

# Introduction to Cooperation

**Leader Notes:** Students will discuss and share thoughts about how to stick together, and they will create a classroom definition of cooperation.

**Time:** 5-15 minutes

**Grade Level:** K-6

**Getting Ready:** Create a space for students to sit together to discuss cooperation. Make one copy of the Cooperation Definition worksheet on next page.

## Set up

- Ask students: If a team is playing a game and they are cooperating, what would they be doing?
- Ask students: If a group of workers were building a house, should they all be working on the same thing at once, or can they do different jobs?
- Ask students about a time when they had to work or play with someone and the other people were not cooperating.

## Action

- Discuss the following questions with students and create a definition for cooperation.
  - What does working together or cooperation mean to you?
  - When you want someone to cooperate with you, what do you want them to do?
  - What's the best way you show cooperation?
  - What does cooperation look like at school? At home?
- On your Cooperation Definition worksheet, create and write out your classroom definition of cooperation
- Post the definition on the outside of the classroom for everyone to see.
- *Example: Cooperation means working together where everyone wins.*

## Share

- In what way can you show cooperation in our classroom?

# Cooperation

What Cooperation Means to Room\_\_\_\_\_

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# Cooperation & You

**Leader Notes:** Students will brainstorm and discuss the concept of cooperation, creating 5 actions they will commit to keeping.

**Time:** 5-20 minutes

**Grade Level:** K-6

**Getting Ready:** Copy of one Action Plan worksheet. Using the questions listed below; choose the ones you would like your students to answer.

*Note: This can also be done as a writing exercise.*

*Note: As a sponge activity choose one question a day for discussion or journal.*

## Set up

- Review your classroom definition of cooperation

## Action

- Discuss the following questions with students:
  1. When you want someone to cooperate with you, what do you want them to do?
  2. What's the best way you show cooperation?
  3. Name one person that is a role model of cooperation and why?
  4. Name one person in your family that is good at showing cooperation.
  5. Name one person in this classroom that you think shows the most cooperation.
  6. What are reasons you choose not to cooperate with other people?
  7. Why would some choose to not cooperate with another person?
  8. If you are on a new team and you don't know the other members that well, how can you show them that you know how to cooperate?
  9. Who taught you about cooperation?
  10. What do you get out of cooperating with other people?

## Share

- How can we show cooperation in our classroom, school, playground, home, cafeteria?
- How does practicing our tools show that we are cooperating?
- Get an agreement from everyone that they will work on cooperation everyday.
- Using the Action Plan worksheet, create 5 actions the class can commit to and post outside the classroom for everyone to see.

*Special Note: Are there consequences if the Action Plan is not kept and are they clear to all the students?*

# Cooperation Action Plan

We in Room \_\_\_\_\_ commit to these 5 cooperation actions:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_