

Please implement this activity below into your program. It meets several indicators as they relate to self esteem, belonging, culture of the school age community and literacy.

Did You Fill a Bucket Today?

The children each have a lunch bag with their name on it. They can decorate the bag if they choose. You provide slips of paper that the children filled out saying something nice about another child. The goal was to catch someone doing something nice. This is done every day.

The slips of paper read:

I would like to fill _____ bucket by
saying _____

Examples of some of the things that the children would write:

“I liked how you helped me pick up the crayons I dropped on the floor.”

“Gregory was a good friend and helped me with my homework”

“Erin was special today, she helped someone who was hurt feel better.”

“Paul cleaned up the play dough area and he didn’t even play there he was a good helper.”

“I did not have any one to play with on the playground and Danielle asked me if I wanted to swing on the swings with her and Charlize that made me feel happy.”

At the end of the week each child takes the content of their bag home to read what was said about them and were able to share them with their parents. I encouraged the children to write something each day if possible. Sometimes it was easy for them and other times they had to really watch to see someone doing something special to write about.

This helps to take the focus off of the complaining and bullying of one another and brought a positive atmosphere instead. It is important to note that a little facilitation ahs to occur on your part. First you should check that all messages are positive-negative ones are not tolerated. You should also check to make sure each child has messages to bring home at end of the week. You can strategically encourage someone to say something nice about a child that has no notes in their bag by Thursday. Notes go home, bags stay.

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