**Schoolwide Community Building Activities**

**ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS**

1. **Inclusion and Participation**
   - All parents, children, and school staff members are invited to participate freely in schoolwide activities, particularly those designed for families to enjoy together.
   - Invitations are warm, welcoming, and nonthreatening.
   - Activities are designed with attention to special language, cultural, economic, and child care needs of the participating families.

2. **Cooperative Environment**
   - Children and families are able to enjoy cooperative, noncompetitive activities that promote the value of learning together and helping others.
   - Everyone succeeds at learning; there are no losers.

3. **Emphasis on Helping Others and Taking Responsibility**
   - Children are given the opportunity to experience the value of helping others.
   - Everyone takes responsibility within and outside the community.

4. **Appreciation of Differences**
   - Parents, children, and school staff members feel that their social and cultural backgrounds are valued and respected within the school community.
   - Everyone is encouraged to share his or her cultural heritage and learn from them.

5. **Reflection**
   - Everyone is encouraged to reflect on what has been learned from the experience or working together.