



# CIRCLE OF RESPECT IN THE CLASSROOM

**Below are some suggestions for introducing Circle of Respect concepts in your classroom.**

## ***Do I Bully?***

Have students create a self-exam to decide if they bully others. Working in pairs or triads, have them develop survey questions to recognize if they have behaved like a bully, as well as prescriptions for ways that kids who bully might change their behaviors. Encourage them to use online resources to support their surveys.

## ***Classroom Respect Contract***

With the whole class, brainstorm every possible line item that might appear on a classroom contract for respectful behavior. Write student responses on the board. Then have the class discuss each possibility in turn, deciding as a group which items can be consolidated or combined and which should stand alone on a contract that everyone can sign.

## ***Who's Bullying? Who Is Being Bullied?***

In this role-playing activity, have pairs of volunteers play the part of someone who is bullying and the victim in a single encounter. The teacher might first model how to play one role or the other. As students role-play a bullying situation, stop the action at critical times and ask the class to recommend ways to modify the behavior of both the person who is bullying and the victim in order to create a more positive interaction. Repeat the exercise with new volunteers, or have students trade roles and depict a second situation. Be sure to address the ways that students can also avoid being victimized.

## ***Threatening-Environment Checklist***

Have students create a list of events, behaviors, or personal characteristics that can be used as a checklist to determine the boundaries of acceptable behavior. Have each student write down ideas by himself or herself. Then have students work together in small groups to refine their checklists. Finally, have the entire class compare notes to complete a checklist for the classroom, school, or school grounds.

## ***We'd love to hear from you!***

Please let us know how these activities work in your classroom. Also, if you use other successful anti-bullying activities with your students, we would welcome your sharing them with us so we can make them available to other educators in our growing Circle of Respect community.

Please contact us at: [circle-of-respect@ncpc.org](mailto:circle-of-respect@ncpc.org)