

Welcome to K2K!

**BIG IDEA**

You belong here.

**LEADER GOAL**

Help every student feel welcomed, safe, and excited to be part of K2K. Introduce the world of **Shrek** and establish that K2K is a place where everyone belongs.

**BEFORE STUDENTS ARRIVE**

- Print or prepare the **Shrek** head activity.
- Have markers available.
- Know where students will place shoes, water bottles, and scripts.
- Be ready to introduce yourself first.

**WELCOME + CONNECT**

Help students learn names and begin feeling comfortable in the group.

**LEADER SAYS**

“Welcome to **K2K**!

My name is _____, and I’m so excited that you’re here today!

Some of you have been to K2K before, and some of you are here for the very first time. No matter what, we’re so glad you’re here.

Let’s get to know each other!”

**ACTIVITY | SHREK HEAD INTRODUCTIONS**

Students write their names around the Shrek head outline. As they share, other students and the Small Group Leader add words or drawings inside the head that represent them, including their family, where they live, and their interests.

★ **LEADER NOTE:** Share first.



LIVE SPARK

YOU BELONG HERE

GRAB

A welcome mat.

IDEA

A welcome mat can show someone where to come in, but people help someone feel like they belong.

SPARK

You belong here.

DO / SAY

[Hold up the welcome mat.]
 "Okay, quick question. Where does this belong?"
 [Let students answer: by the door.]
 "Right. By the door. Because it's a welcome mat. It basically says: 'Come in! You're welcome here!'"
 [Put the mat down. Look at it.]
 "But I have a problem. Can this mat actually welcome you?"
 [Pause for responses.]
 "Can it learn your name? Can it notice when you're standing by yourself? Can it move over and say, 'Hey! There's room beside me?'"
 [Shake your head.]
 "Nope. It's a terrible welcome mat."
 [Beat.]
 "Because a mat can show someone where to come in... but people help someone know they belong."
 [Look around the group.]
 "And today, some of you might already know exactly where to go and what to do. Some of you might be thinking... 'Where do I sit?' 'Who am I going to talk to?' 'Does everybody already know each other?' And maybe even... 'Do I fit here?'"
 [Step onto the welcome mat.]
 "So before you sing a song... before you learn a dance... before you audition... before you prove anything... there is something we want you to know."
 "YOU BELONG HERE."
 [Step off the mat and gesture toward the group.]
 "And this year, we're going to learn how to help the person beside us know: 'You belong here too.'"
 [Brief pause.]
 "Okay—let's start by getting to know who's here."

THEN Move directly into Welcome + Connect / Shrek Head Introductions.



STORY CONNECTION

WELCOME TO THE SWAMP!

LEADER SAYS

“This year we’re stepping into the world of Shrek!

Who here has seen Shrek before?”

(Allow responses.)

Shrek lives in a swamp, and at the beginning of the story, he likes to be alone. He thinks life is easier if nobody gets too close.

But as the story goes on, something begins to change. Shrek starts building friendships, learning to trust people, and discovering that he doesn’t have to do life alone.

Today is a little bit like the beginning of that story.

Some of us are excited to be here.

Some of us are a little nervous.

Some of us don’t know anyone yet.

That’s okay!

At K2K, we want everyone to know one thing:

YOU BELONG HERE.

This is a place where you can be yourself, make friends, learn new things, and have lots of fun. Whether this is your first year or you’ve been coming for a long time, we’re excited that you’re part of the K2K family.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What are you most excited about this year?

2

Is there anything you’re a little nervous about?

3

What helps you feel comfortable when you’re somewhere new?



K2K BASICS & EXPECTATIONS

At K2K...

- ✓ **You matter**, and we want to get to know you! The real and authentic you is important to us.
- ✓ **You can be yourself**. What matters most to us is who you are, not what you can do.

What we expect from you...

- ✓ Most importantly, treat one another the way you want to be treated.
- ✓ Encourage each other.
- ✓ Choose to be honest.
- ✓ Participate, play, and learn with cooperation and kindness. Be respectful.
- ✓ One person speaks at a time.



BOUNDARIES & CONSEQUENCES

- 1 If you are not able to treat others, the furniture, this building, or your leaders with respect, you will receive a warning.
- 2 If you are not able to speak kindly, take turns, or keep hands to yourself, you will receive a warning.
- 3 After two warnings, we will pause what we're doing to speak with the K2K Staff.
- 4 At that time, you will be given a choice to change the behaviour and / or contact family to decide next steps if involvement at K2K is a good fit for you & the rest of us.



FULL LIST OF EXPECTATIONS – K2K RULES OF CONDUCT [LINK](#)



THIS WEEK - YOUR CHALLENGE!

START READING YOUR SHREK SCRIPT.

As you read, think about these questions:



**Which character
stands out to you?**



**Is there someone
you relate to?**

BRING EACH WEEK:

- ☐ Script in a binder.
- ☐ Bring your script every week.
- ☐ Bring indoor/dance shoes.
- ☐ Bring a labelled water bottle.



CLOSING PRAYER

HOW TO INTRODUCE PRAYER

We like to end our small group time with a prayer to God. Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him just like talking and listening to your best friend. God hears us when we talk to Him. You may want to close your eyes, or sit with your eyes open, or hands out. It's your choice, whatever feels comfortable!

Dear God, thank you for bringing us together today. Some of us have come here feeling excited, and some of us have come feeling nervous or unsure.

Please help us all to feel welcome, seen and heard. Help us to be kind, patient, and understanding with one another.

Thank you for being with us as we try new things, and look to get comfortable at K2K. We are thankful that you have created each of us unique and special.

We are excited for the new season and to get to know you and each other better. Amen.