



# Friday Focus

## Greenup County Schools

### Class Building Is Key

Picture the perfect classroom. It is a place where students feel safe, comfortable, and like to be and learn. Class building activities can create this dream classroom. Class building provides mutual support among all of the students in a class and creates a positive context for learning. It is important that students see themselves as part of a large, supportive group—your classroom. Class building activities can make this happen. These activities provide the students with a sense of empowerment as well as ownership of “their class.”

There are five outcomes from which we want students to benefit:

1. Getting Acquainted.  
When students feel they are known by others, we

meet their basic need to feel important, to be liked, and to belong. Students less often feel the weight of social isolation and are less likely to withdraw, drop out, or last out.

2. Class Identity.  
Students need to feel that their class is unique and that they play an important role in the class. We want students to feel proud of their class. You can do this with class names, logos, songs, or chants.



3. Mutual Support.  
Through mutual support, students come to feel they

belong and can depend on their classmates. The class becomes a community of supportive learners.

4. Valuing Differences.  
Students need to feel that they are valued and appreciated for their uniqueness.

5. Developing Synergy. All of us interacting produce and learn far more than the sum of what we all can produce and learn working alone.

Quiz-Quiz-Trade is an excellent class building structure; Find Someone Who is another. During this structure, students use a partner to answer a question on a worksheet. After checking and initialing each others answer, the partners move on to find another partner and repeat the process.

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Upcoming Academy Dates:  
9/8 3rd Grade Jesse Stuart  
Project Mtg @ CO 3:30 PM

Extended Thought

[QQT in High](#)

[Cooperative](#)

[Stand Up, Hand](#)



## SHOUT OUTS!

Team Greenup, it is awesome to visit classrooms and see all the cooperative learning strategies being used to get students engaged in daily activities! Here you see a picture that captured an example of Kagan cooperative learning in high school geometry with Mr. Collier. He borrowed this strategy from his colleague, Katie Daniel, it a version of Rally Coach. In this strategy student pairs took on the roles of “boss and secretary” as they talked each other through completing complex geometry tasks. Cooperative learning is effective at any grade level and in any content. Keep on sharing ideas with each other and trying new things:) It is truly a great year to be a Musketeer!

- Sherry Horsley

