

## Developing Classroom Norms

To make sure that we have a great year together in our classroom, we are going to write some classroom norms. Norms are simple statements that describe the actions that we all agree to follow. We will follow the steps on this handout to build our classroom norms.

### Step 1: Brainstorm on Your Own

Working by yourself, please brainstorm two or three endings for each of the sentence starters below.

<p><b>To make this class great, I will . . .</b></p>	<p><b>I want students in our class to . . .</b></p>
<p><b>To succeed in this class, I will . . .</b></p>	<p><b>My teacher can help me to succeed by . . .</b></p>

**Now copy the MOST IMPORTANT action step from each box onto a sticky note.**

Then, place it in the right quadrant on our classroom’s dry-erase board. Members of our class will sort and summarize our statements to create a list of three actions for each box that we will review and vote on.

### Step 2: Review Your Classroom’s Norms

Working with a partner, review the norms that your classmates chose as a summary of the actions that we would take if we were going to have a great year together in our classroom. While reviewing the norms that they have chosen, think about the following four questions.

Question	Your Response
<p>Which norm on the draft that our classmates produced is the most important for people to honor? What makes this norm so important?</p>	

Question	Your Response
Which norm do you think will be the hardest for members of our class to follow? What makes this norm so difficult to honor?	
Are there any norms that you just cannot agree to follow? Why?	
Have any important norms been left off the draft that our classmates produced? Which ones?	

**Step 3: Make Your Voice Heard**

Now, it is time to express how you feel about our classroom norms. Shade the statement below that best represents your feelings about our norms. Then, write a few sentences that explain the reason for your feelings.

I like these norms just like they are.	For the most part, I like these norms, but I think we should make a few revisions.	There is no way that I can agree to follow these norms.
My Reasoning:		