

Compliment Partners.

An activity to build friendships.

FOR GRADES 3-5

1. Have a discussion on compliments.

“Close your eyes and think about how you feel when I say each statement: You are strong. (pause) You are brave. (pause) You are kind. (pause) You are helpful. (pause) Now, open your eyes. Who can share how these compliments made them feel? (pause and hear from students) Compliments are powerful. They often spark new friendships or strengthen friendships. The best compliments are very specific ones about the person themselves (not their clothes or shoes). For example, rather than saying, ‘You’re nice,’ you could say, ‘You are so nice because you noticed someone needed help with their math work, and you tried to help them.’

2. Lead students through this activity.

1) Pair up students. Explain: *“We are going to do an activity called Compliment Partners where we will take turns giving and receiving compliments. When you give a compliment, try to be specific. When you receive a compliment, listen well, repeat what you heard and thank your partner afterwards.”*

2) Guide students to practice complimenting and listening. One partner is to give a compliment, using this sentence starter (which you might write on the whiteboard so they can refer back to it):

Student 1: "You are good at _____ because you _____."

Student 2: Reflect the compliment back by saying, "You think I'm _____ because I _____. Thank you."

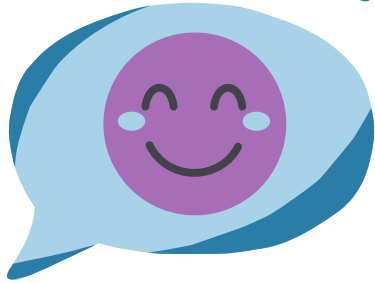
3) The partners switch roles.

You can extend this activity by switching student partners.

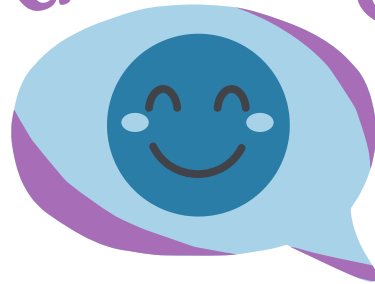
3. Write this reminder on your whiteboard.



Compliment



partners



YOU ARE GOOD AT

BECAUSE YOU

YOU THINK I'M

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THANK YOU

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