

## Creating Guidelines for Our Group

**Description:** Make guidelines for your club so that there won't be problems and there won't be bullying or disrespectful behavior.

**Purpose:** It's to create a friendly environment and to prevent bullying.

**Time:** 20-30 minutes

**Age/Grade Level:** 5k and up

**Suggestions:** Could do it at the December meeting so that everyone can get comfortable with everyone early in the year.

**Materials:**

- Poster board
- Different colored markers
- Tape

**What to do:**

1. Have them define safe, fair, and the environment. Ask them if anyone know what affirming means. If they don't, then explain what it means. (Affirming means giving someone encouragement.)
2. On the one side of the poster board, write safe, fair, and affirming on the top.
3. On the back side of the poster board, write group guidelines on it and ask the group what they want us to be a safe, fair environment. Use the words at the top of the poster to inspire guidelines as a start. For example, "Keeping hands to yourself" for safe; "Giving each person a turn to answer" (fair) and "Telling others that they did a good job when they do good work" (affirming). Make sure to call on everyone instead of having the same person doing all the work and to get everyone feeling comfortable with the group and the place.
4. Explain to them that they will have the guidelines up somewhere at a few meetings to see if they are upholding their rules that they created.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Why should we have guidelines?
2. If you could do this activity again, what would you do differently? Why?

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**Sources:** Be SAFE: Safe, Affirming & Fair Environments book