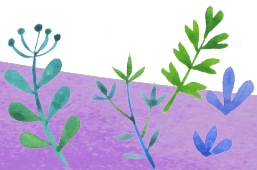




Learning student names

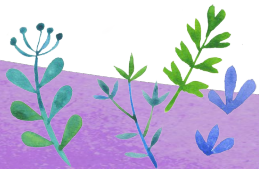
Warm-up

What is the story behind your name or someone's name in your family?



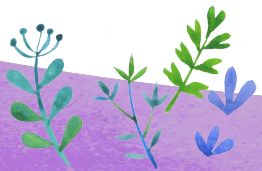
Getting students' names right matters because it:

- Shows respect
- Establishes a positive relationships with families
- Creates a welcoming classroom culture



Discussion questions

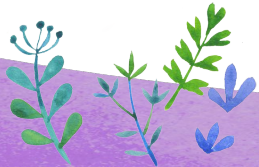
- Is your name regularly mispronounced? If so, what is that experience like?
- What do you think the impact of mispronouncing a student's name might be?





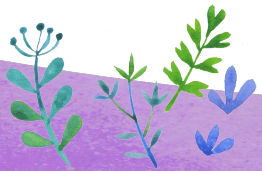
It also matters because:

- Misspelling names can impact student services, create discrepancies in student records.
- Ensure students' names are written correctly in all databases and records systems.



Discussion questions

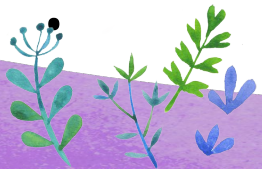
What impacts would a misspelled name have in your school setting?





Learn how to say students' names.

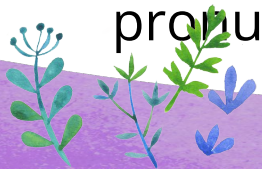
- Listen carefully and repeat it until you get it right.
- Ask students to record their names.
- Model the correct pronunciation to the class.
- Use students' names when greeting them daily.





Consider the impact of mispronouncing or shortening names.

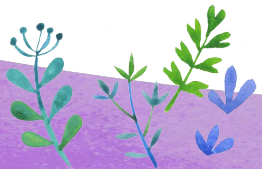
- Ask students if they'd like to share examples of how people mispronounce their name and how they feel about it.
- Refrain from using a nickname or "easier" pronunciation.





Teach students how to appropriately correct mispronunciations.

- Share ideas with students on what they can do when someone mispronounces their name.
- Share sentence frames for phrases they can use.





Learn about naming conventions in your students' cultures and languages.

- Naming conventions may be different than in the U.S.
- Parents may spell names differently, like Estefany. Use families' spellings.

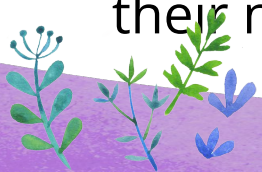




Try some activities that celebrate students' names.

Ask students to share:

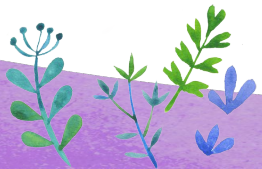
- the meaning or story of their name
- an acrostic poem of their name
- an artistic presentation of their name





Use children's books about names

- Share books from our booklists on names for [children](#) and [young adults](#).
- Talk about similar themes and experiences that come up in the books.



Discussion questions

What are some things you can do to create a positive classroom culture around students' names?

