



# Oh, What a Beautiful Morning Meeting!

Presented by:

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## *What is Morning Meeting?*

Morning Meeting is a way to begin the school day. It helps build classroom community by teaching a variety of academic and social and emotional skills. It helps set the tone for the day and creates a daily routine that provides security and comfort for the students. Morning meeting is the place where children and the teacher can share news about what's going on at home, in our world, and at school. It's a place to feel safe, loved, and important.

## The Morning Meeting Routine

### Dear Smarties...

Greet your students daily with a morning message! Write a message on the board or on chart paper to greet and instruct the class. Students come in, unpack, and immediately go to read the board. Use your message to teach not just give directions!

The message should encourage students to:

- ☆ Begin thinking about what they will learn today
- ☆ "Share the pen" by writing a response to a question
- ☆ Respond to a daily graphing question
- ☆ Interact with peers
- ☆ Begin morning work independently



### Everybody Have a Seat

Choose a signal to let students know when it is time to gather for morning meeting. Consider using a special song. Let the children know that by the time the song is done everyone should be sitting in the circle ready to begin.

Review Morning Meeting Procedures Model, model, model!!!

1. Pretzel Feet and listening hands
2. Eyes on speaker
3. Ears listening
4. Raise your hand if you have something to share.

Try singing a quiet song like this one:

*Eyes are watching, Ears are listening  
Body quiet, you should really try it  
Listening well, listening well.*

Start the meeting with song!

*Good Morning  
Good morning, good morning!  
It's time to start our day!  
I said good morning, good morning to you! One more time!  
(Repeat)*




## Rise and Shine


*Rise and shine and sing out this morning, morning  
Stretch up now and sing out this morning, morning  
Proud and tall now (clap) sing out this morning, morning  
Happy to be here! (Mailbox Songs)*

## Greet Your Neighbor

Greeting each other promotes class unity and teaches children how to greet adults and friends with confidence. Visit [www.drjean.org](http://www.drjean.org) to download a list of handshakes. Here are some handshakes my students created:

 Lollipop Handshake: One person holds up his index finger. The other person clasps her hand around the index finger to make a ball shape and greets the friend with a “slurp, slurp” sound. (As if he or she was licking the lollipop!)

 Pinky Shake: Link pinky fingers and shake!

 Bunny Hop Greeting: Pretend to be a bunny and hop up and down twice to greet your partner.

### Whole Group Greetings:

#### Hickety Pickety Bumblebee

*Hickety, pickety, bumblebee, won't you say your name for me?*

*Let's whisper it,*

*Let's clap it.*

*Let's cheer it.*

*Let's wiggle it.*



*\*Continue repeating the chant until all students have had a chance.  
I pass a bumblebee puppet around the circle during this activity.*

#### Willaby Wallby Woo

*Willaby, wallaby woo, an elephant sat on you,*

*Willaby, wallaby we, an elephant sat on me.*

*Willaby, wallaby Warah, an elephant sat on Sarah*

*Willaby, wallaby Wohn, an elephant sat on John.*

*\*Continue the song until all students have had a chance. I use a puppet for this activity. He loves to “learn” the students' names this way.*

#### Hello Neighbor

*Hello neighbor (Face partner and wave.)*

*What do you say? (Give a high five.)*

*We're going to have a happy day. (Snap fingers, pat legs, clap partner's hands.)*

*Greet your neighbor. (Shake hands.)*

*Boogie on down. (Wiggle hips while moving down to the floor.)*

*Give 'em a bump and turn around. (Bump hips and turn around)*



## Share and Care

Provide opportunities for students to share what is going on at home, around the world, and at school. Ways to Share and Care:

- ☆ **Daily News:** Call on a few students to share! Have a couple students draw and illustrate their daily news and post it on the calendar board.
- ☆ **Traveling Bags:** Students share journal entries from the Tooth Bag, Sunshine Bag, Celebration Bag, Birthday Bag, Science Bag, Traveling Mascot, etc.
- ☆ **Sharing Circle:** Students share a word or sentence about weekend activities, holidays, or topics of study
- ☆ **Daily Events:** Review daily schedule. Talk about special school events.

## All Together Now

Promote class unity and show children that learning can be fun!

- ☆ **Wiggle Time:** Engage children in silly songs that encourage movement. Do daily exercises while counting.
- ☆ **Poetry Corner:** Share seasonal or theme related poems. Encourage students to choral or echo read as a group.

## Calendar Time

A daily calendar routine offers instructional opportunities in math, science, social studies, and reading. Empower students by using classroom jobs that teach various parts of your calendar routine.

### Classroom Jobs:

<p><b>Line Leader:</b> Leads line. Sets an example for others.</p> <p><b>Calendar Helper:</b> Changes the date and days of the week. Keeps track of how many days we have been in school.</p> <p><b>Weather Watcher:</b> Reports daily weather and graphs it.</p> <p><b>Pledge Leader:</b> Leads the class in daily pledges.</p> <p><b>Greeter:</b> Chooses a handshake to start our morning meeting with. Selects a de-stress exercise.</p> <p><b>Encourager:</b> Finds students who display acts of kindness throughout the week.</p> <p><b>Gifted Grapher:</b> Helps with daily graph. Compiles daily graph info to a paper or computer graph, takes class surveys.</p>	<p><b>Materials Manager:</b> Passes out papers and supplies.</p> <p><b>Pet Helper:</b> Feeds and cares for our class pet.</p> <p><b>Librarian:</b> Takes care of classroom library</p> <p><b>Trash Monitor:</b> Helps keep our room neat and clean.</p> <p><b>Snack Helper:</b> Passes out hand sanitizer and helps with snack.</p> <p><b>Song/Prayer Leader:</b> Leads the class in prayers and worship songs.</p> <p><b>Chair Monitor:</b> Makes sure chairs are pushed in and stacked at the end of the day.</p> <p><b>Table Washers/Lunch Helpers:</b> Cleans tables at lunch. Makes sure trash is picked up.</p>	<p><b>Door Holder:</b> Holds door for the class.</p> <p><b>Caboose:</b> Makes sure the end of the line is straight. Sets an example for others.</p> <p><b>Light Monitor:</b> Turns lights on and off as needed.</p> <p><b>Computer Technician:</b> Helps with computer problems, such as logging in.</p> <p><b>Audio Technician:</b> Helps with walkmans at center time and the classroom stereo. Could also manage lights and assist with the overhead projector.</p> <p><b>Time Keeper:</b> Dictates something for our daily timeline at the end of the day. Tells time on our calendar clock.</p> <p><b>Center Cleaners:</b> Cleans and straightens classroom centers.</p>
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## Calendar Wall:

Monthly Calendar	Add calendar piece. Say the date. Talk about pattern of calendar pieces. Ask calendar questions such as: How many days are in this month? What date is the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday?
Days of the Week	Flip over to show the days for yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Sing a days of the week song.
Yearly Place Value	Add a popsicle stick to show how many days we have been in school. On the 10 <sup>th</sup> day bundle the sticks and move them to the tens pocket. On the 100 <sup>th</sup> day, bundle the bundles of 10 and move them to the hundreds pocket.
Hundred's Pocket Chart	Add numeral to show how many days we have been in school. Add coins to pocket and talk about different ways to make a coin combination that matches that number.
Weather Wheel and Graph Daily Thermometer	Adjust the wheel to show the daily weather. Graph the weather conditions. Adjust thermometer to show daily temperature.
Daily Piggy Bank	Use the number of today's date. Use coins to show the same number. Example: March 12 How can we show 12 cents in our piggy bank? 1 dime and 2 pennies Do the same with dollar bills. 1 ten dollar bill and 2 dollars
What time is it?	Put a time on a digital and analog clock.
Where do we live?	Use a map to show the 7 continents. Review them by saying a poem. Ask students to name the continent, country, state, and city we live in. Share and learn state facts and songs.
Who is our president?	Post a picture of the president and the white house.
Months of the Year	Post months of the year. Chant them. Ask students to name the 4 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> month etc. Name months that have 30 days, 31 days. Talk about how many days are in a year and a leap year.
Code Date	Write the date in code form. Month/Date/Year
Time Line	Have students dictate something they learned or enjoyed doing. Write it on a die-cut and staple it on the wall to record the events of the year.
Daily Attendance	Have a helper count the boys and then the girls. Show this information on the board. Write a number sentence to show how many students are present.
Daily Schedule	Post near the calendar board and review during morning meeting.
Job Board	Post near calendar board. Rotate jobs on a weekly basis.
Monthly Birthdays	Post birthdays for the month near the months of the year.
Countdown Chart	Use the countdown chart to countdown to birthdays and special events.
Tooth Graph	Graph missing teeth.
Estimation Jar	Laminate a jar shape. Allow students to write estimates on a post it note and post it on the board.
Lunch Menu	Post a daily lunch count chart and the menu for students to read.

## 🍎 Calendar Binders 🍎

Use calendar binders to reinforce and assess student learning of calendar and math concepts. Each day students will add a number for how many days we have been in school, add the date, graph the weather, and count how many days we have been in school.

Materials needed:

- 1" binder or 3 prong folder
- Baseball card holder per student
- 2 sets of number cards numbered 0-9 and an extra 1, hundreds, tens, and ones cards
- Stickers
- Monthly Calendars
- Monthly Weather Graphs
- Hundreds' Chart
- Tooth and Birthday Graphs
- Seasonal Songs or Poems



by Mrs. McDowell 2006



## Resources

Want more information on today's presentation? Visit my website: [www.mrmcdowell.com](http://www.mrmcdowell.com)  
Click on the "Morning Meeting" link to find links to websites and to purchase books.

### Websites:

The Responsive Classroom [www.responsiveclassroom.org](http://www.responsiveclassroom.org)

Dr. Jean Feldman [www.drjean.org](http://www.drjean.org)

Teaching Heart <http://www.teachingheart.net/calendar/time.html>

Mrs. Meacham's Classroom Snapshots: <http://www.jmeacham.com/calendar.htm#binder>

### Books:

The Morning Meeting Book by Roxann Kriete Read excerpts from The Morning Meeting Book at:

<https://www.stenhouse.com/pdfs/8909intr.pdf>

<https://www.stenhouse.com/pdfs/8909over.pdf>

The Calendar and Beyond Creative Teaching Press

99 Activities and Greetings by Melissa Correa-Connolly

### CD's:

Red Grammar: [www.redgrammar.com](http://www.redgrammar.com)

*Red Grammar's Favorite Sing Along Songs*

*Down the Do Re Mi*

Dr. Jean Feldman: [www.drjean.org](http://www.drjean.org)

*Kiss Your Brain*

*Is Everybody Happy*

Donna Whyte: <http://www.thesmartiezone.com/index.html>

*Sing Yourself Smart*