



Notice: Why are we nice?

Objectives:

1. Students will think critically about why they make choices to notice
2. Students will write their responses to difficult situations when noticing

Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1 - Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

Materials:

1. Journals

Motivation:

We've talked about the difference noticing our own actions, and noticing the actions of others can make in positive change. We can support each other in those good choices, and even show support by following their example. But sometimes it might not happen that way. How should we respond when people don't notice our good actions, or we feel like the only one that is doing something different?

Development:

- Take time at the beginning of the lesson to review the N of N.I.C.E. Remind students that the N stands for "Notice." Recall the eye-spy game and remind students that when we notice, we are looking for the ways we can make our class a nicer place. Explain that there are also times when we will notice others who are not being nice.
- Have students journal on the following questions:
 - "How should we respond when people don't notice our good actions, or we feel like the only one that is doing something different?"
 - "Should we stop doing good when people don't notice or when others are not making good choices?"
 - "What are some examples of good choices that you make? Why do you make good choices? (To get noticed? To avoid trouble? Because it's what's right? Makes us feel good/proud?...)"
- Encourage students to give evidence for their responses

Closure:

Lead a class discussion that addresses the journal questions. Start by asking, "Are we supposed to be nice to others?" Have students answer and give reasons to support their answers.

Give three examples of good choices that you make:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Why do you make good choices?
