



Morning Meeting Greetings

2, 4, 6, 8.....	31
_____ Is Here.....	13

A Little Known Fact Greeting.....	33
Action Name Game/greeting.....	32
Adjective Greeting.....	20
African Greeting.....	18
Alphabetical Greeting.....	5
Around the World.....	18
Backwards Name Greeting.....	19
Ball Toss Greeting.....	18
Ball Toss Variations for Middle and Upper Grades.....	24
Baseball Greeting.....	31
Bean Bag Toss.....	32
Book Character Greeting.....	6
Brown Bear Greeting.....	5
Butter Turn.....	34
Butterfly Greeting.....	31
Butterfly Greetings.....	6
Candy Greeting.....	24
Cheer Greeting.....	12
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom.....	33
Chugga Chugga.....	7
Compliment Greeting.....	6
Cow Greeting.....	30
Crazy Walk Greeting.....	30
Cross-Circle Greeting.....	19
Different Languages for Greeting.....	15
Elbow Rock.....	9
Electricity.....	29
Floppy Fish Greeting.....	30
Formal Greeting.....	6
Friday Greeting.....	29
Frog Greeting.....	26
Funny Voices.....	28
Give a Cheer!.....	9
Good Morning, Friends.....	7
"Good Morning" Greeting.....	10
"Good Morning" Greeting Using Props.....	11
Hammer, Saw & Screwdriver.....	34
Hand Stack Greeting.....	29
Hello.....	12
Hello Hello.....	8

Hello Neighbor.....	22
Here We Are Together.....	23
Hickety-Pickety Bumble Bee.....	8
Hidey, Hidey, Hidey, Ho.....	25
Hug Greeting.....	11
I See You.....	34
Lumberjack Greeting.....	28
Marble Greeting.....	9
Morning Wake-Up Song.....	22
My Name is _____.....	21
My Name is _____ and Favorite Food.....	35
Name Card Greeting.....	14
Number Greeting.....	15
One-Minute Greeting.....	10
One, Two, Three, Four.....	11
On the List.....	14
On the Phone.....	13
Pantomime Greeting.....	16
Price Is Right.....	34
Quickie Righty/Lefty.....	14
Rhythm Greeting.....	27
Rig-A-Jig-Jig.....	23
Roll Call.....	17
Round the Circle Hello.....	26
Silent Greetings.....	17
Skip Greeting.....	21
Snowball Greeting.....	16
Spider Web Greeting.....	19
Ta Da! Greeting.....	26
Talking Jewels.....	33
Tanzania Handshake.....	28
Teacher Greets.....	35
Teacher Names Students.....	34
Welcome to Circle.....	35
Where Is _____?.....	20
Wishes.....	28

Greetings taken from: http://www.originsonline.org/res_classroom.php

Morning Meeting Greetings

The grid on the following pages lists all the greetings that are in this appendix and indicates any special considerations, such as best time of year or most appropriate

age group. The categories are:

BY *Beginning of the year.* These are greetings that are easy to teach and to do. Included are greetings that help children learn each others' names. These greetings can all be done later in the year as well.

LY *Later in the year.* These are greetings that take more instruction and practice in order to be done well. They work best a few months into the school year, once a sense of community and trust has been established.

Chant *Song, Chant, or call and response.* Some of these greetings are set to familiar tunes, as indicated in the description. Others might have tunes that you're familiar with from attending Responsive Classroom workshops. If you don't know a tune for a particular song, simply chant the words or make up a tune.

ESL *English as a Second Language (ESL).* These greetings are particularly useful with second language learners. All of them provide safe ways for second language learners to meet their classmates and begin learning American customs; some also help build vocabulary and English fluency.

Y *Younger.* These greetings are most appropriate for use with grades K-3, although many of them can also be used with older students.

O *Older.* These greetings are most appropriate for use with grades 4-8, although some of them can be adapted for use with younger children.

AC *Academic.* These greetings can be used to reinforce academic content and skills.

Greetings taken from: http://www.originsonline.org/res_classroom.php

Alphabetical Greeting: LY, Y, O, AC

In this greeting, students say "Good morning" to each other in alphabetical

order, being sure to use each other's first name. If students are just learning to alphabetize, it's best if you begin by greeting students whose names comes first in the alphabet (or asking the students who should go first). With students who are more experienced with alphabetizing, you can begin anywhere in the circle. For example, if Lindsey is the first greeter, she greets Mark, who then looks for the person whose name would be next in alphabetical order. But when it gets to Will, he might find that he needs to go back to the beginning of the alphabet and greet Annie. This greeting can take a while to complete.

Brown Bear Greeting: BY, CHANT, ESL, Y

The student who begins the greeting turns to her/his neighbor, and the two students look at each other and smile while the group chants:

(First student's name), (first student's name), what do you see?

The first student then answers:

I see (second student's name) looking (or smiling) at me. Good morning!

The second student then turns to the next person and the chant repeats with new names.

After all students have been greeted individually, the whole group says:

Everyone, everyone, what do you see?

I see children looking (or smiling) at me.

Butterfly Greetings: BY, Y, O

There are two versions of this simple greeting:

- Sit-down butterfly - While saying good morning, two children sitting next to one another hook their thumbs together and wave their fingers in the sign language sign for butterfly. This greeting then goes around the circle.
- Stand-up butterfly - This is the same greeting except that students stand up and walk to greet someone across the circle.

Compliment Greeting: LY, Y, O

Each child greets another child and gives them a compliment. Be sure to model how to give a compliment and set the expectations that reflect what children do, not what they wear or how they look.

Good Morning, Friends: LY, CHANT, ESL, Y, O

The following chant is a good way to begin the Greeting portion of Morning Meeting but should not stand alone as the only greeting. After the class completes the chant, they can pass around the room a simple greeting that uses each student's name.

Good morning, friends.
Two words so nice to say.
So clap your hands,
And stamp your feet,
And let's start together this way.

Elbow Rock: LY, O

Created by a group of fifth graders, this is a variation of a simple handshake greeting. This greeting goes around the circle with each student saying good morning to the next, but instead of shaking hands; the students lock elbows and shake arms. This can be trickier than it sounds, as students will often have difficulty deciding which elbow to offer and which elbow to aim for.

Marble Greeting: LY, ESL, Y, O

This is a quick greeting. Each student has three marbles (or other small objects). When the teacher says, "Go," students mingle, greeting each other by saying "Good morning, _____." Every third person that a student greets gets a marble. When a student has given away all three original marbles, she/he sits down.

Hello: By, CHANT, ESL, Y

As students chant or sing the following, they pass a handshake (or pinkie shake or high five, etc.) around the circle:

Hello, hello, hello, and how are you?
I'm fine, I'm fine, and I hope that you are, too.

Different Languages for Greeting: BY, ESL, O, AC

Some options:

- Bonjour (French)
- Buon giorno (Italian)
- Shalom (Hebrew)
- Buenas dias (Spanish)
- Ohaiyo (Japanese)
- Gutten morgan (German)
- Jen dobre (Polish)
- Jambo (Swahili)
- Kale mera (Greek)
- Sign language
- Asalam alakum (Arabic)
- Zao an (Chinese)

Ball Toss Greeting: BY, ESL, Y, O

Each child greets another child, then gently throws, rolls, or bounces a ball to that child, who returns the greeting (but not the ball). She/he then chooses a new child to greet and to pass the ball to. The greeting continues in this way until each child has been greeted once. The greeting ends when the ball returns to the starter. If you're using a soft, small ball, throwing underhand works best. With a large, bouncy ball, rolling or bouncing the ball works best.

Around the World: LY, ESL, O, AC

You'll need an inflatable globe for this greeting. Students should have knowledge of continents and countries around the world. Each child will be sending greetings

from some country or continent on the globe, so before the greeting begins, decide with the students how they'll select a country/continent. For example, they might say that wherever a child's right thumb lands when she/he catches the globe will be the country that child names. Or they might decide that each child chooses a place to name.

The child who begins the greetings says "Good morning, (receiver's name)" to another student in the circle, then rolls or tosses the globe to that student. The student who receives the globe responds by saying "Greetings, (Sender's name), from (continent/country)."

Cross-Circle Greeting: BY, ESL, Y, O

Children greet someone sitting across the circle from them. There can be many variations on this, such as cross-circle boy/girl greeting, cross-circle someone-you-haven't-spoken-to-yet-this-morning greeting, etc.

Adjective Greeting: LY, Y, O, AC

This greeting is appropriate to use with children who have studied adjectives and understand their use. To start the greeting, each student chooses an adjective that begins with the same sound as his/her first name and then introduces him/herself to the group by saying, "Hello, my name is (adjective) (first name)."

For example, "Hello, my name is Jazzy Janet!"

To make the greeting go more smoothly, you'll need to do some planning. Make a list of the initial letters or sounds of each student's first name. Then write down several adjectives that also begin with each of those letters or sounds. Bring this list with you to the Morning Meeting circle.

Before starting the greeting, take a few minutes to brainstorm with the children a long list of adjectives that you write on the board or chart. Guide students toward positive words. Add adjectives from your list as needed to ensure that there are several adjectives that begin with the initial letter or sound of each student's name.

Skip Greeting: LY, O, AC

In this greeting, the child who begins announces the number of spaces that will

be skipped. For example, the child says, "Skip four" and then walks to the fifth person in the circle and greets him/her. The greeter then takes that person's place and the student who was greeted walks to the fifth person down, greets, and switches places, and so on until everyone has been greeted. The greeting will flow around the circle several times. Before the greeting begins, work with the class to figure out how many spaces to skip based on the number of people in the circle that day. The challenge is to make sure that everyone gets greeted. ****Don't skip by a multiple of the number of students****

Hello Neighbor: LY, CHANT, Y

Students form an inner and an outer circle. The inside circle faces the outer circle. Students who are facing each other are now partners who greet each other with the following chant. The inside circle then moves one person to the right so that everyone has a new partner and repeats the chant. This continues until everyone is back in her/his original place.

Hello, neighbor, what d'ya say? (Wave to your partner)

It's gonna be a wonderful day. (Arms circle over head and then move down to the sides.)

Clap your hands and boogie on down. (Clap hands and wiggle down.)

Give me a bump and turn around. (Gently bump hips.)

Ball Toss Variations for Middle and Upper Grades: BY, ESL, Y, O

Here are some variations that make the Ball Toss Greeting more challenging and more effective for building cooperation among older children.

- Pass the greeting ball around the circle as explained above. Now the ball goes around one more time silently (with no greeting or talking), repeating the pattern it just made. Children will enjoy doing it several times this way and competing against the clock.
- Pass the greeting ball as explained above. Then repeat, passing the ball silently in the same pattern. As the ball goes around, add one or two more balls at even intervals so that there are several balls going around in the original greeting pattern. Challenge the children to see if they can do it three times without dropping the ball or skipping anyone. You can also add the element of competition against the clock.
- Once the greeting ball has gone around the first time, have the children "undo the greeting pattern" by sending the ball back to the person who greeted them. This can be done with a greeting attached or silently. When the children get very good at remembering who greeted them, try ending your Morning Meeting with a ball toss in the reverse greeting pattern as students wish each other "Have a good day!" or whatever encouraging words the children decide they want to say that day.

Hidey, Hidey, Hidey, Ho: LY, CHANT, O

Wishes:

As a closing everyone whispers a wish into his or her hand. Once everyone has whispered, count to three and release them together. This is a fun way to finish off the week.

Variations/Extensions: This activity could also be used for a sharing by having each student in the circle share their wish.

Electricity:

Everyone holds hands in a circle. The first player passes a squeeze to his neighbor. The neighbor then passes the squeeze to her neighbor. The squeeze continues around the circle until everyone has been greeted. The goal is to make the squeeze go quickly around the circle.

Butterfly Greeting:

This is a fun greeting to do with students. You begin this greeting by turning to your neighbor and holding up your right hand with your palm facing him. Then your neighbor puts up her right hand in the same fashion. The two of you lock thumbs, so that you form butterfly wings with your hands. When this is done, both of you wiggle your thumbs and greet each other "Good Morning or Good Afternoon". Continue this around the circle until everyone has been greeted in the butterfly wave. Be sure to remind students about what makes a friendly greeting: eye contact, face your neighbor, smile, clear voice, genuine, etc.

A Little Known Fact Greeting:

Have students think of a fact about themselves which many people may not know.

Students introduce themselves. "Good morning. My name is _____ and a little known fact about me is _____."

The group responds "Good morning, (name)."

Continue around the circle until everyone has been greeted.

Plan for Success: If students need help getting ideas for their responses, brainstorm categories such as favorite hobbies, things they are good at, family traditions, etc.

Variations/Extensions: Ask students to raise their hands if they learned something new about their classmates. You could also have students talk about why it is important to learn about one another.

