



Social Awareness

ABOUT MORNINGSIDE CENTER

Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility's evidence-validated programs engage young people in learning essential social and emotional skills and help educators build productive and respectful schools. The 4Rs Program combines superior children's books with engaging SEL activities that explore community, feelings, relationships, conflict, and problem-solving, adding depth to literacy instruction.

Vision of a Sharing Classroom

By: The 4Rs



Vision of a Sharing Classroom

Note to the teacher:

Vision of a Sharing Classroom is an excerpt from The 4Rs™ [Reading, Writing, Respect & Resolution] *Teaching Guide for Grade 1*, Unit 1: Building Community, pp 7-8

This activity is inspired by the book selection for this unit, *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins, where unexpected guests keep arriving, making it more and more challenging to share a batch of freshly baked cookies. The last guest, to everyone's relief, is Grandma, with more cookies!

Time: 20 minutes

Materials: drawing materials

Read the story aloud to the class. If you don't have a copy of *The Doorbell Rang*, find another short story about sharing.

Ask: How is our classroom like the household in *The Doorbell Rang*? How is it different?

Ask: What are some things we can share in the classroom? (For example: art supplies, food, time, ideas, friendship.) How do we feel when we share? How do we feel when someone shares with us? What would the classroom be like without sharing?

Ask the children to draw pictures of acts of sharing in the classroom and, if they wish, write some words about their drawing. When the children are done, give them a chance to explain their drawing first to one other child (perhaps their read-aloud partner) and then to the class.

Collect the drawings and create a bulletin board or mural of "Our Sharing Classroom." Explain that the display is a vision or picture of the way we want our classroom to be.

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