

# WE ARE CONNECTED

IDEAS FROM YOUR RIDICULOUSLY AMAZING SERVICES TEAM!

## MINDSET FOCUS

**We Are Connected** helps us understand that everyone who comes into our lives can assist us in living our dreams. Through this mindset, we learn to constantly explore synergies with others, embrace diversity, and relish competition, allowing us to maximize our potential with and through others.

### The lessons in this unit are:

- 3.1 Embrace Everyone
- 3.2 Maximize Positive Relationships
- 3.3 Build Your Dream Team
- 3.4 Lead with Value



### Explore:

- Activities, games & more in the [Resource Hub](#)
- Self-reflect with the [Educator Life Plan](#)
- View the [We are Connected student video](#)

## MINDSETS MUSIC

- 1 *Lean on Me*  
Bill Withers
- 2 *Stand By Me*  
Ben E. King
- 3 *Human*  
Christina Perry
- 4 *Glory*  
Common and John Legend
- 5 *Unwritten*  
Natasha Bedingfield
- 6 *Waiting on the World to Change*  
John Mayer
- 7 *Dance, Kid, Dance*  
Shinedown



**What's on your building's  
We Are Connected playlist?**

## PRACTICE THE WE ARE CONNECTED MINDSET @ HOME

- Each family member identifies one personal strength and one way they use it to help others. Students summarize how their family's collective strengths form a "team."
- Students interview a family member or caregiver about a time they worked with others to achieve a goal. (Check out the [Great Thanksgiving Listen](#) for more ideas.)
- Morning Motivation: *Who are you looking forward to seeing today? How might you make their day better?*  
\_\_\_\_\_ ♥ \_\_\_\_\_
- Gratitude Practice: Name three people who make school better and one way you can show appreciation to one of them today.
- Table Talk: Dream Team Check In *Who's on your Dream Team right now – the people who lift you up or challenge you?*
- Cultural Connections: Each family member shares a favorite tradition, food, or story from their background.  
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## MAKE THE MINDSETS VISIBLE

Encourage school-wide participation, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose!

Challenge students to cultivate new connections during **Mix-it-Up Lunch Day**. Create a bingo card with challenges like “Ask someone for a new music recommendation” or “Talk to someone who speaks multiple languages,” or use our Roll the Dice Game from the Resource Hub to encourage participation. Students who complete their cards may have the opportunity to earn rewards/prizes.

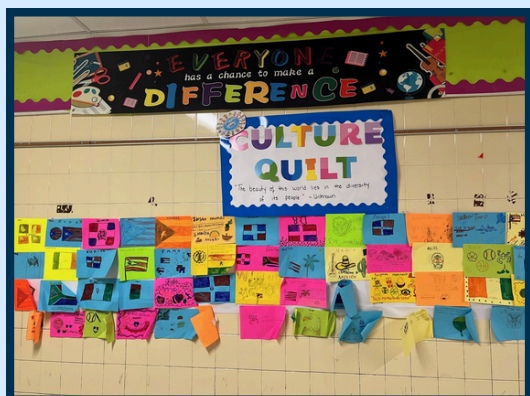
“Can You Find Me?”  
Bingo Game

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I HAVE A YOUNGER BROTHER.	I VISITED ANOTHER STATE THIS SUMMER.	POUCHES MY FAVORITE SUBJECT.	I HAVE A CAT.	I LIKE TO PLAY VIDEO GAMES.
MY FIRST NAME CONTAINS SIX MORE LETTERS.	MY FAVORITE COLOR IS PURPLE.	I LIKE TO SING.	I PLAY SPORTS.	I HAVE 3 OR MORE PETS.
I HAVE AN OLDER SISTER.	SCIENCE IS MY FAVORITE SUBJECT.	I HAVE BEEN TO 3 OR MORE DIFFERENT STATES.	CHOCOLATE IS MY FAVORITE FLAVOR OF ICE CREAM.	I LIKE TO SNOOZ.
I TRAVELED OUT OF THE COUNTRY THIS SUMMER.	I HAVE A DOG.	MY BIRTHDAY IS ON THE SUMMER.	I HAVE AN OLDER BROTHER.	I SPEAK MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE.
I LIKE TO DANCE.	I HAVE A YOUNGER SISTER.	I PLAY AN INSTRUMENT.	READING IS ONE OF MY Hobbies.	I WAS BORN IN ANOTHER STATE.

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Encourage students to learn about and appreciate the diversity that exists in your school building. Create opportunities for students to share something unique about themselves, their culture, or their background by hosting a **Cultural Connections Day** or creating a **Culture Quilt** display on campus.

Highlight students who exemplify **We Are Connected** qualities of friendship, acceptance, inclusivity, and leadership. Showcase their stories in a **Mindsetter of the Month** display in the hallway! Or use the “Caught You” Cards from the Resource Hub as a quick and easy way to recognize your students!



**Who is on your Dream Team?** Is it a friend who encourages you, a family member who believes in you, or a teacher who guides you? **Dream Team Shout Outs** invite students and staff to reflect on the importance of the people who lift them up. Everyone gets a chance to celebrate these meaningful connections. It's not just about showing who's important, but also about recognizing the role we play in supporting each other.



## CONTENT CONNECTIONS

Reinforce the mindsets in your subject areas!

### MATH

#### **Everything is Possible:**

While learning about linear equations, have students set a personal goal to improve their problem-solving accuracy and reflect weekly on strategies that helped them grow—showing how persistence builds mastery.

### SCIENCE

#### **Passion First:**

During a biology unit, let students choose a topic they're passionate about (like genetics, space, or climate change) and design a small research project or presentation that connects science to real-world impact.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

#### **Live to Give:**

While studying civics or government, students can research a local issue and propose a way young people could contribute to positive change, such as organizing a supply drive or awareness campaign.

### READING

#### **The Time is Now:**

After reading a novel like *The Outsiders* or *To Kill a Mockingbird*, students reflect on the characters' choices and discuss how standing up for what's right applies to their own daily lives.

### WRITING

#### **We are Connected:**

In a persuasive writing unit, students write essays about causes or issues that matter to them, sharing drafts with peers to build understanding and connection through feedback and discussion.

## MORE CONTENT CONNECTIONS

Reinforce the mindsets in these subject areas as well!

### STEM/STEAM

#### **Collaboration Lab**

*Objective: Maximize Positive Relationships*

Activity: Students complete a multi-step lab or engineering challenge where roles rotate: designer, builder, data collector, communicator. Emphasis is placed on communication, feedback, and reflection.



### ARTS

#### **"Pieces of Us": Unity Mandala Mural**

*Objective: Embrace Everyone*

Activity: Each student designs a mandala tile representing their identity, culture, or values. The tiles are assembled into a collaborative mural symbolizing unity in diversity.



### PHYS. ED

#### **Leadership in Action: Coaching**

*Objective: Lead with Value*

Activity: Older students design and lead a warm-up or mini-lesson for younger peers or another class. Emphasis is on modeling inclusiveness and encouragement.



### MUSIC

#### **"My Dream Team Anthem": The People Who Shape My Song**

*Objective: Build Your Dream Team & Lead with Value*

Activity: Individually or in small groups, students compose or remix a song that represents their personal dream team (family, friends, mentors). Perform or share digitally.



### FOR. LANGUAGE

#### **"If I Could Team Up ...": Global Heroes**

*Objective: Build Your Dream Team*

Activity: Students choose an inspiring public figure or leader from the target culture and present how that person could be on their "dream team." Include traits, accomplishments, and influence.

# 7 MINDSETS NOTES

**SCHOOL/DISTRICT**

**DATE**