



Become a Certified Kind Classroom!

R. J. Palacio's *Wonder* has spread kindness in classrooms and communities across the country and inspired the Choose Kind anti-bullying initiative. The **Certified Kind Classroom Challenge** is a new way to instill the spirit of *Wonder* into your classroom by promoting, recognizing, and celebrating acts of kindness among peers throughout the school year.



Here is how your classroom can become **Certified Kind:**

1. Label an incentive jar with an official Certified Kind label.
2. Challenge students to do kind deeds in order to fill up the jar with marbles (1 kind deed = 1 marble).
3. Post pictures and anecdotes about your classroom's progress on social media using the hashtag #choosekind. Please make sure that any people in your pictures are 18 or older.
4. When the jar is full, take a photograph and email it to certifiedkind@penguinrandomhouse.com along with your name, grade taught, school name, and mailing address. Post the photograph on social media using the hashtag #choosekind.
5. You will receive an email confirmation that your classroom is Certified Kind, as well as an official certificate of achievement. Your class will be listed on the Certified Kind Classroom Registry at choosekind.tumblr.com.



Illustrations © 2012 R.J. Palacio

The first 500 classrooms to be Certified Kind will receive an exclusive **choosekind** banner!

Of those 500 classrooms, a lucky five will be randomly selected to receive a personalized video message from *Wonder* author, R. J. Palacio, and will be treated with a pizza party to celebrate their achievement.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Enter between 12:00 PM on August 3, 2015 and 12:00 PM on December 31, 2015. Limit one entry per person. Open to legal US residents who are 18 or older at time of entry. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. See Official Rules at choosekind.tumblr.com for full details.



#choosekind

choosekind.tumblr.com



Best Practices

Make the *Wonder* Certified Kind Challenge Work for Your Classroom

When it comes to classroom management, only *you* know what works best for your students. Here are a few easily modifiable ideas for incorporating the Certified Kind Challenge into your classroom:

One-Size Jar Does Not Fit All

If you teach one group of students for the entire school day, we recommend using a larger Mason jar (or any similar-sized container) to capture the kindness in your classroom (a 800-mL jar = about 250 marbles). If you specialize in one subject and teach multiple groups of students, we recommend using smaller Mason jars and designating one jar per class (a 400-mL jar = about 100 marbles).

Wonder Blue Marbles, or Not

We love the visual appeal of using “*Wonder* Blue” marbles to fill up the incentive jar, but we know that teachers are some of the most resourceful people we know! If you don’t have marbles, here are some other suggestions: craft pom-pom balls, gum balls, or other marble-size candies, stones, or seashells.

Kind Visuals

To help promote acts of kindness in your classroom, we suggest setting up a visual aid. Whether it be a simple poster, a section of a whiteboard, or an entire bulletin board, here are some suggestions for your classroom visuals:

- Modify your own list of classroom expectations to include potential acts of kindness, such as returning a seat partner’s books for him or her.
- Facilitate a class-wide brainstorm of how to fill up your classroom incentive jar, and record ideas for the visual.
- Keep a running list of kind acts as they occur in your classroom, and continue to add to your visual as you fill up the incentive jar.

Kind-Deed Protocol

Establish a clear procedure for tracking kind deeds in your classroom. Here are some options to consider:

- Kind deeds can be reported at any time directly to the teacher.
- Kind deeds should be written down and submitted at the end of each day/class period.
- Appoint a student to be the “Kind-Deed Ambassador” as a classroom job, and have him/her be in charge of tracking kind deeds.
- Instruct students to keep a running list of all kind deeds, and set aside some class time once a week to do “shout-outs” and celebrate each week of kindness.

We’d love to see how your Certified Kind Classroom Challenge is progressing. Feel free to send along any classroom visuals, anecdotes, or best practices of your own to **certifiedkind@penguinrandomhouse.com**.