

Back to school community building

Objective: I can use my words to describe ways to be kind to others in my classroom.

Materials:

- *The Backpack* by Lindsay Barry
- Chart paper
- A drawing of a backpack
- Eager students

Lesson:

1. Begin by reading *The Backpack*.
2. Once you are done reading the book ask the children some of the following questions:
 - Do you think the little girl was being nice?
 - Would you have befriended the boy at the end of the story?
 - Do you think we should have kindness in our own classroom?
3. Now have the students raise their hands and give ways that they can show kindness within the classroom. As the students share ways to show kindness write them inside the backpack. Explain to the classroom this is our backpack of ways to show kindness and that they can refer to it anytime they need ideas on how to be kind to someone.
4. Once you are done with sharing ideas you can hang the post in your room to refer to throughout the year.

Extension:

- Have each student decorate their own backpack drawings (attached worksheet)
- Then hang each backpack around the room and have all the students rotate around the room and write kind words on each bag of their classmates. Then you can hand them up or let the students take them home.

Name: _____

Date: _____

