

Take a

Be Kind Break™ 

6-8th
Grade

be encouraging



Social Studies
& Civics

The **Be Kind Pledge** lists 10 skill sets of kindness.
This month we are focusing on **Be Encouraging**.



kind

I pledge to

- Be Encouraging
- Be Supportive
- Be Positive
- Be Helpful
- Be Honest
- Be Considerate
- Be Thankful
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be a Friend

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What does ENCOURAGING mean?

The dictionary says to encourage means to give support, confidence, or hope to someone or something.

When you are encouraging, you are cheering someone on. Maybe they are struggling and need some additional help or support. Or maybe they are doing a great job and you want to cheer them on!

When you are encouraging, you are comforting and reassuring.

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Civic Engagement

In the United States, civic engagement is very important. Civic engagement can be defined as the encouragement of the general public to become involved in the political process and issues that affect the community. Some would even say that civic engagement is a responsibility of citizens as much as service and protection of the public is a responsibility of the government.

As a class, discuss the following questions:

1. Why is civic engagement considered a responsibility of the people?
2. What is an example of a role that a citizen can or must take on, and why is this role important? (Example: Every citizen must be a taxpayer).



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Election Actors

During election season, different actors play their parts in determining the election outcomes.

On a piece of notebook paper, create a chart with four rows and three columns. Label the four rows with the following actors: citizens, political parties, interest groups, and the media. Label the three columns with the following categories: roles, powers, responsibilities. Then, complete the chart.

	Roles	Powers	Responsibilities
Citizens			
Political Powers			
Interest Groups			
Media			

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Youth Engagement

While civic engagement may feel out of reach when you are not able to vote, the policies that are made now will impact your future. This is why it is important to be aware and engaged with current events. One place that you can engage with at any age is your school.

As a class, discuss the following questions:

1. How can you engage with your school to impact the future generations of students in a positive way?
2. How can you encourage others to civically engage with your school?

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Academic Standards & References

D2.Civ.1.6-8 Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of citizens, political parties, interest groups, and the media in a variety of governmental and nongovernmental contexts.

D2.Civ.2.6-8. Explain specific roles played by citizens (such as voters, jurors, taxpayers, members of the armed forces, petitioners, protesters, and office-holders).

D2.Civ.6.6-8. Describe the roles of political, civil, and economic organizations in shaping people's lives.




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