



P.S. 192

# Team Activity

## WHAT'S OUR NAME?

The School of Joyful Learning!



## **What's Our Name?**

This activity accomplishes the goal of creating a class name as well as naming our table teams in our classroom. It also imparts valuable life skills, character development, and a strong sense of belonging and unity within the school community. It encourages students to become active participants in shaping their class and school's identity and culture, emphasizing the importance of self-discipline, teamwork, and leadership.

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# 1 Activity Description

“What’s Our Name?” is an engaging and educational activity designed for emphasizing and reinforcing the school’s core values of justice, honor, and self-discipline. In addition, this, the activity fosters a sense of belonging, collaboration, and leadership within the class and school community.

## 1.1 What Kids Will Learn:

- What Kids Will Learn:
  - Core Values:
    - \* Students will gain a deeper understanding of the school’s core values—justice, honor, and self-discipline—through discussions and brainstorming sessions. They will learn to connect these values with real-life examples and how they shape our school’s culture.
  - Creativity and Collaboration:
    - \* The activity encourages students to work together in groups to brainstorm and propose names for their class and table team. They will learn to combine their creative ideas, compromise, and make collective decisions, promoting teamwork and collaboration. Explicitly model, rehearse the K-2 or 3-5 Collaborative Discussion guide and the protocol for working in groups.
  - Communication Skills:
    - \* When presenting their chosen team name to the class, students will develop their communication skills by articulating their ideas and explaining how the names relate to them and the school’s values. This helps improve their ability to express themselves clearly and persuasively. Explicitly model and rehearse the K-2 or 3-5 Discussion guide and the TAG protocol for sharing.
  - Democracy and Voting: Voting to Select a Name for the Class
    - \* 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 choosing a class name.
  - Leadership Principles:
    - \* During the leadership discussion, students will explore the qualities and responsibilities of leaders in promoting unity and collaboration. They will understand that leadership isn’t limited to individuals but can be collective and inclusive.
  - Sense of Belonging:
    - \* Through this activity students develop a sense of belonging and ownership in their school community.
  - Symbolism:
    - \* Students will learn about symbolism and its role in representing their class and team’s identity. They will see how the chosen name can inspire pride and a strong sense of belonging and identity among students.
  - Long-Term Engagement:
    - \* The ongoing implementation of the class and table team name in school activities will reinforce the values and sense of community established during the activity, ensuring that these lessons are carried forward throughout the school year.

## 2 Title: "Name Our Class and Table Teams"

### 2.1 Lesson Objective:

The objective of this educational activity is to engage our students in a collaborative and creative process to name our school's lion mascot. Through this activity, students will not only learn about the school values of justice, honor, and self-discipline but also develop a sense of unity, collaboration, and leadership within our school community. Read aloud and analyze the objective of the lesson, and co-create the I can statement with students.

Standards:

CASEL 13: Relationship Skills: Learners will be able to use active listening and assertive, clear communication when expressing thoughts and ideas.

CASEL 16: Relationship Skills: Learners will be able to work cooperatively and productively in a group and overcome setbacks and disagreements.

- Materials Needed:

- Coloring materials (crayons, colored pencils, markers)
- Large poster paper
- Sticky notes or index cards
- Digital and audible countdown clock
- Computer and projector (optional)
- Prize for the winning name (e.g., certificate, Lunch with the Principal and teacher, 1 period of recess)

- Activity Steps:

- Introduction (10 minutes):  
Begin by gathering all the students in the area (sitting in a circular or "U" shape). Explain the purpose of the activity to name the class and each team. Emphasize that the chosen name should reflect the school's core values of justice, honor, and self-discipline. Discuss the importance of unity, collaboration, and leadership within the school community. Explicitly model, discuss and rehearse the role of the speaker and the role of the listener. Co-create the anchor chart or reference it, if already created.
- Brainstorming (15 minutes):
  - \* Break the students into groups (4-6 students), ensuring that each group has a mix of levels and personalities to encourage collaboration. Give each group a large sheet of poster paper and markers. Ask them to brainstorm names that align with the school values. Encourage creativity and teamwork. Teacher is canvassing the room to document individual and team trends and patterns of the teams. Use the discussion guide (role of the speaker/listener) to anchor your noticings. Record noticings.
- Presentations (20 minutes):
  - \* Each group will present their chosen class and table team name and explain why and how it reflects our core values. Use chart paper or a google doc to write down the names as they are presented. Discuss the qualities of each proposed name and how it relates to the school's values.
- Voting (10 minutes):
  - \* Give each student sticky notes or index cards and ask them to vote for their favorite class name from the presented options. They can write the name on the card or stick the sticky note next to the name on the board.
- Lesson Wrap-Up: Leadership Discussion (10 minutes):
  - \* While the votes are being counted, lead a discussion about leadership and how leaders can inspire unity and collaboration. Emphasize the role of the speaker and the role of the listener. Based on your observations, co-create a T-chart to create a list "The Criteria We mastered" and "The Criteria We Need to Work on as a Team" when working in collaborative learning groups.

- Announcement of the Winning Name (5 minutes):
  - \* Announce the winning class name that received the most votes. This is the name that will be displayed on your class door and used by all members of the class. Share the class name and the table team names with the clusters and service providers to ensure alignment accross the school.
- Name Implementation (ongoing):
  - \* Application of objective learned: Incorporate the newly chosen class name and table team names into class activities and events, reinforcing the values of justice, honor, and self-discipline, as well as the sense of unity and collaboration among students.

Teacher Final Summary: Draft a summary in chart paper to model a lesson reflection in the class reflection log previously created during the name the mascot activity. "Today we learned not only to use our creativity but also learned importance of working together to accomplish a common goal." Provide 2-3 evidence from the T-chart to draft the summary using RACE (grades 3-5) or RADD (grades K-2). These summaries will be use as relection exemplars for you to discuss and co-create the criteria for "What Makes a Good Lesson Reflection."