Teach the lesson.

Play “The Empathy Song.” Have students make three-step plans for teaching their partners the things they wanted to learn (from the Lesson 8 handout).

Have students play Common Ground with partners other than their Second Step partners.

Play “The Empathy Song.” Discuss ways students can use empathy to help them notice and understand others’ differences throughout the day.

Have students complete the Weekly Skill Check. Sample check-in statements:
• Having empathy helps me understand and accept how others are different from me.
• Accepting and appreciating people’s differences is respectful.
Common Ground

Preparation
Have students stand facing their partners, with space between them.

Steps
1. Read the question out loud.
2. Have students show a thumbs-up for yes or a thumbs-down for no.
3. Have partners who answer the same way step together and slap hands; have partners who answer differently squat down.
4. Increase the challenge as desired.

Questions
- Do you like playing tag?
- Do you like drinking orange juice?
- Do you like doing puzzles?
- Do you like listening to music?
- Do you like cleaning out your desk?

Increasing the Challenge
Attention (A), Working Memory (WM), and Inhibitory Control (IC)
- Introduce an opposites rule: If partners answer the same way, they squat; if they answer differently, they step to “common ground.” (A, WM, IC)
- Have students tally how many questions they answered the same way. (WM)
- Have pairs of students compare their tally with other pairs’ tallies. (WM)