



CREATING SAFE SPACES & BUILDING BELONGING





Today, we will explore what a "safe space" looks and feels like, identify ways to support one another, and connect these ideas to the SEL competencies of **social awareness** and **self-management**.

Everyone will contribute to a shared Safe Space Agreement that reflects the advisory culture we want to build.







ICEBREAKER

WALK IT OUT!









WALK IT OUT!

- 1) Statements will be read aloud one by one.
- 2) If a statement applies to you, walk to the center of the room.
- 3) A few volunteers will have the opportunity to share.











CENTERING UDEO





WHAT IS A SAFE SPACE?



A safe space is a place where everyone feels respected, supported, and free to express themselves.





CENTERING VIDEO

Watch CHIKA's spoken word piece [For EarthGirl Camp with Amazon Music].

Listen for lines about building respect and inclusivity.







CENTERING VIDEO

- 1) Review your copy of the poem.
- 2) Highlight one line that captures the idea of a safe space and jot down why it stands out.
- 3) Select an SEL competency that matches the line they highlighted.





CENTERING VIDEO

GROUP SHARING

- In small groups, share the line you chose and why you find it meaningful.
- Discuss how the lines connect to creating safe spaces in school or in your community.







CENTERING VIDEO

WHOLE GROUP REFLECTION

- What lines stood out and why?
- What does CHIKA mean by 'we do not suppress, we express'?
- How can we use these ideas to make our classroom or school community a safe space where everyone feels heard and respected?







SAFE SPACE GALLERY WALK







SAFE SPACE GALLERY WALK

Use your sticky notes to respond to the questions below:

- 1) One thing you **need from others** to feel safe
- 2) One thing you can give to help others feel safe

(Examples: patience, space to talk, kindness, no judgment, being listened to)

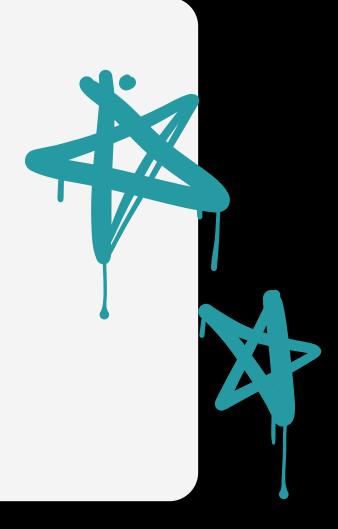






SAFE SPACE GALLERY WALK

- 1) Place your sticky notes under "Needs" and "Gives."
- 2) Silently walk around and read what others wrote.







SAFE SPACE GALLERY WALK

- 1) Together, we will group the responses into common themes (e.g., respect, listening, privacy, support).
- 2) Let's discuss the questions below:
 - What themes do you notice?
 - Why are these ideas important for how we treat each other?







SAFE SPACE GALLERY WALK

Now, we will write 3–5 community commitments.

Examples:

- We respect each other's stories.
- We don't interrupt or make fun of others.
- We check our energy before we speak.
- We give people space when they need it.
- We celebrate each other's wins, big or small.

