Introduction to Well-being

Week 1



- 1. What is well-being and why is it important?
- 2. What strengths do I bring to this community?
- 3. How do my strengths connect to my sense of well-being?

Guiding Questions



Family: Circle

- 1. How much control do we have over how we feel?
- 2. What brings you happiness/joy in life?
- 3. What is one thing you're looking forward to this week?

To increase our well-being (or feeling satisfied in life) we need to focus on 5 things. We're going to call those 5 things PERMA.

- ★ P is for Positive Emotions feeling good
- ★ E is for Engagement being completely absorbed in your activities
- ★ R is for Relationships being authentically connected to others
- ★ M is for Meaning attaching oneself to something larger than yourself
- ★ A is for Achievement a sense of accomplishment and success

Stay tuned: MORE INFO TO COME!

P.E.R.M.A.



Wednesday: Focus on the Positives

We said yesterday that we would be focusing on WELL-BEING (or feeling satisfied in life). We're going to spend the next several weeks learning how to increase our well-being. Reeling well (feeling satisfied with life) is a SKILL.





Focus on the Positives

We're going to start by focusing on what's ALREADY going well in your lives.

On the next slide you'll see a long list of character strengths. On a sheet of paper, write down your top 5 strengths (you do not need to write down the definitions)

CREATIVITY: Originality; adaptive; ingenuity

CURIOSITY: Interest; novelty-seeking; exploration; openness to experience

JUDGMENT: Critical thinking; thinking things through; open-minded

LOVE OF LEARNING: Mastering new skills & topics; systematically adding to knowledge

PERSPECTIVE: Wisdom; providing wise counsel; taking the big picture view

BRAVERY: Valor; not shrinking from fear; speaking up for what's right

PERSEVERANCE: Persistence; industry; finishing what one starts

HONESTY: Authenticity, integrity

ZEST: Vitality; enthusiasm; vigor; energy; feeling alive and activated

LOVE: Both loving and being loved; valuing close relations with others

KINDNESS: Generosity; nurturance; care; compassion; altruism; compassion; altruism; "niceness"

SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE: Emotional intelligence; aware of the motives/feelings of self/others, knowing what makes other people tick

TEAMWORK: Citizenship; social responsibility; loyalty
FAIRNESS: Just; not letting feelings bias decisions about others
LEADERSHIP: Organizing group activities; encouraging a group to
get things done

FORGIVENESS: Mercy, accepting others' shortcomings; giving people a second chance

HUMILITY: Modesty; letting one's accomplishments speak for themselves

PRUDENCE: Careful; cautious; not taking undue risks

SELF-REGULATION: Self-control; disciplined; managing

impulses & emotions

APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY & EXCELLENCE: Awe; wonder, elevation

GRATITUDE: Thankful for the good; expressing thanks; feeling blessed

HOPE: Optimism; future-mindedness; future orientation

HUMOR: Playfulness; bringing smiles to others; lighthearted

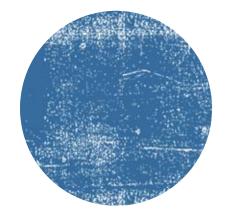
SPIRITUALITY: Religiousness; faith; purpose; meaning

1. Discussion: what did you like/dislike about the activity? Have you thought about your strengths in this way before?

2. Class closing activity: was anyone surprised by one of the strengths on the list (maybe you hadn't thought of it as a strength before)? If so, would you share that with a friend or someone in your family?

Debrief

Making Connections: did anyone notice tht some of these strengths are synonyms for the traits in the IB Learner Profile?



Thursday: Roadmap for the next 5 weeks

- Each week for the next 5 weeks we're going to focus on a new aspect of P.E.R.M.A.

 Next week our focus will be the P positive emotions
- Today we're going to SET OUR INTENTIONS (i.e. make some goals) for what you
 each hope to accomplish during this time together.

- ★ Journal: take out a sheet of paper (ideally you would keep this until you have your advisory folder, but it's okay if that doesn't happen).
 - First, write down 3 of the strengths you identified for yourself yesterday. They are listed on the next slide if you need them.
 - Next, write a little bit about your well-being (or your life satisfaction) right now. 1-2 minutes. Are you FLOURISHING (meaning you're super satisfied in life)? Or do you need more practice to foster well-being in your life?
 - Finally, set your intention. At the bottom of your page write a few sentences about what you hope to learn or do during this unit. Examples:
 - "I want to work on my relationships. I often feel lonely at school and would like to make more friends."
 - "I feel pretty satisfied already. I don't really understand what "meaning" means yet, so I'd like to learn more about that."
 - "I don't feel very satisfied, but I'm not sure why. I want to learn more about well-being and myself to see if I can figure it out."

Thinking about Strengths (from yesterday) and Setting Intentions

- P. POSITIVE EMOTIONS
- E. ENGAGEMENT
- R. RELATIONSHIPS
- M. MEANING
- A. ACHIEVEMENT



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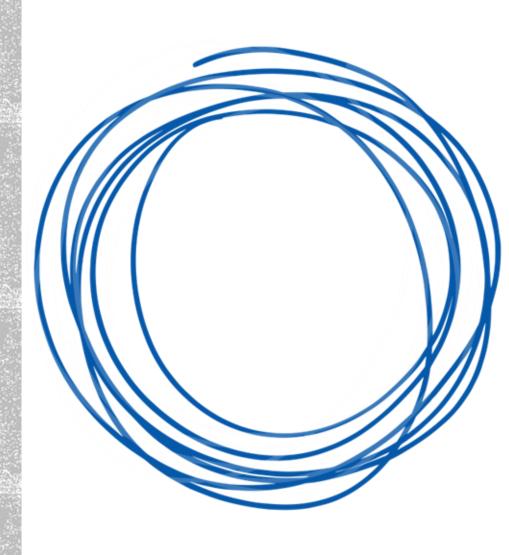
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Friday: Reflection Circle

- 1. What connections can you make between knowing your strengths and feeling satisfied in your life?
- 2 What about PERMA are you most looking forward to learning about in the weeks to come?
- 3. What is one strength you see in the person to your left? (They're on the next slide if you need a reminder)
- 4 How can you apply your strengths to building this community? We need YOU and your strengths to make this community whole every day.



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