

Sample Classroom Covenant

This covenant guides the way we interact with each other.

- We will strive to be kind to each other and to respect each other's opinions. We will be careful with our assumptions and ask our classmates questions that can help us to understand their opinions. If there is a misunderstanding, we will attempt to clarify what was meant.
- We will refrain from putting down other people's ideas or making fun of their beliefs.
- We will not engage in *lashon hara*—gossip and slander—either inside or outside the classroom.
- We will strive to create an environment in which everyone is comfortable sharing and no one dominates the conversation. We will be mindful of how much we are talking and encourage our classmates to share their ideas. We will also respect our classmates who choose to listen instead of speak.
- We will refrain from blaming or judging each other. We will strive to be gentle with each other, remembering that sometimes we will be discussing sensitive or painful topics.
- We will speak only for ourselves and not for other people.

Although we commit to keeping this covenant, sometimes we will fall short. We will try to recognize those times and apologize when we hurt someone's feelings.