

Common Ground

KINDNESS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM™
WHOLE GROUP • OPTION 3 • INCLUSIVENESS

Lesson Timeframe

20-25 mins

Materials

- ☐ Inclusiveness poster (optional)



Share

Define inclusiveness: **INCLUSIVENESS IS INCLUDING OTHERS, INVITING THEM IN, AND WELCOMING THEM WITH OPEN ARMS.** (Show the Inclusiveness poster if desired.) Discuss that inclusiveness is a long word that means we include others! We are all special and unique. However, we also all have things in common as well! When we meet someone new, it is our job to welcome them with open arms. One way to do that is by finding common ground. We all deserve to be included, no matter what.

- Turn to your neighbor and identify one thing you both have in common!
- Invite 3-5 volunteers to share what they identified with their partner.



Inspire

Discuss the importance of practicing inclusiveness with others by finding common ground. When we find common ground we are focusing on what we have in common; this could be games we enjoy, talents we have, or even our personalities. Let's work together today to find common ground within our group here!



Empower

Have the entire group stand up in the middle of the room. Explain that you will now play a game to help everyone find common ground with others they may not play with regularly within the group. Using the cards below, announce two topics. Each student must choose between the first topic (go to the front of the room) or the second topic (go to the back of the room). Example: Playground or Reading Rug?

- Encourage students to make a unique and personal choice. Our goal today is to increase our inclusiveness within the program by discovering new people that share our preferences.



Reflect

Guide a discussion on **INCLUSIVENESS**.

- What is one way we can practice inclusiveness during our time here?
- What can we do when we meet someone new that seems “different” from our regular group of friends?
- How might someone feel if we exclude them without getting to know them?
- How do you feel when others exclude you?



PLAYGROUND OR PARK?	HOUSE OR APARTMENT?	COUNTRY OR CITY?
FOOTBALL OR SOCCER?	PAINTING OR CLAY?	MATH OR READING?
COUNTRY MUSIC OR POP MUSIC?	DOGS OR CATS	SUPERMAN OR BATMAN?