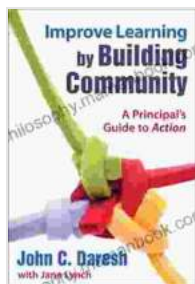


Improve Learning By Building Community: The Power of Collaboration and Belonging

Building community in the classroom is essential for student learning and success. When students feel connected to their peers and teachers, they are more likely to be engaged, motivated, and successful. This is because a strong sense of community creates a positive and supportive learning environment where students feel safe to take risks, ask questions, and collaborate with others.



Improve Learning by Building Community: A Principal's Guide to Action by John C. Daresh

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1510 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 154 pages
Lending	: Enabled
X-Ray for textbooks	: Enabled



There are many ways to build community in the classroom. Some simple but effective strategies include:

- **Creating a welcoming and inclusive environment.** This means making sure that all students feel valued and respected, regardless of their background or abilities. It also means creating a classroom

culture where students are encouraged to help and support each other.

- **Promoting collaboration.** Collaborative learning activities allow students to work together in small groups to achieve a common goal. This helps students to develop important social and communication skills, as well as problem-solving and critical thinking skills.
- **Fostering a sense of belonging.** This means helping students to feel like they are part of the classroom community. It can be done by creating opportunities for students to get to know each other outside of class, such as through field trips or social events.

Building community in the classroom takes time and effort, but it is well worth it. A strong sense of community can make a significant difference in student learning and success.

Benefits of Building Community

There are many benefits to building community in the classroom. Some of the most important benefits include:

- **Increased engagement.** Students who feel connected to their peers and teachers are more likely to be engaged in their learning. They are more likely to participate in class, ask questions, and complete their assignments.
- **Improved motivation.** Students who feel supported by their peers and teachers are more likely to be motivated to learn. They are more likely to set high goals for themselves and work hard to achieve them.

- **Greater success.** Students who feel connected to their peers and teachers are more likely to be successful in school. They are more likely to earn higher grades, attend school regularly, and graduate from high school.
- **Reduced risk of dropout.** Students who feel connected to their peers and teachers are less likely to drop out of school. They are more likely to feel supported and encouraged to stay in school and complete their education.
- **Improved social and emotional development.** Students who feel connected to their peers and teachers are more likely to develop strong social and emotional skills. They are more likely to be able to communicate effectively, resolve conflicts peacefully, and make responsible decisions.

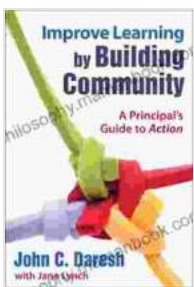
Strategies for Building Community

There are many different strategies that teachers can use to build community in the classroom. Some effective strategies include:

- **Create a welcoming and inclusive environment.** Make sure that all students feel welcome and respected, regardless of their background or abilities. This can be done by creating a classroom culture where diversity is celebrated and all students are treated with dignity and respect.
- **Promote collaboration.** Collaborative learning activities are a great way to build community in the classroom. They allow students to work together in small groups to achieve a common goal. This helps students to develop social and communication skills, as well as problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

- **Fostering a sense of belonging.** This means helping students to feel like they are part of the classroom community. It can be done by creating opportunities for students to get to know each other outside of class, such as through field trips or social events.
- **Use technology to build community.** Technology can be used in a variety of ways to build community in the classroom. For example, students can use social media to connect with each other outside of class, or they can use online discussion boards to collaborate on projects.
- **Partner with families and the community.** Families and the community can be valuable resources for building community in the classroom. They can provide support and assistance to teachers, and they can help to create a sense of belonging for students.

Building community in the classroom is an essential part of creating a positive and supportive learning environment. When students feel connected to their peers and teachers, they are more likely to be engaged, motivated, and successful.



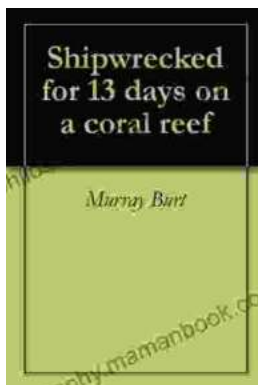
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