

# 5 Tips To Build **AMAZING CLASSROOM CULTURE**

In Any Math Classroom

*A quick reference guide*



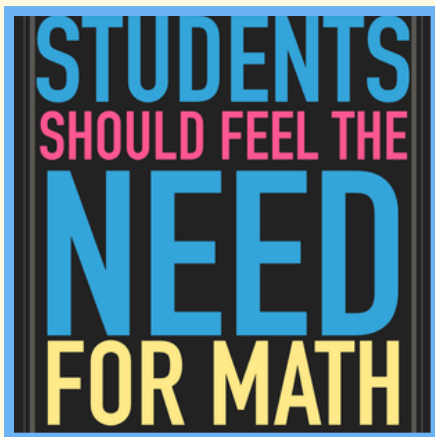
## **DAILY WARM UPS**

Take 10 minutes everyday and choose a resource from the Start A Math Fight resource (<http://mrorr-isageek.com/start-a-math-fight/>). Have your students work in pairs or groups of three to complete each "fight". They will learn that you value their voice and ideas when answers math problems.

## **BUILD CURIOSITY INTO YOUR LESSONS**

Let's make math class a classroom students look forward to coming to instead of dreading. Ask your students to notice and wonder about pieces of a math problem before you reveal the entire problem. Let's withhold information to drive and spark their curiosity. Routinely use lessons from these resources:

- [Tapintoteenminds.com](http://Tapintoteenminds.com)
- [101qs.com](http://101qs.com)
- [robertkaplinsky.com](http://robertkaplinsky.com)
- [gfletchy.com](http://gfletchy.com)



## TEACH RESILIENCE & DETERMINATION EVERYDAY!



Let's change our mindset and our students. Let's consistently allow students opportunity to solve problems before we show them strategies. By allowing them to struggle productively they will become more resilient problem solvers. By showing confidence in their resilience will change your classroom culture!

## USE WHITEBOARDS AND RANDOM GROUPING EVERYDAY.

By making random groups and using whiteboards (vertical or not) everyday you are showing students you value discussion, teamwork, showing thinking. TIP: Use Open Middle tasks or Open Questioning to get your students thinking into the open easier! Visit <http://www.openmiddle.com/>



## KEEP THE STREAK ALIVE

Make a schedule and stick to it. Don't break the chain. For example, Jerry Seinfeld said that he writes everyday. Not just when he feels inspired or ready to write. He writes everyday. And he focuses on marking each day off on the calendar. A big X right through the day. As he built up X's he didn't think of his goal of writing every day anymore, he just thought, "I can't break the chain" Breaking the chain meant that he would have to start all over again. Breaking the streak is a more powerful motivator than just "I have to write". So let's choose consistency over intensity --- "Don't Break The Chain".

TIP: Print out the "Don't Break The Chain Recording Sheet" to help stay focused and make consistency a priority. Each day check off the elements you've included in your lessons...and then just don't break the chain.



# Don't Break The Chain

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week ____ Class _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm up <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle <input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboards	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm up <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle <input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboards	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm up <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle <input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboards	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm up <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle <input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboards	<input type="checkbox"/> Warm up <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle <input type="checkbox"/> Whiteboards
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