

Morning Meeting

Tip Sheet

Morning meeting benefits

Morning meeting is an opportunity to set your students up for a great school day. A successful morning meeting will build classroom community, support students' understanding of place and time, get students' brains and bodies warmed up and ready to go, and prepare students for the day ahead.

Structure morning meeting for success

- A morning meeting REEL is available to lead the group digitally. The REEL includes a mini-schedule, greeting and emotion check-in opportunities, calendar/weather activities, and group discussion prompts. Review the print and digital morning meeting activities. Determine whether to use the print or digital versions of each activity.
- If using the digital version of morning meeting, consider printing the leveled calendars for students to complete while following along with the REEL.
- If using the print version only, use the morning meeting mini-schedule throughout morning meeting. Change the order of morning meeting activities on the schedule by laminating the schedule, cutting out the activity boxes, and then arranging on a laminated piece of paper in the preferred order using hook and loop fastener.
- Have movable calendar and weather icons to engage students and allow them to answer questions regarding the calendar and weather.
- Display information visually throughout morning meeting.
- Limit the visuals in front of students by displaying only the visuals necessary for the current activity. Use posters and flip charts to hide unneeded visuals, or cover up specific information with paper.



Example of a morning meeting mini-schedule

Morning meeting tips

- Be consistent and have a clear beginning and end to morning meeting.
- Before ending morning meeting, review the day's schedule and mention any special events that might be happening such as a field trip or assembly.
- Use the morning meeting rules poster to help students attend to and understand morning meeting expectations.
- Use group or individual reinforcement when needed to help students engage in morning meeting activities for longer periods of time.
- Use the Small Group Observed Routine Assessment (ORA) to identify challenging steps and collect data for instructional decision-making.
- If needed, teach foundational skills a student needs to participate in morning meeting using Links lessons.

Individualize morning meeting activities for beginning learners

- Present information in short, simple phrases with visual representations.
- Have students participate through imitation, physical action, and decision-making when given visuals or tangible objects.
- Use consistent language such as "Do this," "Give me," and "Put in."
- For students having difficulty sitting at morning meeting for the entire time, have them join for the last few minutes. These students then complete the routine successfully with peers. Over time, increase the amount of time these students participate in morning meeting.

Suggested morning meeting activities

- Greeting
- Emotion check-in
- Calendar
- Group discussion
- Morning meeting rules chart