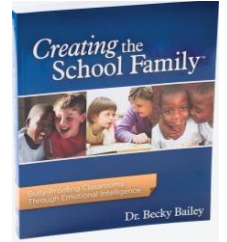


The school family is created through routines, rituals, and structures. Rituals provide valuable opportunities to connect. Connecting rituals are essential because connection fosters willingness. *The foundation of the School Family is the 4 C's: Caring, Commitments, Contributions, and Compassion.*



## Greetings Ritual

- Students greeted outside before school, entering school doors, and entering the classroom.
- More than just a hello: Be present, say name, eye contact, be playful, access brain state.
- Students greet each other at Brain Smart® Start.
- School Family Job Greeter- "Welcome to our School Family!"

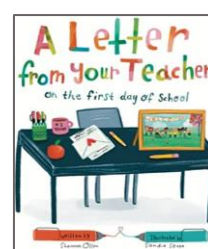
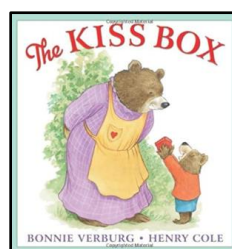
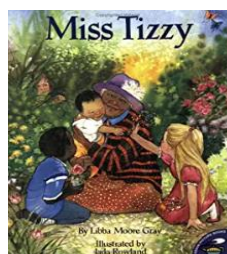
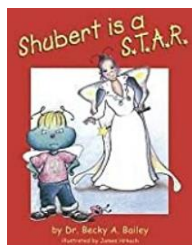


## Brain Smart Start Example

- Greeting - High Five (greet friends to left and to right of you)
- Activity to Unite - Safekeeper Unite Chant and It's Brain Smart Time
- Activity to Disengage Stress - Calming Cube - Teach one daily: S.T.A.R., Balloon, Pretzel, Drain
- Activity to Connect - Peter, Peter
- Activity to Commit - I commit to keep us safe. Introduce Safekeeper Ritual.

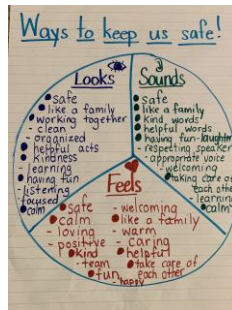
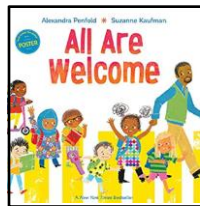
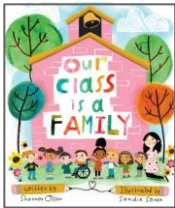
## Safekeeper Ritual

- Focus on language of safety. "My job is to keep you safe. Your job is to help keep us safe."
- Decorate sticks and introduce a Safekeeper Box.
- Write School Family Safekeeper Class Book (\_\_\_ is a treasure in our school family. We will keep her safe.)



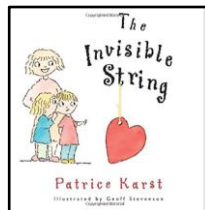
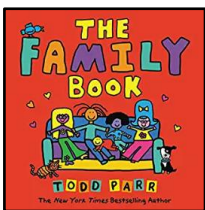
## School Family Agreements

- Ways to Keep our School Family Safe Chart. How do you want our school family to look, sound, and feel like?
- Find common themes. Write and sign agreements.
- Create visuals or routine books for agreements. Eventually agreements become commitments.



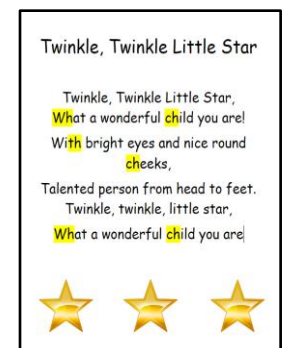
## Family and Friends Board

- "We are all in this together." Supports composure, builds community and home connection.
- Use photos for getting to know you activities. Pictures should be removable.
- Family picture on supply list or take pictures on visiting day.



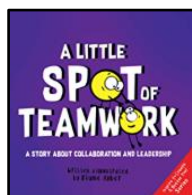
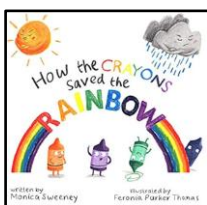
## I Love You Rituals™ - Caring Connections Academic Integration

- I Love You Ritual fluency folder or binder.
- Use to teach sight words, word study, grammar, and shared reading.
- Send home weekly teach parents I Love You Rituals and to practice fluency.



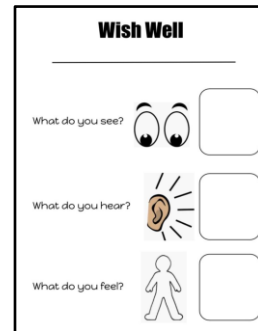
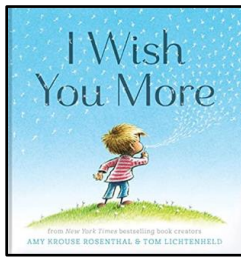
## School Family Job Board

- Provides opportunities to be of service through meaningful responsibilities. Introduce 2-3 jobs each day.
- Take pictures of students performing jobs.



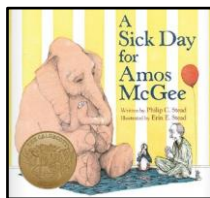
## Wish Well Ritual

- Ritual offers a way for children to support each other, calm themselves, and builds empathy.
- Incorporate into Brain Smart Start.
- Teach visualizing activity.



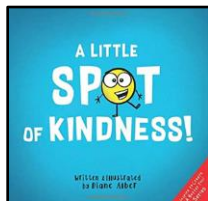
## Welcome Back Student Ritual

- Offers a way for children to support each other. Put name/picture on wish well heart.
- “You were gone and you were missed. Where would you like your welcome back kiss?”



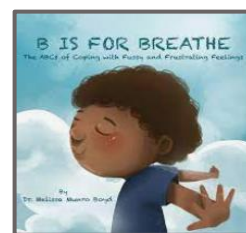
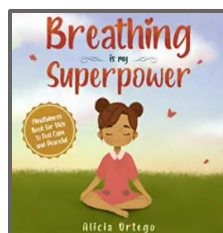
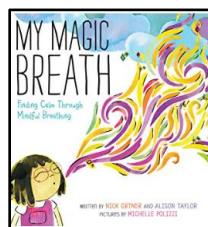
## Kindness Tree - Shout Out Board

- Encourages kind and helpful acts. What we focus on we get more of. Teach how to write You Did It slips modeling noticing language.



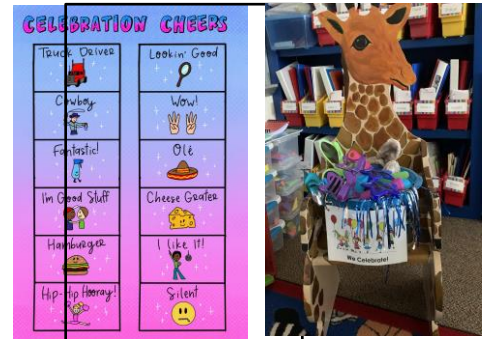
## Testing Ritual

- Breathe in (calm), shake out (worry). Breathe in (focus), shake out (distraction). Stretch. Give yourself a hug. Say, “I got this. I can handle this.”



## Celebration Ritual

- Provides a way for children to honor and celebrate each other.
- Play celebration music, sit in a special chair, use celebration props, and microphone.
- Chant, "Celebrate you! Celebrate me! Celebrate our school family!"



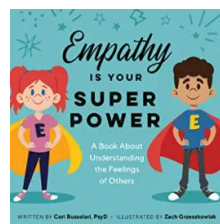
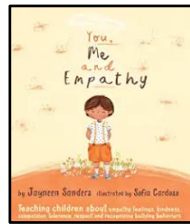
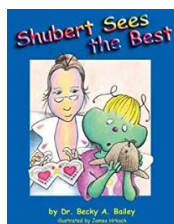
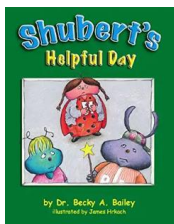
## Goodbye Ritual

- End of day routine



## We Care Center and We Care Bag

- Provides children a way to express empathy, encouragement and compassion.
- Create Ways to Be Helpful Board or Class Book. Take pictures with helpful acts.
- Write wish well cards or sticky notes for absent students and leave on their desk when they return.



## Commitments and Commitment Check-up

- Commitment is a "promise to myself" and helps focus attention. Commitment check-ups can be done throughout the day and at the end of the day. "I did it" celebrates success. "Oops!" means I have the opportunity to try again.

