible citizens yesterday! So many of you were showing honesty, respect, and obeying the rules. We will continue to practice working on our self-control and listening to the speaker. I loved how you all worked together and were being problem-solvers in our class community!

Today we will go to art, practice part-part-whole in math with red and blue cubes, and learn more about Mercury!

Keep up the good work! We are proud of you!

Love,

Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. McI

# TODAY IS:

Tuesday



# Group Activity:

Tangled Tuesday!

- 1. boomr
- 2. shkoo
- 3. cntou
- 4. slpoi
- 5. intoi
- 6. sawtr
- 7. hkaw
- 8. cldou



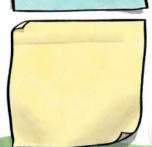
# 6000

# MORNING!

TODAY IS: Wednesday

## Greeting:

Friends in Our Class



#### Chant

#### Refrain

Friends in our class [snap, snap], Friends in our class [snap, snap], Friends in our class, friends in our class,

Friends in our class [snap, snap],

There's [name] and there's [name], There's [name] and there's [name], There's [name] and there's [name], We're here to learn and play! Sharing:

Would you rather ...?

# 600D MORNING!



Do you know what day it is?! It's \_\_\_\_\_ Day!

Do you think Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow?! We will find out soon! I can't wait to learn all about him and why we celebrate today! We are going to to do so many fun activities! It is a gym day.

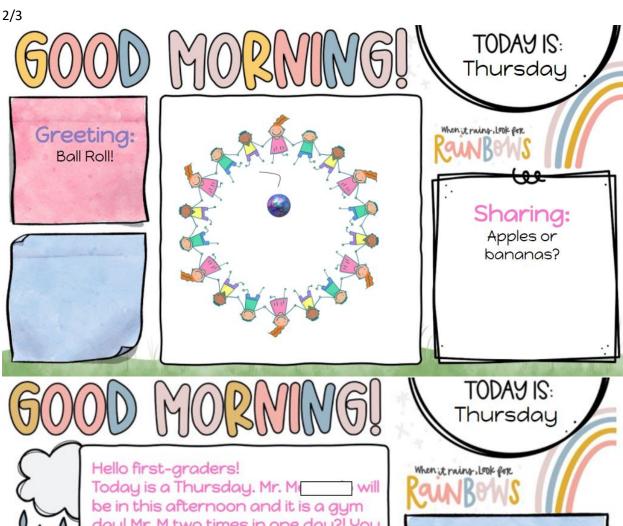
Remember to be responsible citizens in our classroom.

Love, Mrs. Ryan

TODAY IS: Wednesday

## Group Activity: Jolly Jump Up!

[cards with sight words, numbers, and Jolly Jump Up!]



day! Mr. M two times in one day?! You are all so lucky!

We will begin our day reading Trees and Reeds. I am curious to see what this story is about.

Keep working hard raising our hands to talk and listening to the speaker. That's how we practice self-control!

Love, Mrs. Ryan

## Group Activity:

Think Quickly!

[Pairs come up with as many words as they can in one minute, that begin with the letter teacher chooses]

# 600D MORNING!

Greeting: Handshakes, Waves, and Hellos!



English: Hello
Arabic: MarHaba

Chinese: Ni hao
French: Bonjour

German: Guten Morgen
Hebrew: Shalom
Hindi: Namaste
Italian: Buon giorno
Japanese: Ohayo
Portuguese: Bom dia
Spanish: Buenos dias
Vietnamese: Xin chao

TODAY IS:

Monday



What's New?

Refrain

Sharing! Sharing! Listening and caring! Chant

What's new, [student]? Student: I ate pizza, etc. What's new, [student 2]? Student 2: I had a recital. What's new, [student 3] Student 3: I went swimming. Refrain, Chant, etc.

# 6000 MORNING!

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful snow day!

We will start our day learning a new sound and spelling pattern! /er/
I will read you a story called the Fuzz
Frenzy. What do you think it will be about?!
It is a Music day! During science, we will explore the planet Venus!
Be kind to one another!
Love, Mrs. Ryan

TODAY IS:

Monday





TODAY IS: Tuesday



# Chant

[Anna, Anna], who do you

[Anna turns to neighbor] I see [Lila] looking at me!

[Lila, Lila], who do you see? [Lila turns to neighbor] I see [lan] looking at me!



What is a good book you have read this past week?







I hope you are enjoying the new morning work bins! What a fun way to start our day!

Today we will read Meet Vern, practice part-part-whole in math, and learn more about Mars!

Let's try to be great problem-solvers today. If you find yourself having a problem, first say to yourself, is this a big problem or a little problem? Then ask yourself, how could I solve this problem? Try to come up with different ways to solve the problem. If your first solutions doesn't work, don't give up! Try another! Keep up the good work! We believe in

Love, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Mc

# TODAY IS:

Tuesday.





## roup Activity

Tangled Tuesday!

- 1. sltoo
- 2. ftoo
- 3. fndou
- 4. oikn
- 5. ptoin
- 6. dnaw
- cawlr
- 8. shldou



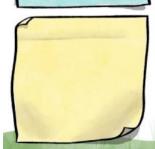


# 6000

# MORNINGI

Greeting:

Friends in Our Class



#### Chant

#### Refrain

Friends in our class [snap, snap], Friends in our class [snap, snap], Friends in our class, friends in our class,

Friends in our class [snap, snap],

There's [name] and there's [name], There's [name] and there's [name], There's [name] and there's [name], We're here to learn and play! TODAY IS: Wednesday

# Sharing:

Would you rather ...?

# 600D MORNING



Today we are going to learn all about the outer planets of our solar system! I can't wait to explore them with you! We will also read more from The Green Fern Zoo, do story problems in math, and go to gym.

I saw some students recognized we we were struggling with listening to the speaker yesterday. Let's remember to be responsible citizens in our classroom. That means being respectful by listening when it is someone else's turn to talk. Have a great day!

Love Mrs. Ruan

TODAY IS: Wednesday

## Group Activity:

Jolly Jump Up!

[cards with sight words, numbers, and Jolly Jump Up!]

teacher chooses1

2/10 TODAY IS: Thursday When it rains, Look for Greeting: COUNBOY Ball Roll! Sharing: Carrots or broccoli? TODAY IS: Thursday ARRRRR, matey! Did you happen to When it rains, Look for see the pirates in Mrs. Hr room?! I wonder what sound we are going to learn today?! It is a Thursday, which means gym Group Activity: and dismissal with Mr. M Think Quickly! Keep working hard raising our hands to talk and listening to the [Pairs come up with speaker. That's how we practice as many words as they can in one self-control! minute, that begin Love, Mrs. Ryan with the letter

2/11

# 6000

# MORNING

TODAY IS: Friday



Name!

#### Chant

#### Refrain

Chant your name, And when you do, We will chant it back to you!

Child 1: [name]! Group: [name]! Child 2: [name]! Group: [name]! Child 3: [name]! Group: [name]! Child 4: [name]! Group: [name]!

Refrain





Hello first graders!

Yesterday we learned all about conflicts and problems with Officer Brandt. What strategies could we use to solve problems?

It's almost Valentine's Day! Today have a Spelling Test, we will make our Valentine bags for our celebration on Monday, and we will learn all about Jupiter!

Make sure you are being a kind community member today! Keep smiling!

Love, Mrs. Ryan

TODAY IS: Friday





#### Group Activity

Feel Good Friday! Chant

It's a Friday! It's a Friday! It's the end of the week and the last day!

Hey class, it's all you! Tell me what you're gonna do?!



Happy Valentine's Day!

Today we are going to show lots of love and kindness! These are great character traits to practice in our classroom community! Plus, our Positivity Project trait this week is LOVE!

We will pass out Valentines, play Bingo, do a craft, and eat a snack during centers this

et's be extra caring today! Love < 3, Mrs. Ryan



2/15

Hello fabulous first graders! Happy 100th Day!!!

You have been in first grade for 100 days! Can you believe it?! You're getting smart every

This morning we will practice /er/ and /ar/. Later today, we have math centers, celebrate the 100th day, and learn about Uranus! It is an art day.

Our P2 trait this week is love. Let's be kind and caring citizens in our classroom community today! Love, Mrs. Ryan

# TODAY IS:

Tuesday.



## Group Activity

Tangled Tuesday!

- 1. sltoo
- 2. ftoo
- 3. fndou
- 4. oikn
- 5. ptoin
- 6. dnaw
- 7. cawlr





# 6000 MORNING!

-

Good morning first graders!
Today we are continuing to practice the /er/ and /ar/ sounds. Mrs. Simmons will be coming in to see what we are doing in math today! Let's show her what responsible class citizens we can be!
We will be learning about the last planet in our solar system today. Neptune!
Make sure you are being a kind and caring friend today!
Have a wonderful Wednesday!
Love, Mrs. Ryan

TODAY IS:
Wednesday.

Group Activity:
Jolly Jump Up!

[cards with sight words, numbers, and Jolly Jump Up!]

2/17

# 600D MORNING!



"When it rains, look for rainbows."
What does this quote mean?
It is going to rain all day. Let's find the beautiful and good things in the day!

This morning, we will begin learning about two syllable words, we will continue our math centers for the week, and learn more about how to solve story problems.

It is a Thursday. You will have gym and Mr. Mr. will be dismissing you today.

Be sure to look for and make your own rainbows today! Love, Mrs. Ryan TODAY IS: Thursday

When it rains, look for Round Bolds

# Group Activity:

Think Quickly!

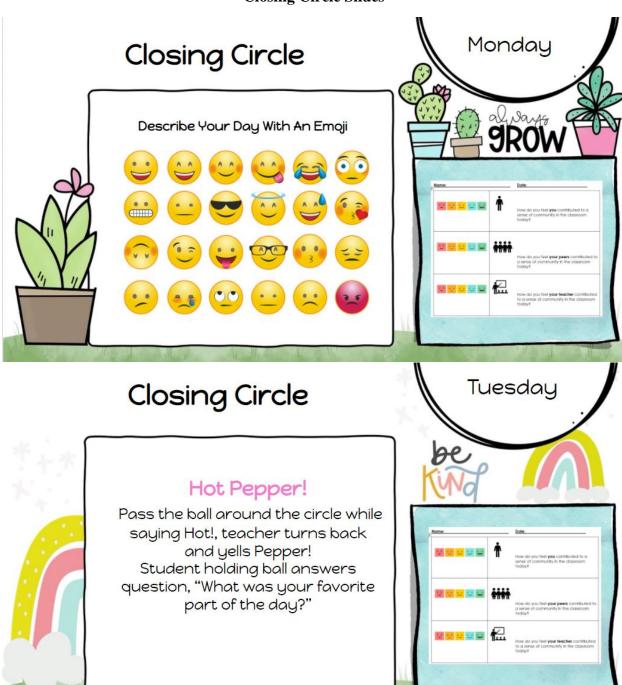
[Pairs come up with as many words as they can in one minute, that begin with the letter teacher chooses]

2/18

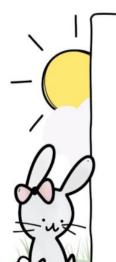
No Promethean Board. Message written on chart paper.

"Good Morning! We are getting a new board today! That means we will have to be creative with our learning! We will learn more about 2-syllable words, have math centers, and take our last community self-assessment. Be an honest kind, and respectful classmate today! Love, Mrs. Ryan"

# Appendix I Closing Circle Slides







## A Wish and Two Stars:

Two things you did well today and one you wish to do better tomorrow.



# Closing Circle

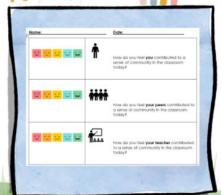


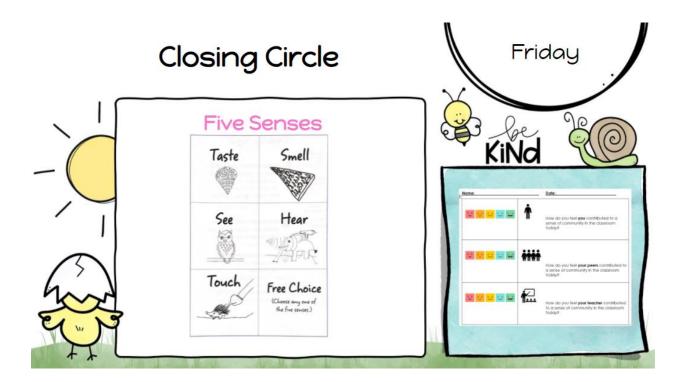
# What do you remember?

[Write different parts of the day on popsicle sticks, students take turns pulling sticks stating, "I noticed...]

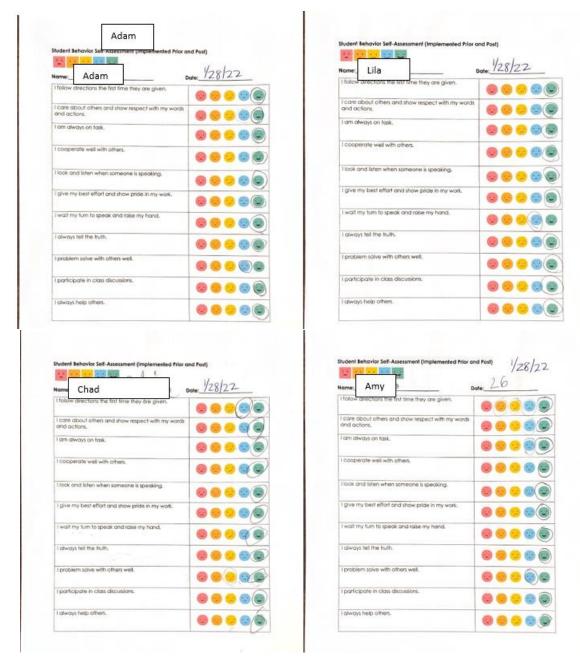


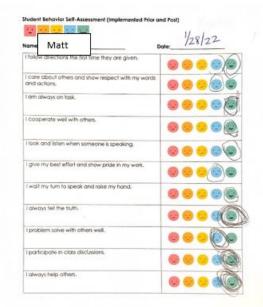
When it rains, Look for Raun Bons





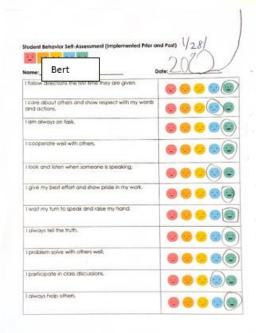
Appendix J
Baseline Data: Pre-Implementation Student Behavior Self-Assessments

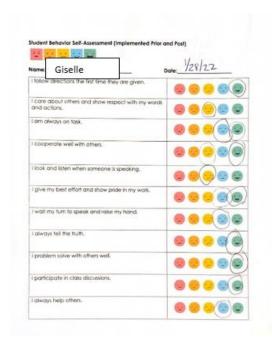


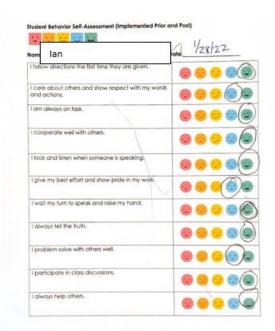


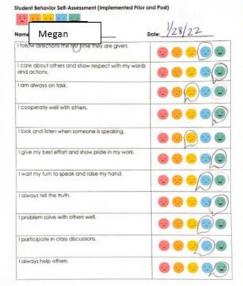


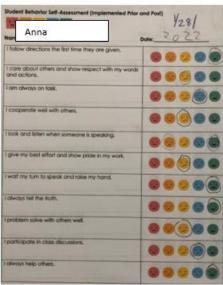


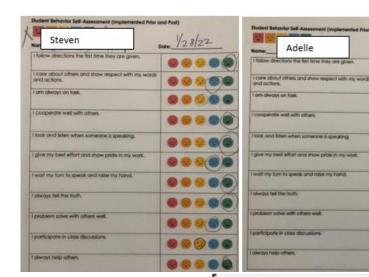


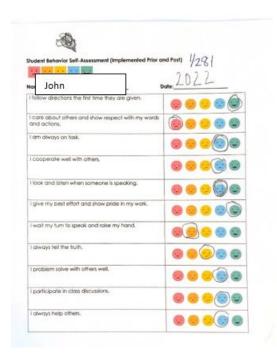


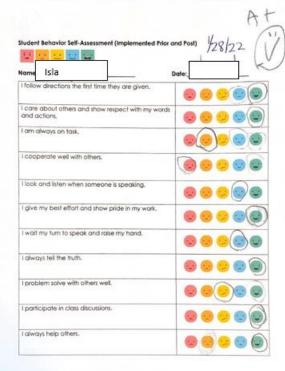










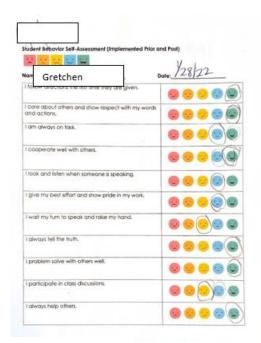


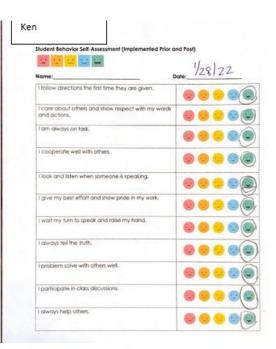
Date 1/28/22

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@ @ @ @ (@





# Student Behavior Self-Assessment (Implemented Prior and Post) Name: Jason Dale: \( \frac{1}{2}\) 22 I follow directions the first time they are given. I core about others and show respect with my words and actions. I am always on task. I cooperate well with others. I look and listen when someone is speaking. I give my best effort and show pride in my work. I wait my turn to speak and raise my hand. I always tell the fruth. I problem solve with others well. I participate in class discussions.

#### Appendix K

#### **Baseline Data: Pre-Implementation Teacher Interview**

1/28/22

#### Teacher Interview Prior to Implementation

How do you describe your relationship with your students?

Our class we knowed me back from
maternity leave with Kindness and ease. They
proved to be flexible with that HUGE change.
I have met sweet kind, and hardworking
Students. I believe that forming a strong
teacher-student relationship aids in the success
of all students.
Our class is filled with hard-working, kind, and
eager students! Students are typically eager to
please and excellent listeners. The class benefits
from movement or engagement after they
have been sitting an the carpet for an
extended whole group lesson.

# Appendix L

# **Daily Responsive Classroom Logs**

Date: 1/31/22	Reflection
Monday Morning Meeting  Greeting: Various Languages, Handshakes, and Waves (Roser, p.18)	Next week have students repeat each greeting. Students didn't know or were overwhelmed with choices. Students enjoyed saying hello to one onlother. Some found human in it and need
Sharing: What's New? (Roser, p. 72)	to be redirected to listen to speaks.
<b>Group Activity:</b> Emoji Madness (Dunbar, p. 95)	· Mrs. Mg helped models
Morning Message:  Williams to our 15 Morning Meeting!  Today we will work on being a responsible  its in ax classroom community:  We will stort our day livening a new sand  ret spelling pattern. It is a Music day!  We will use red and due crayons to solve  muth problems. During science we will  expiore another planet!  at the end of the day, we will have our I'm  losing Circle where wit will discuss how well  we respected and helped others. Be kind to are  anothers. Love meetigen	mother went to bootcomp over weekend. Umportant info.)  Next time place pile of emoji's in middle, students pick own-dant passa. Go over amotions. Some students concrete.  Wient over whose a community is, how we show a class community.
Closing Circle	·Table groups talked about their day using an emoji.
Activity: Explain Your Day With An Emoji (Dunbar, p.199)	I heard one student say
Daily Student Self-Assessment	"I love school, another said "Happy because I learned man
	one student scored herself low on self assessment. Had a quick conference. She feit
	Thanked her for being honest

#### duny kesponsive classidom approach Log

#### Date: 2/1/22 Reflection · Most students participated and caught on quickly to Who Do you see! Everyone greeted their neighbor with enthusiasm. <u>Tuesday</u> **Morning Meeting** Greeting: Who Do You See? (Roser, p. 20) · Children's book selection hulped with my knowledge of their Sharing: What's A Good Book You've interests and reading habits. Recently Read? · Children partnered and successfully Group Activity: Tangled Tuesday worked together to untargle Morning Message: Hello to our their spelling words classrum community! I saw a lot of classmates being responsible citizens yesterday. So many of you were showing honesty, respect, and doeying the rules. We with continue to practice working on our self-control and listening to the Speaker. I loved how you are worked together and were being problem. · Emphasis was made on how they were responsible citizens yesterday and what we will work on today. Speaker. I were how you are worked together and were being problem. Solvers in our class community. Today we will go to art, practice part purt-whole and learn more about Mercury! Keep up the good work! We are proud of Keep up the good work! We are proud of recred for the student who **Closing Circle** Activity: Hot Pepper (Januszka, p. 86) ralked over student answering question. Lots of reminders **Daily Student Self-Assessment** to listen to the speaker. lot of student recognized their peers were talking too much & not listening to speaker. - A caple just didn't have feel like they had a great day." - A couple Stated the art teacher could have done better.

Date: 2/2/22	Reflection
Mednesday Morning Meeting	Friends in our class was well received Students participated
Greeting: Friands In Our Cl	
Greeting: Friends In Our Class (Roser, 0.30)	in the Simple chant.
5.507	· Students also used their own
Sharing: Would You Rather?	thinking to answer would you
Finda living dissour or hidder	College Jahren GINO West College
Group Activity: Jolly Jump Up (Roser,	- I - I in in a control of the control of
0.114)	
	respected each other's arsurs.
Morning Message:	respecta actions
Do you know what day it is!	. Students participated
It's Day! Do you think Punkutan	on hosiasilation
Phil sous his shadow? We will find out soon! I can want to learn an about	all directions, and encouraged
son! I and wait to blorate today.	eachother during activity.
	3 3
ichintes. It is a gym day.	
definition. It is be responsible	
iduzens in our classroom.	
Love, Mrs. Ryon	
5000	
Papadour Life III	- Nid and sould to one not count
Closing Circle	· Did not call to ng, not enough time. Had think in head at
Address to the term of the second	
Activity: A Wish and Two Stars (Januszka,	· Filled out End of Day Classroom
0. 99)	Community Checkerst.
ally Student Solf Assessment	- A couple instances in gym, maked teacher
Daily Student Self-Assessment	2 students mentioned the telmorked hers
	teachers werent nice today. Modern
	-1 said friends Kept touching her
	today even when asked her
	to Stop.
	- 1 student morked teacher down
	when asked stated a buy told her
	to Talked about being honest.
	the said she really likes Morning
	Meetings and learning languages.
	-Anincident between 2 boys come
	up, one boy morked himself about
	and appolagized in untira. Said he was
	talking at the wrong time. Teacher had conversation with both boys about
	born silly at irappropriate times. The
	'sillier' boy marked hisnself as having

Date: 2/3/22 Reflection · Anfrontload lesson w/ how to gently, calmly, self-control pass **Thursday Morning Meeting** Greeting: Ball Roll (Roser, p32) · Worked together to find as many words as could. Shared on e Sharing: Apples or Bananas? (Roser, p.64) word as a group/pair. Focused Group Activity: Think Quickly (Dunbar, on listening to speaker, not p.173)blurting if have a connections Morning Message: use connection symbol. Hello first-graders! Today is a Thursday. Mr. Mercado will be in · Marring Message reitherated the comportance of self-control: this afternoon. Mr. M two times in land it is a gight day you! Lucky listering. We will begin our day reading Trees and Reeds. I am curious to see what this Story is about. Keep working hard raising our hards to talk and listening to the speaker! Illiant practicisms self-contail alines Ryen . Called on 3 students to respond Closing Circle to what they remembered or lilled about specific ports of clay. Activity: What Do You Remember Was a challenge for them to (Januszka p.76) or Secret Ballet (Whyte remember. Next time, maybe p.113)partner to talk about it. Daily Student Self-Assessment · one student had a hard time controlling his emotions all day. He was honesty and self-aware of his contributions to the class community. Stated he needed to work on his crying. · Two students Stated classmates were talking when they weren't supposed to.

Date: 2/7/22	Reflection
Monday Morning Meeting	· New Morning Routine. STEM bins, cleanup song, meet on corpet to Start right
<b>Greeting:</b> Various Languages, Handshakes, and Waves (Roser, p.18)	· Students quickly t enthusiastically accreted each other in larguages
Sharing: What's New? (Roser, p. 72)	(We went over all larguage green
<b>Group Activity:</b> Emoji Madness (Dunbar, p. 95)	· All but 3 had Something to show during "what's New? Those who had connections were reminded
Morning Message: Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful snowday!	thumb pointing between people.
We will learn a new sound and spelling Pallern today. I will read you a story called the Firz Frenzy. What do you think it is about?	reminded students to find partner speak about the emotion and a time they felt that way.
It is a music day. Donny science, we will explore the planet Venus. Bekind to one cnother!	· come back whole greet, spoke about social intelligence: what we can tell by looking at overning
Love, Urs. Ryan	e labore librater make
Closing Circle	· Some students did not choose to talk with clastable mates
<b>Activity:</b> Explain Your Day With An Emoji (Dunbar, p.199)	emotion.  One girl wrote she was mad
Daily Student Self-Assessment	what she did that did not what she did that did not contribute to day, because she fell off her bed. Talked
	ad examples.
	ore girl circult herself. She was smiles about herself. She was upset about locker buddy and not finishing projects today.

Date: 2 8 22	Reflection
Tuesday Morning Meeting	·Students were very charty: talking over each other; the
Greeting: Who Do You See? (Roser, p. 20)	-04404
Sharing: What's A Good Book You've Recently Read?	·Worked well together as portners to figure out Torgled Tuesday
Group Activity: Tangled Tuesday	words.
Morning Message: Hello fabrious first graders! I hope you are enjoying the	Targled Tusday words, students
new morning work bins. What a fun way to start the day. Today we will read Meet Warn, Practice Pert - pertwhole in math, and learn more about Mors.	· Message · reitherated Thus .
f you find yourself having a problem first	Steps on how to be an effective problem solver.
t solve this problem? Try to connece the problem?	
Keep up the good work! We believe in you!	· Students talked over teacher,
Closing Circle	Students, could not sit in
Activity: Hot Pepper (Januszka, p. 86)	capet spot is stay.
Daily Student Self-Assessment	· Lared s. participated Kindly in hot peopler.
	· Struggled transitioning to seats to complete survey. Talking, not staying in sport.
	· I student recognized the class' inability to listen well to speaker + · Z did not like how poers
	treated them.
	· One stated he helped his committee by helping friend when fell : teachers
	did on excellent job of helping others today.

Date:	Reflection
Wednesday Morning	Opening to the state of the sta
Greeting: Friends In Our p.30)  Sharing: Would You Rate Would You Called You Talker Yes House Group Activity: Jolly Jun p.114)	Reminded during Message, yesterday Students recognized a lot of peers were not being respectful or listering to the speaker.
	citizen.
Morning Message: Good Morning. Today all about the outer pla system! I cont wait to you! We will also read in Green Fern Zoo, do ste math, and go to give Students recognized with listening to the let's remanber to be in our classroom. That respectful by listening else's turn to talk. This	s of our solar port them with e from the y arobbens in I sous some were struggling zaker yesteday. ponsible citizens cans being an it is someone we can do it?!
Closing Circ	. Students talked in table groups
2018 C. Trento (1880)	about 2 stars and a wish.  John  John  John  John  Z Stars.  2 Stars.  2 Stars.  2 Stars.
Activity: A Wish and Tw p. 99)	- Overhead Times night to bring a good bring a good class off bus community mends
Daily Student Self-Asses	
	Reflections.  - Bytchildren stated poets  - Bytchildren stated poets  Were not being I lind in gym  Were not being I lind in gym  (one stated it was the boy himself  who maked his peers down who  wasn't being kind)  - one student said he needs to  listen to the teacher more (insightful as  this is constantly reiterated to him)

Date: 2/10/22 Reflection · Lots of reminders to listen to **Thursday Morning Meeting** Speaker Lusual Friends). ·Talked about how it is ak for Greeting: Ball Roll (Roser, p32) others to like Something we Sharing: Apples or Bananas? (Roser, p.64) do not. Be respectful. Carrots or Broccoli? Group Activity: Think Quickly (Dunbar, · blahad trable with Think p.173) aciday, could not verbalize a word from the list. Stated Morning Message: ARRR Modey! Did you happen to see she has a bad partner. the pirotes in Mrs. Hesler's room?! I wonder what sound we are going to learn today?! It is a Thursday which means gym and dismissal with Mission. We also have a cook meeting this morning. Keep working hard raising our hand to talk and listening to the speaker. That's how we practice self-control. Luthing Ry · Students were challenged **Closing Circle** to recall an aspect of the day Activity: What Do You Remember they enjoyed or remembered (Januszka p.76) or Secret Ballet (Whyte during a specific period. p.113) · Students recalled parts of the Daily Student Self-Assessment day I had even forgot about. · These were great was reminders to bring have with them to talk with grown ups about. . A couple students assessed their poors low for community bloof the Plans Bengals teasing of JD. one child was upset and couldn't figure out why exergone was saying

Date: 2/11/22	Reflection
Friday Morning Meeting	Active porticipation in new greeting.
Greeting: Chant Your Name (Roser, p.44)	Lots of Cornections to eachother about favorite genes
<b>Sharing:</b> My Favorite Game (Roser, p. 66)	Ran out of time, so told to think
Group Activity: Feel Good Friday Song	going to do over weekend.
Morning Message: Hello First Graders! Yesterday	They can talk with table of snall
is learned all about conflicts and problems withoffier Brandt. What	·Gave a problem, Students come up with solutions to the
Strategies could be use to solve	conflict during Message.
It's almost Valentine's Day. Today us have a Spelling Test, we will make our Valentine bags for air celebration	
or Monday, and we will learn our about Justiter. Wall some you are being a kind member of our community today! keep smiling! he	erenze.
Closing Circle	· Five senses-students needed a lot of think time should have
Activity: Five Senses (Januszka p.82)	Castlanded first time.
Daily Student Self-Assessment	· Taked about papers. Seeing friends do good things. Lunch time food
	. Hesitation, not wanting to fill out form anymore, old/boring.
	· Problem-solving at playtime. Marked boys/peers down for
	being unkind. Was going to tell teacher but girls ended unmoving thank . Ida still upset polices telling her
	to be quiet when she int talking.

Date: 2/15/22	Reflection
Tuesday Morning Meeting	·Sully responses when greeting. ·Most Friends shared books. Some
<b>Greeting:</b> Who Do You See? (Roser, p. 20)	passed.
<b>Sharing:</b> What's A Good Book You've Recently Read?	· Repeat of words from last week. Teams of students
Group Activity: Tangled Tuesday	focused to find as many assurers as they could.
Morning Message: Hopey 100th Halls tablows (st graders! Hopey 100th Day! You have been in first grade for 100 days! Con you believe it? You're getting smorter every clay! This morning we will proutice let and tar! Hater today, we have moth centers, we will be today, and learn about celebrate the 100th day, and learn about celebrate the 100th this week is Love. Uronus. Our \$22 trait this week is Love. Uronus. Our \$22 trait this week is Love. Utos be kind and coning citizens inour classroom today! Lax, Mrs. Ryon	·When words were spoken/answere Students needed cots of reminders not to talk over each other.
Closing Circle	· Activity was class was excited about Everyor partiaboted
Activity: Hot Pepper (Januszka, p. 86)	when asking how you can be a
Daily Student Self-Assessment	good contributing community member only two students raised hands. When given examples, students agreed.  It was an unordinary schedule today. Lack of paticipation may have been a rosult.  One student said nobody helped her rick up also from fruit loops.  One student said peers call him names, weirdo solow.  Cjust came back from 2 week vacation

## Daily Responsive Classroom Approach Log

Date: 2/16/22	Reflection
Wednesday Morning Meeting	·All porticipate, come to circle quickly. Get to a level zero
<b>Greeting:</b> Friends In Our Class (Roser, p.30)	· Greated everyone.
Sharing: Would You Rather? Eat danuts or condu?	· Most chose donuts. John upset saying condy is better. You all reed to choose gray.
Group Activity: Jolly Jump Up (Roser, p.114)	you allreed to choose ordy. Reminded everyone is different
Morning Message: Good Morning first gradurs! Today we are continuing to practice to lert and lart sounds. Mrs. Simmons will be	he Excited, even one participated.
coming in to see what we are doing in me today! Let's show her what responsible classicities we can be! We will be learning about attract planet our solar system today. Neptune! Our solar system today. Neptune! Make sure you are being a kind and commove friend today; Have a worderful Wednesda friend today; Have a worderful Wednesda for was lyan	began talling maining around, leaving carpet to get arinks.
Closing Circle	· Lots of did well with planet
Activity: A Wish and Two Stars (Januszko	la - last
Daily Student Self-Assessment	· One wish to work harder on handwriting.
Think in hood, tal	one did will working hard at math. (struggling students)
with toble	" I I I short marking
groop	poer claus Is not thinking
Jic	ohn as much about our actions

## Daily Responsive Classroom Approach Log

been about how it is okay for yeryon to like different things. If but one chose strawbomies. We ded reminders to listen to spock during sharing of Think Quickly. I scribed the quote. Student said fler it rains and the Sun is shiring yen there's a rainbow. He was a feel good. We are going to Look for those rainbows or make our own today.
eded reminders to listen to speak during shaning of Think Quickly- escribed the quote. Student said fer it rains and the Sun is shining hen there's a rainbow. Listing that makes us feel good, We are going to book for those rainbows
during shoring of Think Quickly.  2 scribed the quote. Student said  fer it rains and the Sun is shiring  hen there's a rainbow. Heary  hat makes us feel good. We are  going to Look for those rainbows
of mail out controlly.
eachother was high.  Speople marked pears down for talking over teacher.  marked pears down for a Situation - anguing Ida/Mosley

#### Daily Responsive Classroom Approach Log

#### Date: 2/18 Reflection · Frontloaded Game. Make Friday **Morning Meeting** connections using symbol & Greeting: Chant Your Name (Roser, p.44) or politely sit if clant agree. class did very well being Sharing: My Favorite Game (Roser, p. 66) respectful to classmates. Group Activity: Feel Good Friday Sona · Explained last day have Morning Message: to fill out paper assessments Good Morning at end of day. Some we are getting a new board! friends were happy some That means we will have to get were upset (like it), some creative with our learning today We will barn more about 2-syllolds wondering why positiont words, math centers, and takeon to stop Moetings? last community self-assessments. · Explained we will continue Be on honest, Kind, and respectful our meetings, just clone w/popers. classmate today! Love, Mrs. Ryon · All students listened to speaker **Closing Circle** · Lots of explaining, rexplaining Activity: Five Senses (Januszka p.82) we are coming back to 1 st grade after break. We **Daily Student Self-Assessment** will still do our Marrina Meetings/closing Circles, no more daily assessments. · All but one student marked everyone 5°=. (Student Stated he wanted to do a I just once).

## Appendix M

## **Anecdotal Notes**

Date	Category	Observations
1/31/22	<ul><li>Social</li><li>Emotional</li><li>Behavioral</li><li>Academic</li></ul>	helped hum clean up quickly w/o direction to. Then got night back to working on Math Journals.
1/31/22	o Social o Emotional e Behavioral o Academic	Stop! Lo During Math Instruction Sh! peers lots of unkind words. Blurting.
1/31/22	Social     Emotional     Behavioral     Academic	Girl Kindy told another girl she needed to wash her face after snad
1/31/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Yelling, blurting during video. Could not practice self-control with reminders (3 boys + 1 girl).
1/31/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Boy Still sitting at seat when given two reminders to come to the carpet after snack. He looked at the teacher and should two more handful into mouth. She insisted he came to the carpet how.

# Anecdotal Notes Amy & Observations Whispering about Isla's

Date	Category	Amy &	Observations
2/1/22	Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	Megan With Judgi	whispening about Isla's struggle holding Scissors correctly. Painting, mg. talking rucky.
2/1/22	Social  Emotional  Behavioral  Academic	Said it !	was an accident. Chad said they aging when it happened sean was how we treat others + hards to see apologized.
2/1/22	so Social  o Emotional  so Behavioral  o Academic	Isla layer Whitebook She Sat a	ng on carpet. Feet hitting boy's d. He kisked. Is can you sit?" I've continued working.
2/1/22	Social  Emotional  Behavioral  Academic	Would not in a group share me buddy told Ended up agi	participate be she had to be of 3 not 2. It was too hard to be aterials. Laid her head on table, I teacher what was wrong. Girl is she was bored.
2/1/22	Social  Emotional  Behavioral  Academic	Talking a group on then the were lis-	wer teacher during whole ath instruction. Teacher waited nied the children by name who ening.

Date	Category	Observations
2/1/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Property of the last that the territory of the second of t
2/1/22	o Social o Emotional ø Behavioral o Academic	
2/2/22	Social     Emotional     Behavioral     Academic	Students listened intentively during read-about lengtons or blurting.
2/2/22	Social      Emotional     Behavioral     Academic	
2/2/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	And which are labored

Date	Category	Observations
2/2/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Graphing exercise. Student changed his assure to what the majority of the group. Girl told the boy it was obvious he changed it because we can tell if he can a can't whistle: Told him he wasn't being honest. (Whisper conversation botwon the two students) He kept his changed answer when called on by teacher. The girl shock her head at him and letite
2/3/22	Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	Lots of reminders for whole class to not shoot. Running around class. Drawing on other people's work.
2/3/22	Joh Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	n yelled in & face. Rominded about self-control appologieze. G dight want him rear hear.  J also became which after TEAM Time be he J lost a game.
2/3/22	Social  Emotional  Behavioral  Academic	& Jason playera imageray gene together.  *both have never been able to participate in Social play. Rather be independent.
2/3/22	<ul><li>Social</li><li>Emotional</li><li>Behavioral</li><li>Academic</li></ul>	Students in circle on Ny watching toucher model game. Kids Kept scootching forward, leaning in front of each other. Kindly tapping on shakless and asking each other to more back.

Date	Category	Observations
2/7/22	o Social o Emotional ø Behaviora o Academic	LUIVE CON DROVE I DON'T I VANA MALL NO
47/22	Social  Emotional  Behaviora  Academic	
2/8/22	o Social e Emotional o Behaviora o Academia	Stating This is so tun! Sharing experiences
2/8/22	Social  o Emotional  Behaviora  o Academia	
2/8/22	Social  Emotional  Behaviora  Academia	reminders to listen to trainer and peers.

Date	Category	Observations
2/8/22	Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	·Students played partners to Ten Go Fish! Pairs worked together, shared, encavage Everyone shawed good sportmanship.
2/8/22	6 Social 5 Emotional 6 Behavioral 7 Academic	· Talking during Mars vicleo. Student lelling each other they can't hear is to be quiet.
2/9/21	John Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	yelled across room, Guys make a line! When students were being called by table group to put paper away. Teacher called him back to his seat to remind him of his jub as a student is her jub as a teacher.
2/9/22	ø Social ø Emotional ø Behavioral o Academic	· Nobody calling out. Actually ergaged in math lesson. Turn i talk to partner, come right back to attention when told.
2/9/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Yelled out Conon! when didn't get chosen to write on board. "Its ok. John"-Gretchen

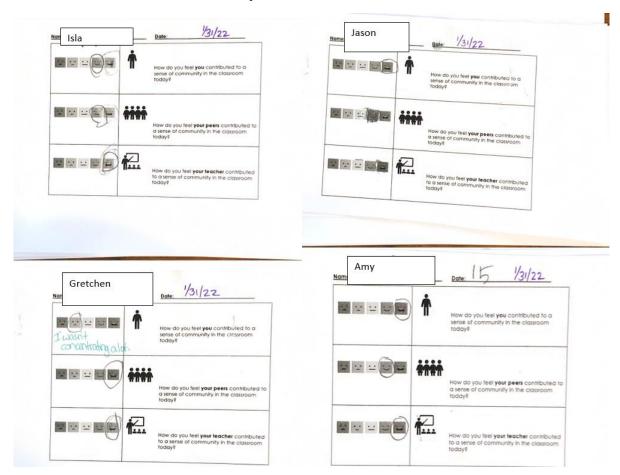
Date	Category	Observations
2/10/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	· Whill waiting for afficer on Zoan, students were beginning to get entry on Na (moying around, silly faces, talking).  · Mrs Man propriated Think It Say It with or said words just learned. Phonemic Awards activity (say cort say cart again but climt say ar)
2/10/22	p Social p Emotional p Behavioral o Academic	Students were purpostly teasing inting Joh up about Roms/Bengals teams.  He kelled during playtime and was removed and calmed down.  Some happened during which. Students Kept eggins on the matter to get a reaction from him. Screen/england aide calmed him durin.  Students began again in classroom. Had a class talk
2/11/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Stidents pointed out John being at the problem creater during problem solving Solutions activity.  (Should have said something about, a lot of us were struggling to not tease or rile up a situation yesterday as well)
2/11/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Making Utine's bags as directed drawn "Hs OK - they all wook different. It doesn't have to be perfect. It looks good, you will still be able to color it."  Meg to Isla
2/11/22	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Isla helped clean up table during dismissal. Was complimented and begin skip I hopping.

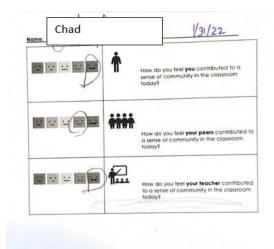
Date	Category	Observations
2/15	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Students help each other complete their activity from hin "I need, I found this for you Talk about Ian coming back from auter i pakisten. Taking turns talking i listening. Staying on task, conversing w/ table groups.
2/15	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	Think it Say it, best job ever close. Nobody ever gave it away that time. Give selves pat on back
2/16	o Social o Emotional o Behavioral o Academic	During Morning Meeting, all Students paticipated.  During Skills right after, tots of friends tried getting up to get drinks and go to bathroom. Reminded we do not during corpet time.
2/17	Social  o Emotional  o Behavioral  o Academic	Isla & Jason playing, laughing together while drawing at playtime. Both usually play solo.
2/17	o Social o Emotional Behavioral Academic	Assembling outer space planets in order, every student listened to the speaker. Very engaged in activity as they worked for 2 weeks creating the planets for the book.

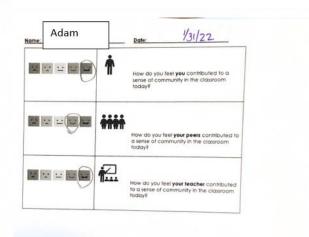
Date	Category	Observations
2/18	Social Emotional Behavioral Academic	Students interviewed about RC lusar- inner-thoughts, feelings. -some reflections on group -most enjoyed activities -Lots of thought Morning, muturgi. closing modethering.
2/18	6 Social John 6 Emotional 9 Behavioral 9 Academic	reocher-what happens if my partner wants to leah to play a different some than me?  Problem solve-play her gene 1st then my game.

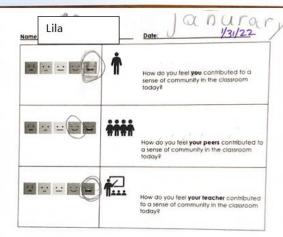
## Appendix N

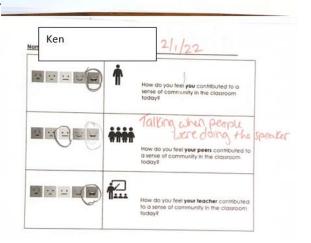
## **Daily Student Assessments**

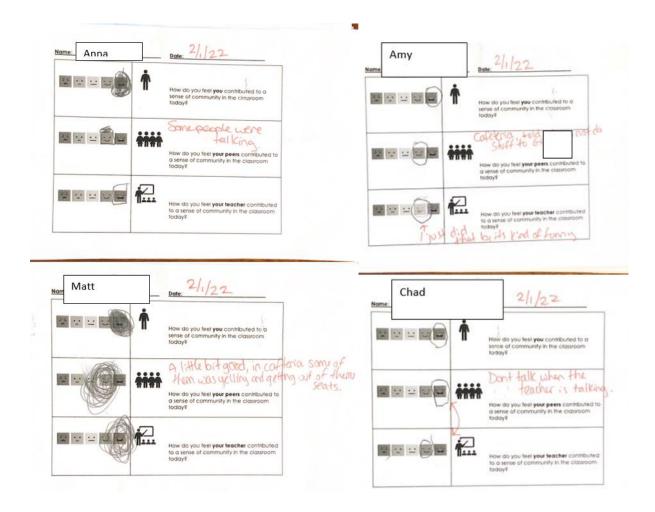


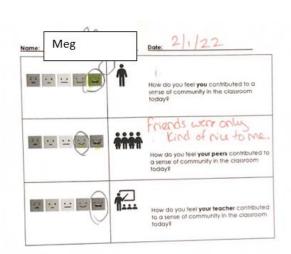


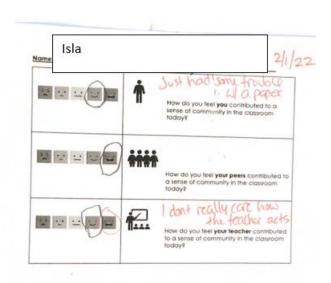


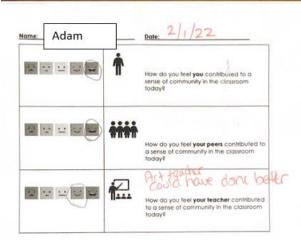


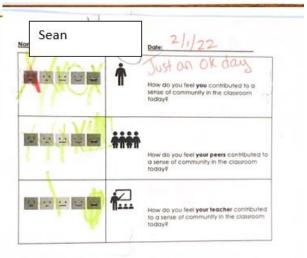


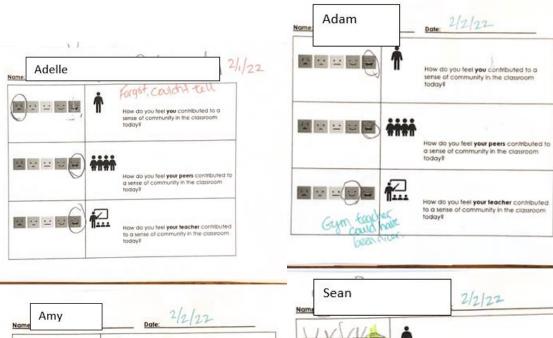


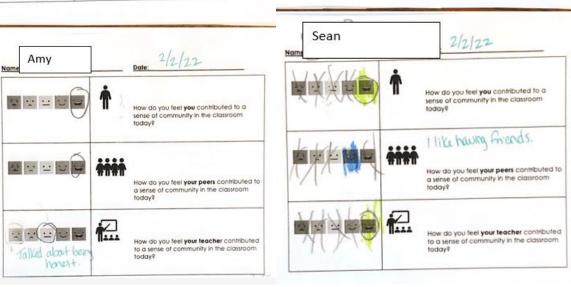


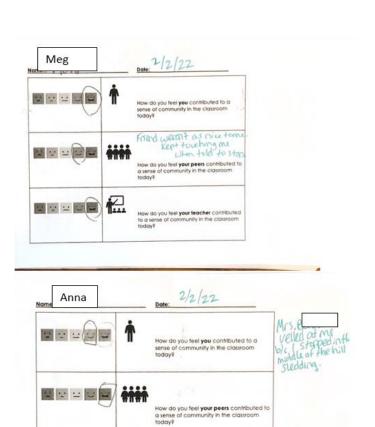




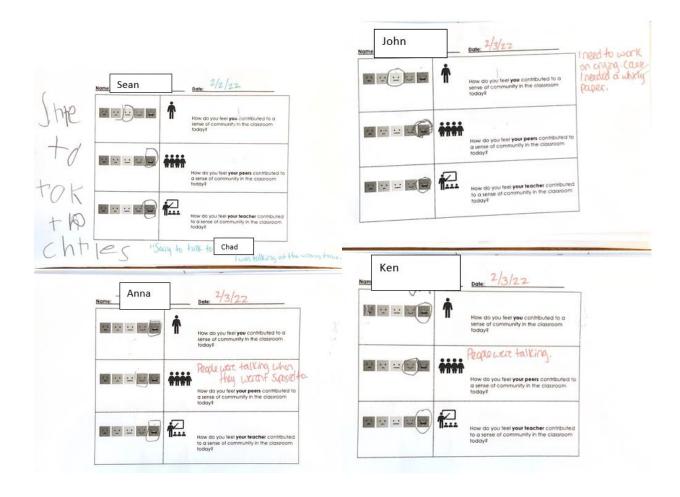


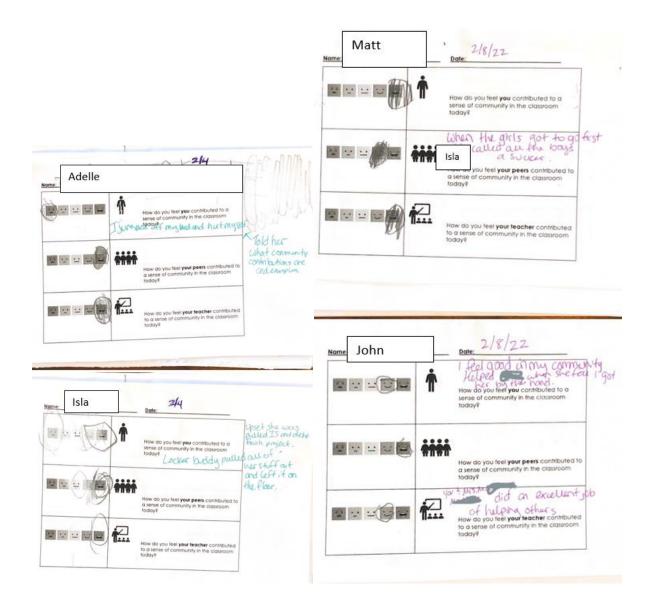


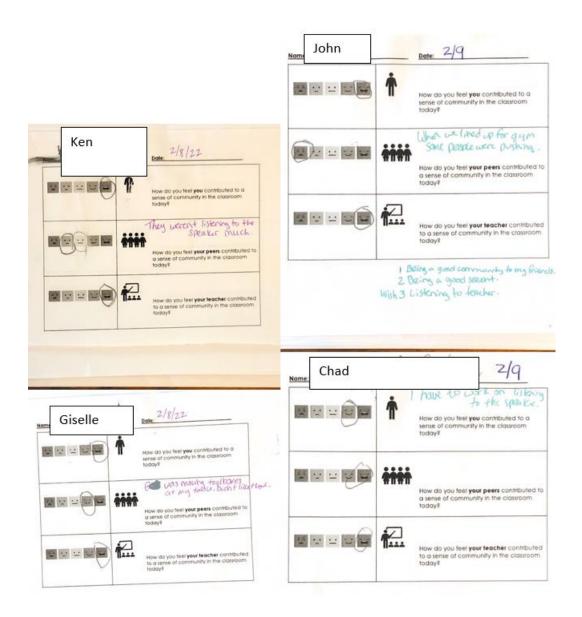


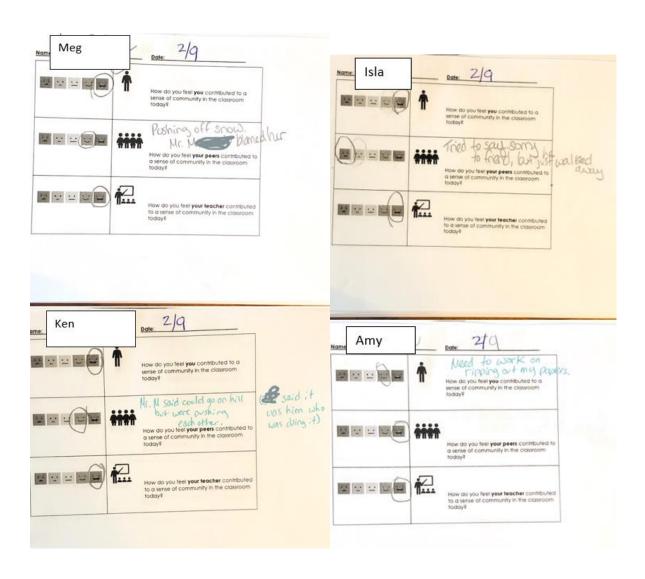


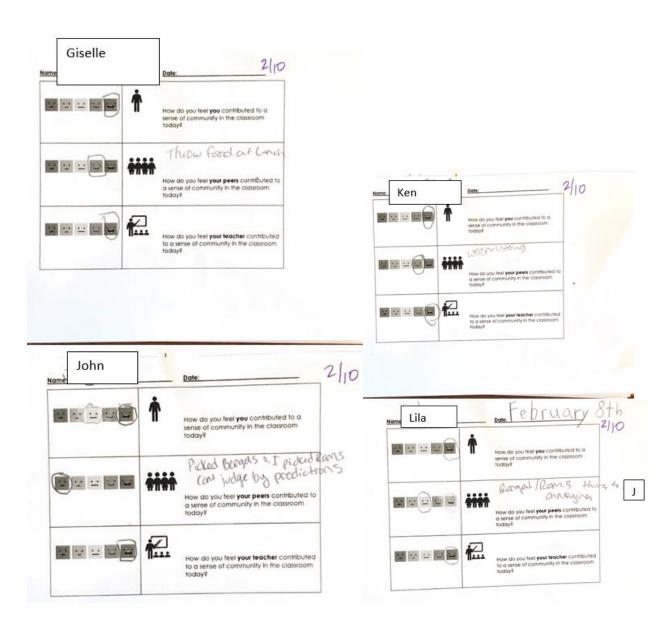
How do you feel your feacher contributed to a sense of community in the classroom today?

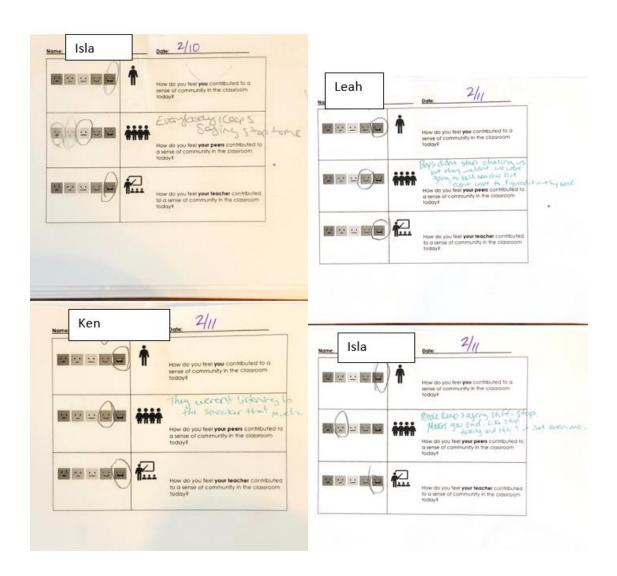


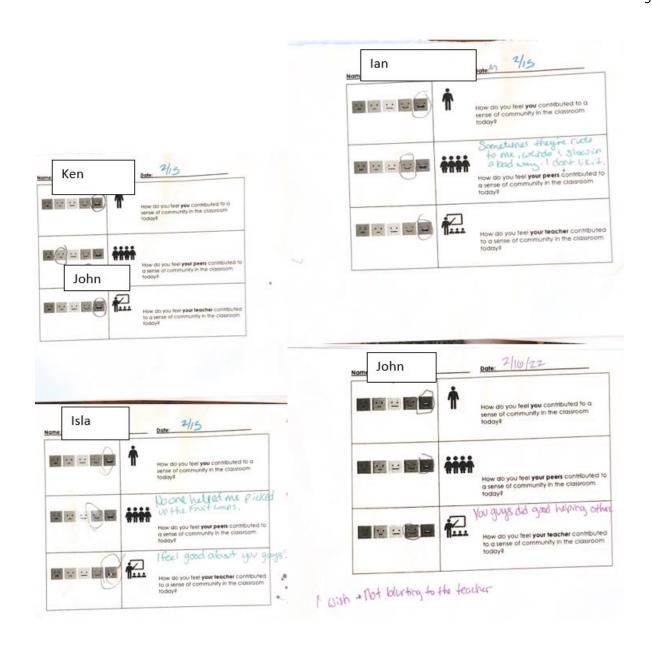


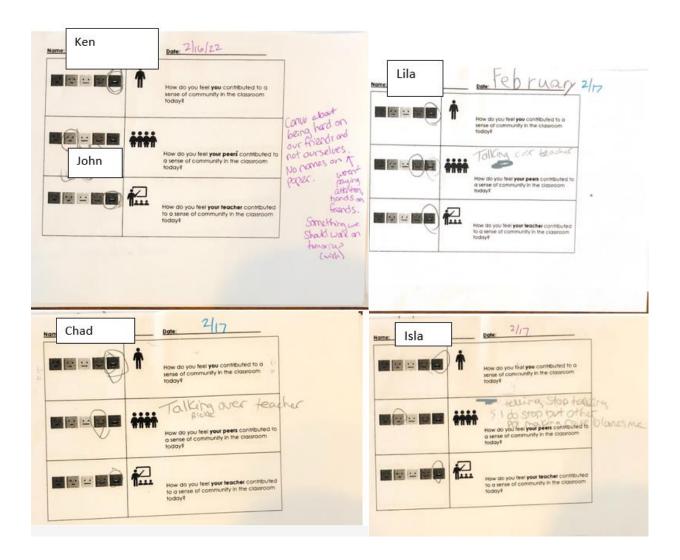


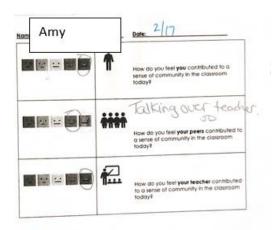


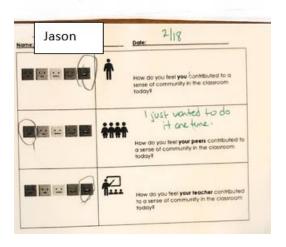












## **Appendix O**

#### **Teacher Interview Post Implementation**

```
What did you notice about your relationship with your students over the last three
     weeks? There were several times this week
  where I was able to communicate with students
  about things I heard/learned about them from
  Morning Meeting that I otherwise may not
  have known/realized. Example: one student is
  going to see her mon graduate from Boot
Camp next week and she is nervous to go on
a plane this particular student shows some signs
of anxiety in school that affect her academic
What did you notice about student behavior and relationships over the last three life
weeks?
                                                              ShedS
   students are being self-reflective, and are
   also noticing their peer's behavior's
                                                                00
   more they understand the word
                                                               the
                                                              situation
   "community" and are willing to help
                                                               815
                each other:
                                                               helpful
                                                                10
                                                                me i
     What did you notice about the class environment and community over the last
     three weeks?
     Since the implementation of Morning
   Meeting, Mrs. Ryan and I have also changed
  my typical morning routine (from morning the work worksheets to STEM bins to start the
   day the entire atmosphere of our greeting
    time in the morning has become more
     Do you have any additional comments about the implementation of Morning Likewise
     Meeting and Closing Circles every day over the last three weeks?
                                                      Closing Circle
 I plan to continue Morning
Meeting & Closing Circles all
year. With the extreme expectations
of curriculum being pushed on us
                                                        siture timos
in the current years, it is
important and beneficial to
                                                     instead of
remember that Student relationships have the biggest effect on academic
                                                     to dismiss.
```

## Appendix P

## **Post Implementation Student Interviews**

Gret	chen
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Good because it's an awayane class and I like people playing with me.
Amy	
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?
	I like if blc I like doing the chant and the other Stufftoo.
	The only thing I don't like is when we do my name chant blo I'm embarasset.
Isla	2/18
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Good, it's the only time I really feel good. I don't know why.  Sometimes I really hape I get chosen.

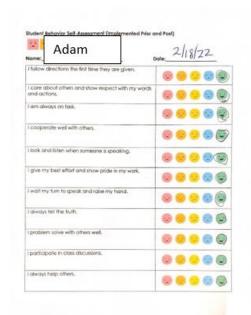
	2/18
ı	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Voure nice and Mrs Marketing people say their things about their day and what they like to do.
Lila	2/18
	Student Post Interview
	100 110
	our class chant thing. I like when we say hello in different languages. I like it because everything we do makes me feel happy,
Jason	hello in different laguages. Illet because everything we do makes me feel happy,
Jason	everything we do makes the teel 11999,
Jason	2/18

Bert	2119
	Student Post Interview
Opt O	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  I'd Say that they're fun for me. Blc you get you get do sanething.
Sean	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  They do super good and they listen to the speaker. I feel happy they are listening and it makes the teachers feel good. I feel good when I have a good teacher and I do fun things.
lan	2/18 Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  I like it blc we do songs and activities  I like the Pepper a lot, I like it. It makes me feal good because I like to do an the staff we do.
Anna	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Did you have a good day.  Haps because like what people are happy if makes me happy.

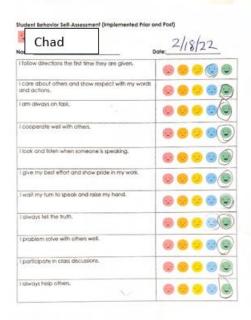
Giselle	
	Student Post Interview .
. 54	
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?
	Cheure
Megan	2/18
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?
	Nothing
Adelle	
	2/18
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?
	Good job.
Leah	217
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and
	Clasia - Cial
	Dang good sittydon being patient when beacher says to be quict, I
make	when beother says to be quiet, I smfcel proud because we oredoing a really great job listering to the speaker.
1100	job listering to the speaker.

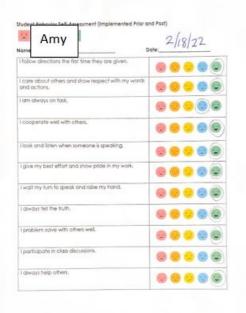
John	2/17
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Good it kind of helps when, we do group activities.  It is a feel good inside.  I also like these self-assessments.  Feel like how the class and teaders and self contribute to class  Helped me everyday cause it's how I feel everyday.  I hope to do it everyday and feel good about myself. That you.
Chad	
	Student Post Interview
	What would you like to say about the class doing morning Morning Meeting and Closing Circles every day?  Good because we get to play games.

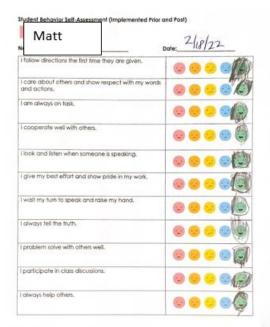
## Appendix Q Post Implementation Student Behavior Self-Assessments











Leah	and Post) 2/18/ Date: 2022
I follow directions the first time they are given.	00000
I care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	00000
l am always on task.	00000
I cooperate well with others.	© 0 9 0 0
I look and listen when someone is speaking.	00000
give my best effort and show pride in my work.	0 0 9 0 0
I walt my turn to speak and raise my hand.	00000
always tell the truth.	00000
problem solve with others well.	00000
participate in class discussions.	00000
always help others,	00000

Eva ssmeni (Implemented Prior	ond Post) 2/18/
I follow directions the first time they are given.	@ 0 0 0 0
I care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	00000
I am always on fask.	00000
cooperate well with others.	00000
Hook and listen when someone is speaking.	00000
give my best effort and show pride in my work.	00000
I walf my furn to speak and raise my hand.	00000
always tell the truth.	00000
problem solve with others well.	00000
participate in class discussions.	00000
always help others.	0000

Bert	oute: 1022
I follow directions the first time they are given.	00000
care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	00000
I am always on task.	00000
cooperate well with others.	00000
Hook and listen when someone is speaking.	00000
I give my best effort and show pride in my work.	00000
I waif my turn to speak and raise my hand.	© O O O
I always tell the truth.	00000
I problem solve with others well.	00000
l participate in class discussions.	00000
I always help others.	00000



Anna	~//6/ oate: 222
I follow directions the first time they are given.	00000
I care about others and show respect with my words and actions,	00000
I am always on fask.	© © © ©
cooperate well with others.	00000
l look and listen when someone is speaking.	© 0 0 0 0
I give my best effort and show pride in my work.	0000
I wait my turn to speak and raise my hand.	© 0 0 0 0
always tell the truth.	00000
I problem solve with others well.	00000
I participate in class discussions.	00000
l always help others.	00000

lan	Dote: 2/18/22
follow directions the first time they are given.	00000
care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	00000
l am always on task.	0 0 0 0 0
cooperate well with others.	© 0 0 0 0
I look and listen when someone is speaking.	00000
give my best effort and show pride in my work.	00000
walt my turn to speak and raise my hand.	00000
always tell the fruth.	00000
problem solve with others well.	00000
participate in class discussions.	00000
always help others.	00000

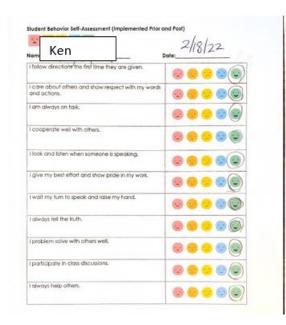
Megan	Dale: 2/18/22
follow arections the test time they are given.	@ @ @ @ @
care about others and show respect with my words and actions,	00000
l am always on task.	00000
Cooperate well with others,	00000
look and listen when someone is speaking.	00000
give my best effort and show pride in my work.	00000
wall my furn to speak and raise my hand.	00000
always tell the truth.	00000
problem solve with others well.	00000
participate in class discussions.	
always help others.	00000





Isla	Date: 2/18/22
I follow directions the first time they are given.	00000
I care about others and show respect with my words and actions.	00000
I am always on fask.	00000
cooperate well with others,	00000
Hook and litten when someone is speaking.	00000
give my best effort and show pride in my work.	0 0 0 0
wait my turn to speak and raise my hand.	0 0 0 0
always tell the truth.	00000
problem solve with others well.	00000
participate in class discussions.	00000
always help others.	00000







#### Appendix R

Samantha Ryan Date: 1/31/22 Grade Level: 1st

**Lesson Title:** Community Morning Meeting/ Closing Circle

**Content Area:** Social Studies **Length of Lesson:** 20 mins. Morning/10 mins. afternoon

\_\_\_\_\_

• Content Standards NYS Social Studies Framework 1.3 A citizen is a member of a community or group. Students are citizens of their local and global communities.

1.3a An engaged and active citizen participates in the activities of the group or community and makes positive contributions. -Students will participate in group activities and contribute to the work of the group.

1.3b Traits of a responsible citizen include respecting others, behaving honestly, helping others, obeying rules and laws, being informed, and sharing needed resources.

- -Students will explain the traits of a responsible citizen and model actions of responsible citizens.
- 1.3c As global citizens, we are connected to people and cultures beyond our own community and nation, and we have a shared responsibility to protect and respect our world. -Students will discuss ways that they can protect and respect our world and its people.
- Learning Objective/Goals After participating in the morning meeting and closing circle, students will be able to describe their contributions and their peer and teacher contributions to their classroom community, with 80% accuracy. (Blooms level: Understanding)
- Learning Target I can describe my contributions and my teacher and peers' contributions to the classroom community.
- Assessment I will ask informal, targeted questions during my lesson. (What is a community? What is a classroom community? How did we contribute to our classroom community?) I will implement a student self-assessment (Appendix C) on how well they think they contributed to the classroom community, how well they think their peers contributed, and how well they think their teacher contributed.
- Morning Meeting/Introduction/Anticipatory Set (Call students to the carpet by table groups, Morning Meeting Slide is projected on board. Instruct students to sit in circle on edge of rug.)

Ask students: What is a community? (A group of people who have the same commonalities or interests) What is a classroom community? (Working together, like a class family) What are the responsibilities of a citizen in a community? Class community? (work together, help

each other, problem-solvers, respect-listen to speaker, practice self-control, honesty, obeying rules/laws, sharing, etc.)

### Teaching and Learning

Today is our first day of Morning Meeting. We will be practicing how to be a responsible citizen in our classroom community during our meetings by supporting each other and getting to know more about our classmates. At the end of the day, we will wrap up with a Closing Circle to discuss how we think we helped and played a role in our class community. Let's start our day with a Greeting. We will go around the circle and listen to our peers greet their neighbor. You may use one of the handshakes, waves, or hellos listed on the board. The hellos are in different languages from around the world. Let's read them together so you will know how you may greet your neighbor. (read greetings, go around circle)

The next thing we do in Morning Meeting is a Sharing. Today we are doing a cheer called "What's New?" Let's practice together, as we go around the circle! (read the chant, go around circle)

Now we will complete a Group Activity. I will pass out the emoji cards. Your job is to find your match with another classmate. Once you do, talk about what emotion your emoji is and if you have ever felt that emotion.

- Closure (Call students back to circle) You all showed what great citizens you are and how you can contribute to a positive classroom community! Let's read our Morning Message.
- Closing Circle/Introduction/Anticipatory Set (Display Closing Circle slide, call students to carpet) Tell students we will be completing our first ever Closing Circle. Explain the rules of listening to the speaker and being a responsible participant as we did during Morning Meeting.
- Teaching and Learning Today we will describe our day with an emoji. Turn to your neighbor. Choose who will be partner one and who will be partner two. Partner one, it is your turn to choose an emoji from the board and tell your partner why you think this represents your day. Partner two, your job is to be a responsible citizen and good listener. (give four minutes for discussion) Partner two, it is your turn to choose an emoji. Partner one, your job is to listen to your partner.
- Closure (Call class attention. 1, 2, 3 eyes on me!) I'm going to pick three sticks with names. Those classmates will come up to the board and tell the class what emoji they chose to describe their day. The rest of the class will support their peer and being responsible and respectful listeners.

(Once completed) Our last job for the day is to record how well we think we contributed to our class community. I will pass out our Daily Self-Assessment (Appendix C). [Ask students

what a good community member does. Go over each question together as they record their answer. As papers are collected, students are dismissed to pack up for dismissal.]

### · Differentiation Strategies/ Support for Diverse Learners

Students will have a means of action for expression, engagement, and representation. Teacher and teaching assistant support of learners will be available to those needed. Completing Daily Assessment may be done verbally with assistance by teacher to record data.

- Materials Morning Meeting Slides (Appendix A)
- 2 sheets/pairs of cut out emojis (Appendix B)

Daily Assessment worksheet -1/student (Appendix C)

## Appendix A







