

Student Voice Counts

Elementary School Discussion Guide

About

We believe student voice enriches classrooms and schools. To celebrate the experiences and perspectives of students, we hope you'll use this discussion guide to spark meaningful discussion around student voice in your classroom.

Resources needed

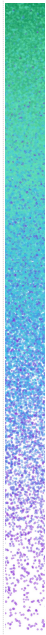
- ✓ Note cards (included in this file)
- ✓ [Student Voice Counts](#) poster
- ✓ Students, grouped in pairs

Discussion questions

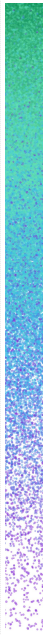
1. What do you think of when you hear the words “student voice”? Turn and talk to your neighbor about your ideas.
Tip: Have students share out whole-group what their partner said.
2. Where have you heard the word “count” before (in school or at home)?
Tip: Encourage students to think about “count” as a multiple meaning word (homophone).
3. What do you think “Student Voice Counts” means on this poster? Jot down 1-3 sentences on a note card. Trade notes with your partner and read what they thought.
Tip: Have students share out whole-group what their partner said.
4. Why do you think I decided to hang this poster in our classroom?
5. Check for understanding: Turn and talk with your partner and explain why student voice counts in our classroom. Answer the question: What will it look like if student voice counts in our classroom?

Extension activities

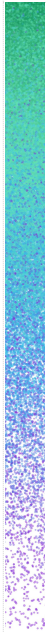
- ✓ Create a space in your classroom dedicated to student voice.
Tip: Include a suggestion box in this space where students can share their thoughts and ideas anonymously.
- ✓ Host office hours where students can come and share their thoughts with you in-person.
- ✓ Dedicate 5 minutes each week for one or two students to do a “classroom culture check-in” to discuss one thing that’s working well in the class and one thing that could improve.



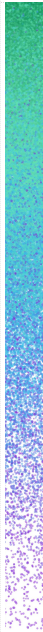
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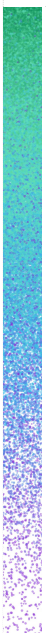
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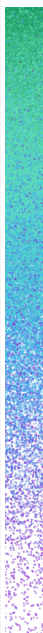
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