

## Successful Community Building Strategies and Activities That We Use:

1. Attending student events – example: students in your class that are on teams or clubs
2. Asking if they have an activity they do
3. Beginning of the year – start with groups of four to share and build community
4. Chance meeting for two students in the office – ex., EL students for some support community
5. Try to remember things about students and ask them about it at a different time
6. Socialmetric exercise
7. Name games including things to do
8. Building tallest tower (entire class work together)
9. Team building how to make the best better
10. Name memory competition
11. Looking for opportunities
12. Raccoon circles
13. Community board of student events
14. Normalized safe space for students to makes sure students feel confident
15. Respecting student boundaries and allowing students to show their comfort level with staff interaction
16. Saying hello to all students
17. Greet students as they enter the school
18. Encourage EL students to engage
19. Lighting and music ambiance
20. Allow students to display their art and play music in class
21. Chat with students every week to talk about non-school related ideas. Include whole class.
22. Co-constructed class norms/class contract
23. Name share-out – see if anyone can say all names
24. Class roles / jobs (help with attendance, pass out paper, collect papers, etc.)
25. Check-in period during class time
26. Leaders organize team-wide amp, student leaders run activities
27. Draw their portrait (1 minute) and write their name creatively
28. Chart with tasks, class effort to complete; marking off with stars
29. AVID: forearm and finger trace; 5 things most passionate about; try to create longest same passions; 3 then 2 then 1
30. Life skills real world activities (outings) examples: bus ride
31. Sit alphabetically by first name/students find their seats
32. Camp: learned last year – next year
33. Song for each baseball player – find one to represent yourself
34. Greet at door daily – what's going on with them
35. Stick with relational growth, greet at door
36. Students have been together a lot – find way for teacher to enter their circle, get to know activities, intentional, Monday-weekend news
37. 20 questions / icebreakers
38. Teambuilding through team projects
39. Favorite food, share unique and commonalities
40. Stay up on community news and highlight student accomplishments
41. Quiet ball, model positivity
42. Encourage positivity, build community of praise
43. Welcoming families and parents, proactively by putting face to a name
44. Toxic waste challenge: email Kyle Pihl for info
45. Speed Friending/Dating (two circles, lots of questions, teacher involved)
46. Human Scavenger Hunt (find a person that has ...)
47. Movement / breathing 2-3 minutes every day
48. Bio Bingo (similar to #3)
49. Passport activity (Genesis Rue)

50. Things in common (partner)
51. Name game
52. In my shoes you would know...
53. Game points 4 Good
54. No desk sitting
55. Fun facts
56. Scratch tickets
57. Talent shows
58. Class rules poster
59. Self shrine
60. New seats each day – random other
61. Name quizzes
62. Play music, stand at door, “woofing” with students
63. Introduce themselves to their table
64. Sing while we dissect animals
65. Create a roster, name people they know, then meet 5 more
66. Paper filled out, then shared with another student and they introduce student to the group
67. Throw ball in a pattern while being timed
68. Stand at door and fist bump or high 5
69. Brain trust c-partners,
70. 20 questions sheet of paper
71. Find your kind
72. Small assemble – playing by alike level first, then grouped different levels together
73. Mixing kids up and getting to know them
74. Be social – check ins
75. Games – team building
76. Commonality posters
77. Ah-ha’s / appreciation / realizations at end of class
78. Nicknames during roll call
79. Classroom jobs and town meetings
80. Weekend reports
81. Spanish – discussion questions
82. PE partner into small groups 1-3
83. Open questions, weekend questions
84. Create posters “who am I”
85. Build social contracts – all input teacher and students
86. Camp fire social activity
87. All about me “family posters”
88. Spend time at the beginning of semester getting to know each other
89. Ice breaker – make collage on computer to share with rest of class, include flags from countries they identify with
90. Every Monday I share about my weekend, students can then share about their weekend, weekly checks
91. Share what I’m reading or what other students are recommending. Post on Twitter. Interactive bulletin board out in hallway
92. Movie review Monday. Share movies we saw and rate them. Good movie to take Grandma to? Great 1<sup>st</sup> date movie?
93. Daily check-ins with students. Ask them how their day is going – any problems or issues we can help them with? Have class parties.
94. Hold PD opportunities for staff.
95. First day icebreaker: all science in same course does it
96. Daily brain breaks 1-5 minutes
97. Group challenge – jumbo marshmallow, spaghetti, tape – high as you can get it
98. Maintenance of activities

99. Allow whole community (teacher, aides, students) to decide roles, routines, procedures, etc.
100. Make cultural connections through year and empower them in their diversity
101. Greet students in their native language or use their cultural gestures
102. Know my students and call them by their preferred names or pronouns
103. Say every student name daily no matter activity or time
104. Ask about weekends to start Monday mornings
105. Games and activities that ask students about themselves
106. Daily introduction of one student per day at beginning
107. Team-based learning – semester teams with new people
108. Team building activities (ice breakers)
109. Plane crash activity
110. Play “Step into my shoes”
111. Nonverbal activities
112. Let students ask each other questions
113. Encourage students to help and praise each other
114. Create a virtual tour – experience each other’s lives
115. Go around the room and talk about highs and lows
116. Thumbs up / thumbs down
117. Group work (pair)
118. Color game
119. Smiles and friendliness
120. Talk about weekend activities theme: choose to be happy
121. What’s the worst / nicest thing you’ve ever done
122. Take an outing as a classroom
123. Community pods rotate once a week to get to know each other
124. If you were a superhero, which one would you be and why?
125. Compare each class to each other and make each one special
126. Students get a note card to list 5 things about themselves which builds community
127. Student discussions
128. Check-in with student, at beginning of class and during HW check
129. Develop safe places and classroom routines
130. Smile and eye contact, compliments
131. Use memes, lighten classroom, make learning fun
132. Inner/outer circle with general questions
133. Lab intro / class intro
134. “Who I am” brochure: 6 folds- each one different facts
135. Interview each other; write a haiku about others
136. PowerPoints 15 slides: 15 things about them and present
137. Give card on first day; 1 side details about contact – other side 4 things about you (general to specific)
138. Extra Friday show and tell: 2 5-minute presentations about themselves
139. Get to know each other BINGO – recheck and use
140. 3 truths and a lie – who can it be now (with song) every Monday
141. Community involvement
142. Check in every period – problem-solving
143. Games – 20 questions; Blurt