

Morning Meeting Greetings

The right way
to start the day!



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We Are Here!

Sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

The children stand in a circle and clap a steady beat. Then everyone sings,

" _____ is here!

_____ is here!

It's a great day because _____ is here."

The child who is named goes around the inside of the circle (walking, skipping, dancing, etc.) and greets classmates by waving or giving high-fives. Repeat to name all children.

The 1 Minute Greeting

Teach children how to:

- Shake hands properly
- Make eye contact
- Give a friendly greeting (with a name)

Then, give them 1 minute to move around the room and greet as many friends as they can.

Alternatives to handshake: Fist bump, pinkie shake, elbow shake, air handshake, foot shake, etc.

Echo Greeting

Children stand in a circle. Each one takes a turn saying, "Hello, my name is _____ and I'd like to say good morning!" On the "Good morning" part, they say it in a unique way and also add gestures. For example, one might say "Good morning" in a robot voice and add robot arms. Then, the whole class echoes the voice and movement by repeating "Good morning" with robot voices and arms.

Global Hello

Students say hello in other languages:

- Konichiwa (koh-Nee-chee-wah) is hello in Japanese.
- Jambo (JAHM-bo) is hello in Swahili.
- Hola (OH-la) is hello in Spanish.
- Ni hao (nee-Ha-OW) is hello in Chinese.
- Bonjour (bohn-Zhoor) is hello in French.
- Buon giorno (bwohn-JOR-noh) is hello in Italian.
- Annyong ha shimnikka (An-YOH HASHim-ni-kah) is hello in Korean.
- Czeszc (Chesht) is hello is Polish.
- Zdravstvuite (ZzDRAST-vet-yah) is hello in Russian.
- Al Salaam a' alaykum (ahl sah-LAHM-ah-ah-LAY-Koom)) is hello in Arabic.

Jump, Jump!

Sung to the tune of “Bingo.”

The children stand or sit in a circle and clap a steady beat.
Then everyone sings,

“We have a friend inside our class and (name) is his name-o!
Jump, jump (name!)... Jump, jump (name!)... Jump, jump,
(name!)

And (name) is his name-o!”

So with a real name, it would sound like:

“We have a friend inside our class and Ben is his name-o!

Jump, jump, Ben!... Jump, jump, Ben!... Jump, jump, Ben!

And Ben is his name-o!

**The child being named jumps while they are named.*

Pass the Hello

- Everyone starts by standing in a circle. The teacher greets the first child by taking (or tossing) the object (such as a soft ball) to the child and greets him/her by name, “Good morning, Andrea! I’m glad you are here!”
- The child accepts the object and responds appropriately, “Good morning, Mrs. Antonelli!”
- Then the child delivers the object to the next child with a proper greeting and returns to sit down in her spot while the object is passed on.
- The kids love *tossing* the object to each other but you have to tell them to name the person they throw the object to *first* so the receiver knows it’s coming their way!

**Fun Variations:* After kids complete the first round, have them repeat the object pass/toss in the same order, faster and silently! Finally, you can also add another ball or two and have them going around simultaneously.

Hit the Floor!

Children stand in a circle. Recite this chant:

“1-2-3-4!

Come on, _____, and hit the floor!

We’re so glad you’re here today,

Hooray, hooray, hooray!”

Once a student’s name is called, he/she jumps out into the middle of the circle and dances during the end of the chant.

Snowball Fight

When the recycle bin is full of paper, this is a fun greeting to try. Give each child a piece of recycled paper and have them write their name on it. Then have them crumple the paper into a ball (i.e.- “snowball”) and put the kids into 2 groups on opposite sides of the carpet. Signal “Go!” and give them 1 minute to have a “snow ball fight.” When it’s over, have each child pick up a piece of paper and greet the child whose name is written on it.

Cow Greeting

- Children get in pairs.
- They greet each other for a moment (say hello and chat) until the teacher calls, “Milking time!”
- Children take turns “milking” each other. One child laces his/her fingers together with thumbs hanging down while the other child “milks” the thumbs. (The child being milked can “moo.”) Then they switch. So funny! You can do this once or let them repeat with another partner if you have time. (*Make sure the children know to be gentle while milking and avoid pulling down on the thumbs too hard.)

Friday!

Kids stand or sit in a circle.

The class chants,

“Hello, _____!”

The weekend is near!

What are you going to do when it’s here?”

The child responds,

“Hello friends!

I’m going to _____.”

Class: “Got it!”

For fun, add gestures and/or a steady beat with drums or clapping.