





Personal Responsibility

ABOUT CENTER FOR THE COLLABORATIVE CLASSROOM

The Caring School Community (CSC) program is a nationally recognized, research-based program for grades K–6 that builds classroom and schoolwide community while developing students' social and emotional (SEL) skills and competencies.

Home Activities Check-in

By: The Caring School Community

BEGINNING-OF-YEAR LESSON

Homeside Activities Check-in



It is important to have the students reflect after each Homeside Activity. Use this lesson as a model for a brief Check-in Class Meeting on the day each Homeside Activity is due. We recommend that your class do a Homeside Activity once or twice a month.

Lesson Purpose

Students:

- Reflect on their first Homeside Activity
- Explain their thinking

The Lesson

1 GATHER IN A CIRCLE AND INTRODUCE THE TOPIC

Have the students gather in a circle with partners sitting together. Explain that today the students will talk about how they did with taking responsibility for their first Homeside Activity.

BEGINNING-OF-YEAR LESSON

2 SHARE WHAT THE STUDENTS LEARNED

Ask and briefly discuss:

- **Q** Which family member helped you with your Homeside Activity?
- **Q** What did you find out about the family member? What did your family member find out about you?
- **Q** What did you like about the Homeside Activity?

3 DISCUSS HOW THE STUDENTS TOOK RESPONSIBILITY

Share a few observations you made about ways the students took responsibility for the Homeside Activity. (For example, "I noticed that a lot of you brought your Homeside Activity back on time.") Use "Turn to Your Partner" to discuss:

Q How did you take responsibility for getting the Homeside Activity done and getting ready to talk about it?

Have several volunteers share their ideas with the class. Encourage the students to comment on their classmate's ideas.





During the whole-class discussion, avoid repeating or paraphrasing the students' comments. This will encourage the students to listen to one another, and not just to you.

Class Meeting Lessons

1 DISCUSS HOW TO MAKE THINGS GO BETTER

Ask questions like these to facilitate a brief discussion about how to improve future Homeside Activities:

- Q Now that you've heard some of the ways your classmates took responsibility for the activity, what do you want to do to make the next Homeside Activity go more smoothly?
- **Q** How would that help?

Students might say:

- "I could put it on the refrigerator when I get home. Then my mom will see it when she makes dinner."
- "I think we should do it as soon as you give it to us."
- "I agree with [Alex]. I think that if you wait until the last day, the adult might not be able to do it."

3 REFLECT ON THE ACTIVITY AND ADJOURN THE MEETING

Use "Think, Pair, Share" to discuss:

Q What was one thing your partner did today that helped you work well together?

Give the students a moment to think. Have several volunteers share with the class what their partner said to them.

Remind the students that they will do Homeside Activities once or twice a month. Adjourn the meeting and have the students return to their seats.

Think, Pair, Share