

LESSON

Zone Differences

CONCEPT OVERVIEW

We live in a diverse world and our **differences are a good thing**, but we'll need to agree on some bigger zone rules to **keep everyone feeling safe and comfortable**.

HERE ARE TEN MAIN RULES YOU CAN FOLLOW NO MATTER WHAT ZONE YOU'RE IN:

1. When you can, establish zone rules in the beginning that everyone feels mostly comfortable with.
2. Practice *reading your environment* when in a new situation or with a group of diverse people.
3. Go into a zone with an open mind.
4. Recognize and show that you appreciate zone differences by complimenting others' ideas and traditions that you think are cool.
5. When sharing your own ideas, beliefs, traditions, be sure to use I statements.
I think _____. I feel _____. I like _____. I believe _____.
6. Work hard not to judge someone who is different than you.
7. When someone hurts your feelings try not to take things too personally.
8. If you say or do something inappropriate, hurtful, or unkind by mistake then the best you can do is say you are sorry and then take steps to repair the situation.
9. Avoid making statements about people that generalize characteristics, skills, weaknesses to all members of a group or culture.
10. Above all: Be Kind. Be Respectful. Be Responsible.

Be the generation that shows us that we can have zone differences and still be in harmony in this beautiful place we live in.

LESSON ACTIVITY

Create a safe space for kids to talk about their beliefs, ideas, and traditions. Encourage them to share their feelings around zone differences including the challenges they may face. Point out that sometimes we make assumptions about certain groups of people in our Social Folders which results in making judgements about individuals that are inaccurate, unfair, and hurtful. When we have these important conversations with kids, it allows them to better understand and value one another.

TEACHER LINGO

We value zone differences.

Be Kind.
Be Respectful.
Be Responsible.

What are your zone traditions?

What zone rules can we agree on?

