



CHECKMATES



Checkmates is a simple whole class peer support routine that helps every student build independence, accuracy, and accountability in an inclusive way. It works for learners of ALL ages and can be adjusted for simple to complex routines or check ins.

WHAT?

Students are **paired** (or placed in trios when needed) as Checkmates who quickly **verify simple class tasks, organization, or responsibility**. It scaffolds before moving on independently. Start at the B.O.Y!

WHEN?

Great for **checking a variety of tasks** such as:

- Name and date
- Correct assignment/page
- Materials ready
- Correct crayon or marker ready
- Assignment submitted in class or online
- Citation format
- Lab safety equipment
- Group roles clarified
- Rubric criteria checked
- Folder organization
- Evidence highlighted
- Exit ticket completed

WHY?

- Builds responsibility and accountability for **every** student- not just those who traditionally receive peer support. fosters collaboration, and you can go from simple to more complex checkmate tasks.
- Creates an **inclusive** class culture while increasing independence, accuracy, encouraging collaboration and attention to detail.

HOW?

1. Teacher calls, "Checkmate!"
2. Partners complete the assigned check.
3. Both students confirm with a silent signal (freeze high-five, fist bump, thumbs up, or another agreed upon symbol.)
4. Teacher quickly scans for students who need support before moving on.



BIG IDEA

The goal isn't for one student to help another. The goal is for each student to be both the giver and receiver of support.

AI PROMPT

I'm teaching [grade/content]. Generate the ten most necessary simple peer check routines students could use during independent work, transitions, collaborative learning, and assignment submission. Include routines that build independence without singling out struggling learners.