

## Student Voice

There are three parts to student voice:

1. *Share*: Share your ideas with teachers and friends.
2. *Suggest*: Suggest how to make your classroom and school better.
3. *Act*: Act on your ideas.

Student voice is a way for *you* to be actively involved in your classroom and school. When you share your ideas and work toward making school better for everyone, you are making a difference! Keep in mind that you do not have to be loud to share your ideas. You just must be willing to let others know what you are thinking.

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### Let's Explore Student Voice!

#### Part 1: BE COMFORTABLE SHARING IDEAS

VOICE is about sharing Ideas that can make school better for everyone. Ideas that sound like about complaints are called NOISE. See how each NOISE thought below was turned into VOICE.



**NOISE**



**VOICE**

School is boring.



I have ideas about how students can participate in class.

Other students are mean.



I wonder what my friends and I can do to be nicer to all students.

I hate homework.



I am going to ask a friend for help with my homework so that I don't get so frustrated.

Our playground rules aren't fair.



I have an idea to make playground rules better.

We should be able to use cell phones in class.



I am going to show my teachers a few learning apps I use at home on my cell phone.

THE THREE  
COMPONENTS of

VOICE!

1.

**SHARE**

Share  
thoughts,  
beliefs,  
and concerns.

2.

**SUGGEST**

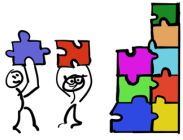
Suggest realistic  
solutions for  
the good  
of the whole.

3.

**ACT**

Act on what  
you suggest  
and what needs  
to be done.





OUR TURN... As a class, let's think about some common NOISE/complaints we hear every day at school.

YOUR TURN ...Work with a partner to think of how you can help change NOISE to VOICE.

**Circle all the VOICE words. Put an X on the NOISE words.**

silent

shout

help

share

create

negative

ideas

scream

complain

think

whine

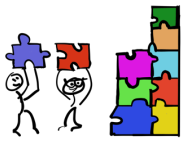
good

belief

listen

positive

**What can you do to make sure *your* ideas are VOICE and not NOISE?**



# Student Voice K-2 Student Resource

## Part 2: SUGGEST REALISTIC IDEAS THAT HELP EVERYONE

Keisha wants to make her school a better place for all students and brainstormed the ideas below. Circle the ideas you think are realistic.

Let students sleep in class

Ask students to help the principal plan school-wide events

Have a fast-food restaurant instead of a cafeteria

Have students share their ideas with teachers

Close school two hours earlier every day

Never have homework

Let students help create recess rules

Have student ambassadors to welcome new students

Create an after-school homework club

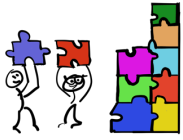
Students only work with their friends

Work with a partner to think of three *realistic* ideas to make your school a better place:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What does it mean when an idea “helps everyone”?

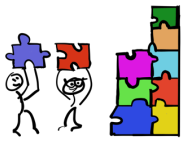
Create a new emoji that represents helping everyone:



# Student Voice K-2 Student Resource

Talk about each of the pictures below. What ideas and actions might help each of these students make school better for them.





## Part 3: ROLE PLAY

Your teacher is going to read some of these prompts, and then you can act out how you could use your voice to help.

- Someone accidentally bumps into you in the cafeteria and makes you spill your drink. How do you think you would feel? What should you do?
- Your friend is not playing by the rules at recess. What can you do?
- Your friend just got a new haircut and they really don't like it. How do you think they feel? What could you say to them?
- Micah ran into a tree at recess. How would you feel if you were Micah?
- Austin wanted to get the teacher's attention so he yelled across the room. What would you say to Austin?
- You are out at recess and you want to play tag, but your friend wants to play kickball. How would you solve this problem?

## PART 4: ACT- GET IT DONE!

During recess some students feel left out. How can you use your VOICE to make recess better?

- What is one idea to improve recess for everyone?
- Why does it matter for students to like recess?
- How does your idea help everyone?
- How can your teacher and/or another adult at school help make this plan a success?
- What can students do to help make this plan a success?
- What is the biggest challenge to making the idea/goal happen?
- What will it look like when the idea/goal is achieved?