



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

New Year Resolution: Classroom Communities!

An activity of "Fitting In: A fair chance for all."

Now that your school year is coming to an end, this is a great time to plan for your 2026 classes. Read "Fitting in: A fair chance for all" (page 26–27, *What's Up* October 2025). The 14 quotes below are the words of kids who appear in "Fitting In" comics this year.

2. Discuss (a) what your two quotes mean (b) how you can apply them to your 2026 classes next year. Give examples.

3. Give a three-minute presentation in class.

1. Form SEVEN small groups. Each group takes two quotes, with no overlap.

When school reopens next year, give your classes a head start!

<input type="checkbox"/> DHENG: True friends don't care about what you wear or look like — they like you the way you are. So, relax, just be you.	<input type="checkbox"/> JOE: And, please get to know kids like me. Don't ignore us just because we're quiet. I want to be part of the class, too.
<input type="checkbox"/> GITA: Sometimes, I can't make out who is lonely or sad. So, it's simpler to be good to everyone. And, hey, I'll be good to myself as well.	<input type="checkbox"/> NAGIB: Look at us... we're all different. So what? Let me be me and I'll let you be you!
<input type="checkbox"/> KEVIN: You can pick and choose your friends. It's okay not to be friends with kids you don't like. Play fair and be kind to everyone, though.	<input type="checkbox"/> JESS: Yeah, Nagib. We're not alike in some ways. But, we are alike in other ways. That's what makes it fun! Who needs a bunch of clones for a class?
<input type="checkbox"/> SHAUN: Kevin's right. Friendship can't be forced. Hey, but if you do want to keep your friends, work at it! Take care of relationships.	<input type="checkbox"/> JEN: I'd like to fit in, too. Some kids think I'm a freak but I'm not. So, don't be mean to kids like me. Help us to get the help we need.
<input type="checkbox"/> YIN: And, don't worry about whether you're a lovable kid... believe me, you are! I know I am — that's why it's easy for me to say the first hello.	<input type="checkbox"/> RITA: Every kid must chip in for us to feel good at school. If your friends are mean to someone, say something, like I did. Or, tell a teacher. Don't stand by and do nothing.
<input type="checkbox"/> JASMINE: If someone cracks a mean joke, don't laugh... it's not funny. Every kid should feel safe and secure at school. That means no put downs, no sarcasm, no cruel pranks, no bullying of any kind!!	<input type="checkbox"/> MAUNG: Also, don't let something like an accent get in the way. I didn't. My story started off sadly but we turned it around to give it a happy ending. You can, too!
<input type="checkbox"/> JOSH: And, for friends to feel secure with one another, there must be honesty. Lee and I have changed. I need to stop pretending and talk to him about it.	<input type="checkbox"/> SULIN: Happy endings are great. But, why not good beginnings as well? I'm going to try to give every kid a fair chance to fit in at school. Will you?