

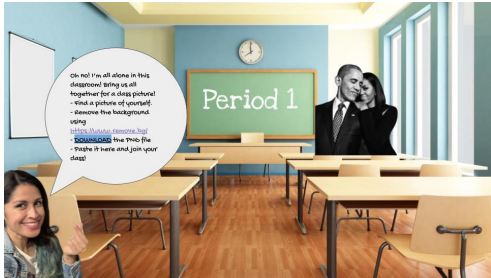
Ideas for Virtual Community-Building

Originally created by [@isabeljimorales](#), added by [@mrchokshi](#)

How might I create safe virtual spaces where students feel accepted and connected?

Community is built over time, through mutual sharing, support, trust

	Synchronous	Asynchronous
Mutual Sharing	Short Check-ins at the start of each session; each student verbally responds to a specific Q. Virtual Show & Tell Talent Show - allow students opportunities to share their talents, hobbies, interests Mentimeter polls/interactions	Discussion boards where students can share words, images, and memes Flipgrid - Share videos of hobbies, talents, passions Home/Neighborhood scavenger hunt: "Find an item that... (represents your history, etc...)" <i>Gracias, Carmen!</i> A spin on the Bitmoji Classroom idea: Students can create virtual "rooms" on Google Slides, decorating them with symbols of their identities and passions. Students can learn a lot about each other in this way, finding points of connection and commonality! (You can find sample avatars and classrooms here)
Writing	Autobiographical writing Provide opportunities for students to write in ways that are meaningful, personal, and creative, and create space for students to share with one another.	Discussion boards to share thoughts, creative writing, reflections on current events, etc
Resource-sharing		Collaborative Google Doc where students can share helpful apps, links, videos, and podcasts for de-stressing, calming, managing anxiety, and anything else they need
Music	Play music as students log onto Zoom meetings. Can break ice during awkward first couple of minutes when people are logging on and getting video/audio set up. Youtube Karaoke Dance party - Cha cha slide, Caballo dorado, etc...	Student-generated playlists to match different moods

	Synchronous	Asynchronous
Collaboration	Escape Rooms: How to create, samples Virtual chalk talks & gallery walks on Google Docs (Students add comments to the doc, having a "silent conversation" with one another) Breakout rooms for small group discussion	Collaborative group activities (virtual) (students will have the option to work independently, if coordination of schedules is not possible)
Celebration	Birthday acknowledgements Celebrations after completing projects Spirit/Dress-Up Days. Themed days (hats, jerseys, etc)	Group cards that students can sign for each other
Documentation/ Compilation of Experience	"Class Photo" on Zoom on Day 1, and every couple of weeks	"Class Yearbook/anthology" - each student can design a Google Slide or Doc with images, reflections, and writing "Class Photo Collage"- Students add a picture of themselves to a Google slide, bringing everyone together virtually! 
Motivation & Morale	Share inspiring poems & videos Affirmations and appreciations to close out the week Virtual field trips Movement/energy boosters: "The Wave" - can be recorded, turned into a gif, and sent out to students Use Zoom screens to create collective shapes hearts with hands	Discussion board for sharing mood-boosting gifs, memes, and jokes Discussion board for students to receive written affirmations and appreciations

	Synchronous	Asynchronous
Name Presentations	There is no right way to do this; just make sure that your name appears on the slide. As you design your slide, think about the following questions: How did you get your name? What special meanings does it have? What does your name mean to you? Do you have nicknames? Has your name changed over time? What colors/symbols connect to your name? Be prepared to speak for about one minute about your slide.	Student "present" their name presentations on FlipGrid or screencastomatic, etc.