

Games

# Newsball

Grades 3 - 12

Making Caring Common

**Caring Schools Network 2021 - 2022**

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# Overview

The following game can be used regularly with students to build a foundation for the practice and habit of empathy and active listening, while building classroom community. Teachers might choose to use it at the beginning or end of class once a week.

## Recommended time

- Once a week
- You can choose to do the same game repeatedly or use different games each time

## Materials and advance prep

- A ball or anything that can be passed around the room

## Game Type

- Interpersonal Activities

## Works well with

- Everyday Gratitude, Everyday Caring, Humans of Your School, Listening Deeply

## Description

Instruct students to stand or sit in a circle facing in.

Explain to students the following directions: One student will start by holding the newsball (a ball or any item that can be thrown around the circle). When you have the ball, think about a piece of news that you'd like to share with the group. Your news can be anything you'd like, such as something that has made you happy or excited, nervous, sad or angry, or anything new.

Before you share your news, also think about how you'd like others to receive or respond to your news. For example, you may want the group to clap, give you a high-five, a thumbs-up, or an air-hug after you share your news.

When you have the ball, first share how you'd like the group to respond to your news, and then share your news. Once you share your news and the group responds, pass the newsball to someone else in the group who has not shared.

Each student will have the chance to participate or pass.

*Adapted from: Playworks [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8PHtx3z2-A>]*