Respect Rap

For this project, students will learn a rap about respect to emphasize kind behaviors that tie into being a respectful member of the class. Music is a terrific way to make abstract concepts more concrete.

Respect Sub-Concept(s)
Self-Care, Kindness

Project Timeframe
10-15 minutes

Required Materials
Large poster to display rap

Project Instructions

Although a sample rap is provided below, feel free to create your own using the following guidelines:

As a class, highlight 3 ways to show respect for ourselves, our friends, and our space each day. Write these answers on the board.

Using the following formula, plug in your actions to create your rap

I ________ my ________ when I start my day.
I ________ my __________ after I play.
I ________ my ________ when I have something to say.
I show respect in so many ways!
Today I _________. (This will change every day to personalize the rap daily.)

Chant the rap 7 times on the first day you create it. Research shows you need to hear a new song or jingle this many times to make a solid memory. One way to do this is using different approaches: sing it in a silly voice, march while singing it, have each child sing it alone or with a partner, etc.

Make a large poster or PowerPoint Slide or use your Interactive Whiteboard to display your rap. This way you can refer to it each day to help diverse learners participate.

Sing the Respect Rap daily to encourage this skill as second nature and to highlight different ways it is being demonstrated within the classroom.

Sample completed rap for use:

I hang my backpack when I start my day.
I clean my area after I play.
I raise my hand when I have something to say.
I show respect in so many ways!
Today I ___________. (Add a different personalized answer each day.)
The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SELect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/