**Win Win…Using Cooperative learning activities to teach classroom expectations**

(Based on Strategies article: Teaching Classroom Expectations through Cooperative Learning Activities)

Participating in cooperative learning activities is one way for students to learn to create meaning regarding classroom expectations. Applying cooperative learning activities to learn classroom expectations could enable the classroom to run smoothly, efficiently, and provide a positive classroom environment for all. This presentation links cooperative learning strategies and to help students understand classroom expectations.

Four areas for classroom rules/expectations (Safety, Respect, Responsibility, Participation/Effort)

**Safety: (Activity - Everybody up)**

* A learning environment that recognizes the diversity of all children and youth, and accommodates individual strengths, needs, and interests. An environment must support both physical and emotional safety.

**Everybody Up**

* Students are in partners. They sit on the floor with their toes touching. The students interlock their hands and try to stand up as a pair. The teacher can have groups be 4-5 students. The group interlocks hands and tries to stand up together.

•Challenge: partners sit back to back on the floor with their arms interlocked and try to stand up together.

Debriefing questions:

1.How did you trust your partner when you were trying to stand up?

2.What did you say or do to make sure the group could stand up?

3.How did you keep each member of the group safe during Everybody Up.

**Respect: (activity - different yet the same)**

* Respect includes thinking and acting in positive ways towards classmates, teachers, self and equipment

**Different Yet the Same**

* + Students (5-6) are in groups. On one piece of paper write two unique qualities for each person in the group. These qualities are not characteristics such as hair color, eye color, etc. On the other piece paper write qualities that everyone in the group has.
  + Equipment: two pieces of paper per group
  + Debriefing questions:
  + 1.What differences did you find among the group members?
  + 2.What similarities did the group have?
  + 3.What are ways in which you can respect the differences of each person in the group?

**Responsibility: (Activity - 3 2 1 UP**

* Responsibility in the classroom focuses on students being held accountable for their actions. This includes their interactions with others as well as what students do or say in the classroom.

**3 2 1 UP**

* + Students are in groups of 5-6. There are multiple small objects (bean bags, bals, etc. that can be tossed in the air) One person in the group is the tosser but cannot catch the options the other members of the group are the catchers. The objective is to catch as many of the objects as they can. A new object is added each time they catch all the objects.
  + Debriefing questions:

1.How does the group work together?

2.What would you do differently if you could do this activity again in the future?

3.How did you listen to your partner or classmates?

4.What responsibility did you have when participating in the activity?

**Effort/Participation (Activity - Volcano)**

* Participation or effort is the student's involvement in classroom activities. For a group task students need to actively engage and physically perform in the task if success and learning is to be accomplished.

**Volcano**

* + The objective is to use the jump rope to uncork the inactive Volcano, toss the cork (ball) onto the ropes, catch the ball, and go and cork the active volcano. The student have to hold the handles and the ball can only touch the ropes not the handles
  + Debriefing

1.How did each person in the group participate?

2.What strategies did you use to catch the ball and move to cork the volcano?

3.Why is it important to have all students participating in this activity?

4.How does your participation in this activity affect the group?

Other Cooperative Activities:

–Yurt Circle <http://www.games-wiki.org/wiki/Yurt/>

–Circle the Circle<https://www.teampedia.net/wiki/Pass_it_Around>

–Group Juggle [https://icebreakerideas.com/cooperative-games/#Group\_Juggle](https://icebreakerideas.com/cooperative-games/)

–Tarp Flip <http://www.teampedia.net/wiki/index.php?title=Tarp_Flip>