

Re-entry Classroom Interventions



#2: Shoe Mural

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The **Re-entry Classroom Interventions** are intended to provide a platform and designated time for debriefing the loss resulting from the abrupt end of last school year, as well as provide a way for your students to share any feelings they have with returning to school during a pandemic.

Together as a class, the group will create a class motto or message of hope to promote unity for the new school year. Students will achieve this by creating individual pieces based on classroom/virtual discussions that contribute to final group artwork.

Please note: Your school counselor or principal should be notified in advance of doing this activity with your students, as participating in it may unveil feelings and vulnerability for students.

Instructions for Creating the Shoe Mural

Present the purpose of this activity to students.

This project works well with in-person instruction; however, you can adapt it to virtual learning. Begin a classroom discussion, asking students to identify and share feelings they have upon their return to school. Open the discussion to share feelings and points of view about the abrupt end of last school year and converting to virtual learning. Utilize the white board/chalk board/smart board or equivalent to write words or phrases as students share and brainstorm ideas.

Pass out individual shoe or foot/shoe print pieces (either as individual or pair) to each student.

Encourage students to illustrate an image or use colors that encompass their feelings on the foot/shoe print to represent themselves.

(Hint: It may be helpful to use coloring book images.)

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Shoe Mural – continued from previous page

Assembly.

Students will assemble their finished foot/shoe prints to display in the classroom as a group or side-by-side.

Begin discussion of unity.

Highlight any areas of strength seen within the shoes or based on student reactions. Emphasize the importance of the individual shoes coming together to form one piece and relate this to students in the classroom as individuals uniting together as a class. Encourage students to use this as a starting point to unite as a class during these uncertain times.

Create a classroom motto.

Brainstorm ideas about classroom unity and hope for the current school year. (Ex: “We stand together” or “We stand together side-by-side”)

Create a banner.

With a piece of paper that stretches across the assembled puzzle, write the motto on it and display the classroom motto across the completed puzzle.

Hang the assembled puzzle with the banner in classroom.

Let it serve as a reminder throughout the term.

Helpful Hints:

You can use foot/shoe print coloring sheet template to precut pieces using thick card stock or cardboard.

You can also utilize butcher paper and a projector to trace foot/shoe print pieces, or Silhouette or Cricut to assist if accessible.

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