

PRACTICAL CLASSROOM IDEAS

- **Thank You Notes:** Keep a stack of note cards available for students to write thank-you notes to classmates, teachers, or staff as a simple gesture of appreciation and kindness.
- **Kindness Jar:** Introduce a jar where students can anonymously drop notes about kind acts they've seen in class. Share a few at the end of the week to highlight acts of compassion.
- **Gratitude Journals:** Dedicate a few minutes at the end of the day for students to journal about something they're grateful for, encouraging them to recognize and voice their appreciation for big and small things.
- **'Caught Being Kind' Spotlight:** Notice and briefly highlight when a student does something kind for another, reinforcing positive behavior without needing a formal recognition system.
- **Classroom Helpers:** Assign students simple roles that help the class or teacher, such as organizing books or assisting a classmate, to cultivate a sense of responsibility and service.
- **Empathy Story Time:** Incorporate short stories or fables with morals about empathy and kindness into reading time, followed by a brief discussion or reflection.
- **Prayer Minute:** Start the class with a minute of silent prayer to help students center themselves and approach the day with the compassionate heart of Jesus.
- **Kindness Brainstorm:** Have a quick brainstorming session on ways to be kind, writing ideas on the board, and encouraging students to pick one to act on during the week.
- **Inspirational Quote of the Week:** Display a weekly quote about kindness or compassion in the classroom and briefly discuss its meaning and application with the students.
- **Compassion Role Models:** Share stories or facts about figures known for their compassion, relating their actions to everyday behaviors students can emulate.
- **Classroom Agreement:** Collaboratively develop a classroom agreement on how everyone will treat each other, focusing on respect, listening, and helping.
- **Smile and Greet:** Encourage students to smile and greet each other and their teacher every morning, setting a tone of warmth and welcome from the start.