

Positive reinforcement of good deeds is a simple but effective way to support and encourage treating others with kindness and respect

Acknowledging when someone's done something positive helps reinforce that behavior. This activity, meant for upper elementary students, is all about acknowledging and celebrating when kids treat others with kindness and respect.

Directions

Have students create and decorate a “Making a Difference” box for the classroom. Once the box is ready, discuss its purpose with the class and what they might write when they see someone doing something good. Whenever they see someone do a kind act, set a good example, or make a positive difference, they should write an acknowledgment and put it in the Making a Difference box. (Students should feel free to acknowledge themselves, too!)

Share the Acknowledgements

Set aside a certain time each week to read the acknowledgments in class. You can also post the acknowledgments on a bulletin board in the school's foyer, hallway, or cafeteria to show them to the rest of the school community.