



# *Adventure*

## **A W A I T S**

The School of Joyful Learning!

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## **Creating a Classroom Mission Statement**

This activity accomplishes the goal to impart valuable life skills, character development, and a strong sense of belonging and unity within school community. It encourages students to become active participants in shaping our school's identity and culture, emphasizing the importance of a class mission statement, teamwork, and leadership.

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# 1 Lesson Plan: Creating a Classroom Mission Statement Grades 3-5

## Lesson Objective:

In this engaging and interactive activity, students embark on a journey to define the essence and purpose of their classroom by creating a meaningful mission statement. The activity is designed to foster teamwork, self-reflection, and an understanding of our core values, all while aligning with the PS 192 mission statement. Read aloud and analyze the lesson objective to co-create the "I can statement..."

- Setting the stage: Brainstorming (15 minutes)
  - Students are asked to work independently. Review and set the expectation for the independent work routine. Provide feedback in real time before sending the student to work by themselves. The teacher reads aloud and co-analyze the [P.S. 192 Mission Statement](#)
  - Through this process, students engage in self-awareness as they contemplate the qualities that define their classroom community: What makes their classroom unique and special?. Each student will write 1-2 characteristics in grades K-1, 3-4 characteristics in grades 2-3 and 4-5 characteristics in grades 4-5. Students will use their writing journal or notebook to record their answers. Reference the notebook criteria.
- Collaborative Crafting (10 minutes)
  - Students begin by brainstorming ideas for their classroom's mission statement. They reflect on what makes their school and classroom unique and special, considering the [school mission statement](#). Divide students into small groups to collaboratively draft their class mission statement using the characteristics each individual member of the group provided. Team must collaborate and come to a consensus in selecting the characteristics to co-create their class mission statement. Each group designates a spokesperson to present their ideas to the whole class.
- The Voting and Refinement Process (10 minutes)
  - The voting process teaches students about democratic decision-making. They will experience the importance of individual voices and the collective will of the community in co-drafting the class mission statement.
  - As a class, in collaboration with the teacher, students discuss and refine the ideas shared by different groups. They identify common themes and values that resonate with everyone. Reference and practice the timer and transition routine.
  - During this collaborative crafting of the mission statement, students practice relationship skills, as they learn to navigate differing opinions and compromise on shared values.
  - Respectful and responsible decision-making is encouraged as the class collectively shapes their mission statement.
- Mission Statement Presentation (5 minutes)
  - The finalized classroom mission statement is presented to the entire class.
  - Students are guided to connect their mission statement with the PS192 mission statement, reinforcing the idea of a larger community to which they belong.
  - This final step reinforces a sense of identity and purpose within the classroom.
- Conclusion (5 minutes)
  - In the concluding discussion, students reflect on the social-emotional skills they employed throughout the activity, such as teamwork, empathy, and respect. They understand that these skills are not only essential for crafting a meaningful mission statement but also for building a harmonious and supportive classroom environment. The importance of upholding the mission statement in their daily interactions is emphasized. This activity not only cultivates a sense of belonging and purpose among elementary school students but

also equips them with crucial social-emotional skills that will serve them well in their academic journey and beyond. It reinforces the idea that their classroom is not just a physical space but a community where they can learn, grow, and thrive together.

- Assessment:
  - Assess students based on their participation in group discussions, their ability to collaborate, and their understanding of the concept of a mission statement.
  - Consider using a rubric that includes criteria like teamwork, creativity, and alignment with the school's mission statement.
- Extension Activity
  - Have students create a visual representation (poster or artwork) of the classroom mission statement to display in the classroom.
  - Note: Adapt the lesson plan as needed to suit the specific grade level and needs of your students.
- Homework
  - Encourage students to write or draw in their individual journals about how they will contribute to living up to the classroom mission statement.

## 2 Lesson Plan: Creating a Classroom Mission Statement Grades K-2

### Lesson Objective:

In this engaging and interactive activity, students embark on a journey to define the essence and purpose of their classroom by creating a meaningful mission statement. The activity is designed to foster teamwork, self-reflection, and an understanding of our core values, all while aligning with the PS 192 mission statement.

Read aloud and analyze the lesson objective to co-create the "I can statement..."

- Duration: 1 class period (approximately 45 minutes)
  - Objective:
    - \* Students will understand the concept of a mission statement.
    - \* Students will identify the core values and goals of their classroom.
    - \* Students will work collaboratively to create a classroom mission statement that aligns with the school's mission statement.
    - \* Students will develop social-emotional skills, including teamwork, empathy, and respect.
  - Materials:
    - \* Poster paper or chart paper
    - \* Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
    - \* [school mission statement](#).
    - \* Individual writing journals or notebooks
  - SEL Skills Learned (Based on SEL Standards):
    - \* Self-Awareness: Students will reflect on their classroom's values and goals.
    - \* Self-Management: Students will collaborate and manage their time effectively.
    - \* Social Awareness: Students will consider the needs and feelings of their classmates.
    - \* Relationship Skills: Students will work together to create a shared mission statement.
    - \* Responsible Decision-Making: Students will make decisions that reflect their shared values and goals.
  - Lesson Outline- Introduction (5 minutes):
    - \* Begin the lesson by asking students if they know what a mission statement is. Encourage a brief discussion.
    - \* Explain that a mission statement is a statement that describes the purpose, values, and goals of an organization, in this case, their classroom.
    - \* Show the [school mission statement](#) on the promethean board and read it aloud. Discuss the key elements: values, goals, and purpose.
  - Activity (30 minutes):
    - \* Divide the class into small groups of 3-4 students each.
    - \* Distribute individual journals or notebooks to each student for brainstorming.
    - \* In their groups, instruct students to brainstorm and write down their ideas for their classroom's values, goals, and purpose. Encourage them to think about what makes their classroom unique and special.
    - \* After brainstorming, have each group choose a spokesperson to share their ideas with the whole class. Write these ideas on the whiteboard.

- Creating the Classroom Mission Statement (10 minutes):
  - \* As a class, discuss and refine the ideas shared by each group. Encourage students to identify common themes and values that resonate with everyone.
  - \* Using these ideas, collaboratively craft a classroom mission statement on a large sheet of poster paper or chart paper. Emphasize the importance of teamwork and respecting each other's ideas.
- Conclusion (5 minutes):
  - \* Present the finalized classroom mission statement to the class. Discuss how it aligns with the PS192 mission statement.
  - \* Discuss the social-emotional skills they used during the activity, such as teamwork, empathy, and respect.
  - \* Ask students to think about how they can uphold this mission statement in their daily classroom interactions.
- Assessment:
  - \* Assess students based on their participation in group discussions, their ability to collaborate, and their understanding of the concept of a mission statement.
  - \* Consider using a rubric that includes criteria like teamwork, creativity, and alignment with the school's mission statement.
- Extension Activity
  - \* Have students create a visual representation (poster or artwork) of the classroom mission statement to display in the classroom.
  - \* Note: Adapt the lesson plan as needed to suit the specific grade level and needs of your students.
- Homework
  - \* Encourage students to write or draw in their individual journals about how they will contribute to living up to the classroom mission statement.