

☀ Values

- Enthusiasm
- Dedication
- Teamwork
- Creative Learning
- Social Emotional Learning

☀ Reflection Questions

Would you like to be in a KIPP school? Why do you think KIPP students enjoy it?

If you were a teacher, what would you do to make learning more fun and inspiring?

Do you know people who are extraordinarily committed to their students?

Do you think, “knowledge is power”? Why or why not?

How would you like to make your mark in the world? What can you do today to start?

☀ Lessons Learned

Learning can be fun.

When we work together, we can reach our highest goals.

When we practice building self-esteem and creating self-sufficiency, we can succeed.

Sometimes it is difficult to attain a goal, but it's worth the effort.

Mike Feinberg and Dave Levin got their start in education with Teach for America, in a tough inner-city school in Houston. Then, when they founded Knowledge is Power (KIPP) Academy, they made their own mark in Houston and in the Bronx. They do whatever it takes to get these kids to college -- helping them with homework, waking them up for school, or just lending an ear. Their extraordinary commitment to their students, their belief in their capabilities and their enthusiasm for learning are contagious. Boasting an enviable 99% attendance rate, their students are beating the odds and succeeding. “We are a team and a family,” they explain. “We’re climbing the mountain together.”

☀ Language Arts: SEL & Diversity

Create an inspirational wall in your classroom with university banners, posters etc. Invite students to develop their own rap songs to better learn an educational lesson. Ask students to develop a list of ways to prove the statement: knowledge is power. Have students brainstorm a list of slogans that will inspire kids to be good learners.

☀ Social Studies: Diversity

What is the *Miranda v. Arizona* decision? Why is it especially important for minorities? Invite a judge or lawyer to speak to your class. Have students prepare questions to ask. Take a class trip to your county courthouse. Read *The Right to Privacy* (pages 36-49.) Have students write reaction papers about student's right to privacy vs. the rights of school administrators and law enforcement. Research historic monuments in your state and study their significance.

☀ Community Service: Service Learning

Organize a field trip for students to visit historic monuments in your state. Invite Teach for America teachers to speak to students about their experience. Organize a “students teaching students” after-school program and for younger students who are having trouble reading. Work towards the goal of having the student graduate.