It's Cool to be Kind!

Time needed: 25 minutes **Recommended Level:** Grade 5-8

Categories: Diversity, Empowering, Tolerance

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Common Core Standard(s): Writing to convey information,

writing creatively, Speaking & Listening

Purpose: Students will understand what

makes up a positive school climate.

DISCUSSION:

Talk with students about cooperation and kindness.

- · What actions promote respect?
- What actions promote acceptance?
- What actions promote tolerance?
- Have you heard the term "random act of kindness?"
 What does it mean?
- · What does "school climate" mean?

ACTIVITY:

Working with a partner, students brainstorm to come up with a minimum of twenty words that promote a positive school climate. (They can come up with as many as they want.)

They then take these terms and put them into a "word cloud" using "Wordle." (www.wordle.net). If students do not have access to the internet, they can create their own word cloud by copying their words onto a blank sheet of paper, arranging them in an artistic way. Once they have created their word cloud, students should print them out for display.

Have students do a "learning walk" to compare the vocabulary on the other clouds. Discuss the terms used.

FOLLOW-UP:

- · Use the "Wordles" throughout the school to promote peace.
- Create a bulletin board within the room.

