Classroom Quotable Quotes

* A Simple, Effective, Low-Cost Activity to Use in Your Classroom *

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**The activity**

In this activity, students will be given the opportunity to choose, share, and discuss meaningful quotes on a weekly basis. This activity facilitates building public speaking and interpersonal skills, promotes positive self-expression and critical thinking in a safe academic environment, and exposes students to great thinkers from around the world. Research skills are strengthened as well as students’ resourcefulness in finding information necessary to complete research projects.

This is a weekly group session for students to practice using various resources and research techniques to find meaningful and appropriate quotes, while promoting peer-to-peer sharing and self-expression.

**Learning Objectives**

- Communication: Public Speaking
- Students’ exposure to different authors and philosophers
- Learning about multiple perspectives
- Vocabulary Development
- Research Skills
- Public Speaking

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Here’s what you do

Instructions

1. **Pre-Activity:**
   - Introduce “Classroom Quotable Quotes” as a weekly activity and designate a day and time during the week that will be used to share the work and quotes together as a group.

2. **Activity:**
   - Each student will be given a quote journal and a pen so that they can keep a record of the quotes that they find. These quotes can be inspirational, funny, thought-provoking or just meaningful to them in some way. If you have a larger group or a smaller white board, you may need to rotate the students who share quotes each week so that each can get enough time and space to share their quotes.

   - Students should be prepared to discuss (or show through song, art project, or another form of self-expression) what that quote means to them. The other students in the group should be allowed to share their thoughts on the quotes that are put on the board as well.

Resources needed:
- White board
- White board markers
- Designated area for displaying projects that students create
- Various texts and websites that the students can access for their quotes
- Notebooks
- Writing utensils for their quote journals
- Optional: Poster board, markers, and various other art supplies to facilitate students’ creative projects with their favorite quotes.

Approximate time:
Length of time varies depending on how much students want to share, but sharing time is once a week for 30mins-1 hour.
3. **Discussion:**

- Discuss with students the different methods they can use to find their quotes each week which can include different books of quotes the classroom may already own, quote websites, Pinterest, Facebook, magazines etc. A trip to the local library is recommended, if possible.

- Students have the option of representing their quotes through different forms of self-expression. For example, a student can create a poster or artwork displaying their quote, or write a song or rap.

- During the time designated to share the quotes, the teacher/facilitator can facilitate the group discussion using the method that works best for their classroom. Students who share should be given interrupted time while they explain what the quote means to them, and the rest of the group should have time to discuss the quote after the student presents. Comments should be kept positive to ensure that each student who shares feels comfortable opening up to the group through whatever medium they prefer.

4. **Wrap-Up:**

- At the end of the students’ term, they should have a journal full of quotes, and have been exposed to some of the great authors and philosophers our time through these discussions and activities.

- Optional – our students have an open house at the end of each building cycle, and some of the students’ favorite quotes and various creative projects could be displayed at the time.

**Success Tips**

- Ground rules should be set to ensure that quotes will be appropriate and not offensive. Make sure that comments from other students during the quote sharing time are kept positive in nature so that all students feel comfortable in the environment.

- Teacher/facilitator may set aside a time each week for the students to research their quotes as well. Several projects (including essays and various research projects) can be attached to these quotes as well to strengthen other areas of the students’ knowledge.

- Themes can be built around the quotes on a weekly basis. These themes can include subjects you are already working on in your classroom, current events, or even specific authors. The possibilities are endless!