**Creating Classroom Rules**

Objective: To collaboratively create classroom rules for the year.

Grade Level: K-1

Time: 2, 30 minute sessions

Materials:

* What If Everybody Did That By Ellen Javernick (book or watch on YouTube)
* Chart Paper to list rules
* Markers
* Typed rules
* Posters with three school rules with room to post typed rules.

Procedure:

* Introduction: Engage students by reading aloud or watching the book What if Everybody Did That?
* Discuss why it is important to have rules.
* Pose the questions “what rules should we have in our classroom?” Invite students to spend 1 minute thinking about the question, then have them turn and talk with a neighbor about what rules they think we should have.
* Call on students to share their ideas. Encourage students to say rules in a positive form like “walk” rather than “no running.” The list will likely be long, take breaks as needed.
* \*\*Type up each rule, print, and cut out so they can be sorted for another activity\*\*
* At a later time (maybe the next day) introduce our school wide rules. Usually there are 3, ours are Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be responsible. Briefly explain what each mean.
* Sort students into small groups. Each group will get a pre-cut rule shared previously. As a group, students will decide if it falls under Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. Groups will share where they decided it fits and why.
* Once the rules have been sorted, go over each rule and what it means. Add to this if necessary. This may need to be done after a stretch break.
* Closure: Students sign their names near the rules as they agree to follow these classroom rules.

Adaptations/Modifications: If you feel like there are valuable rules missing from the final product, guide students to helping form the remaining rules. For example, if walking is missing, ask the class “what would happen if I decided to run to the door and I hit a desk and fell over?” Add rules as needed. Since this lesson will be taught at the beginning of the school year, make sure to go over procedures for read alouds, class discussions, and small group work. Post sentence frames for the class discussion as well as small group work. When students share their ideas for classroom rules, offer small pieces of paper to students who feel comfortable writing their ideas down. Since this lesson works well being implemented in the beginning of the year, take many opportunities for students to stretch and turn and talk to neighbors. It can be split up into more lessons as needed.