

Community Code Activity

Use the Community Code Activity as an outline for how your WE Schools group will operate throughout your year of social action.

As a WE Schools group, it's important to create a space in which everyone feels safe to voice their opinions. As you know, some students will be more comfortable speaking up and some will be shy, but everyone should feel that their input is welcome. The following questions will help your students create guidelines for the way they interact and make decisions as a group.

 Argument Formation  Leadership Skills  Reflection

To run this activity, give students time to write down their individual suggestions to the following questions on separate sheets of paper, and then lead a group discussion. Find the overlapping themes and points, and get someone to write them down. These will be the group's goals and guidelines for the year, which everyone should have agreed on. Keep in mind, students can either share their answers with the class or keep them private, whichever they feel more comfortable with.

If you are working with younger children, consider asking the questions to the group directly, rather than having them write down their answers.



Ask your students to complete the following pages.

Create Your Community Code

Before getting started, you've gotta fill out some paperwork. But we promise you it'll be fun!

As a WE Schools group, it's important to create a community code to help everyone feel comfortable sharing their opinions. Use the questions below to help you to decide how you will work together this year.

Set Your Group Goals

Who will act as our note taker? Will we have multiple note takers or just one person? (The note taker is responsible for writing minutes for group meetings and filling out the Citizenship in Action and Fundraising in Action guides.)

What can we do to make sure everyone has a chance to speak at our meetings?

What can we do to make everyone feel included at our meetings and events?

How should the group make decisions? (E.g., should we vote on decisions? Does the vote have to be unanimous or just a majority?)

What is at least one way that we can encourage other members of the group when we face an obstacle?

What would make us feel safe and included in this group?

What do we think makes a good leader?

What leadership qualities do we want to develop this year?

Who are some of our personal heroes that we can look to for inspiration?

Once your group has completed the activity, make sure everyone signs their name in the box on the next page as a contract upholding your promise to make everyone feel respected and included in your group.

**Becoming a change-maker
starts with your signature!**

