A Pledge is a Promise

An important part of creating a Bucketfilling School or Classroom is making sure that everyone is committed to doing their best to be kind and respectful to all. A pledge is a verbal or written promise that we make to ourselves. It’s also a reminder of our commitment that turns our values, or what is important to us, into reality. A pledge gives us purpose and meaning. When achieved, it brings feelings of accomplishment and satisfaction.

Steps to the Bucket Fillers Pledge

1. After your students understand the meaning of being a bucket filler, ask them if they would like to join you in making the "Bucket Fillers Pledge." Because a pledge means the most when it is something we choose, it's good to let each person make the choice to take the pledge.

2. Invite them to raise their right hand if they would like to join your group of bucket fillers to take the Bucket Fillers Pledge. Then, ask them to place their right hand over their heart. Pledges are words from the heart.
3. Tell your class that you will lead them in the pledge and ask them to repeat the words, in sections, after you:

"I promise ... to do my best ... to be a bucket filler ... every day ... at home ... at school ... and everywhere I go."

4. As a wrap-up, you can also invite your students to sign a pledge banner and distribute a pledge bookmark to each person.

5. Repeat the pledge as often as you like. Many schools pledge daily, others weekly, often incorporating it into their school character development program.

Note: We recently added three new "pledge" products to our catalog of items: a bookmark, a poster, and a banner with space for signatures. You can purchase these products here or create your own school pledge products.

For even more ideas, be sure to check out our past Bucket Lessons on our website!