Big Idea/ Topic
“Ask 3 Before Me”

Standard Alignment
Health Standard 4: Students will demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risks.

Instructional Design
Define Simply
Introduce students to “Ask 3 Before Me” by explaining that sometimes we all need support. Students will be taught to seek help from up to three peers before asking their teacher. This strategy is meant to be utilized on questions pertaining to their assigned work only and not on questions related to safety or on personal matters. The goal is to utilize this practice in situations when a teacher is wanting uninterrupted work time with a small group of students while the other students are expected to work independently or in other small groups. Students can learn problem-solving, communication, and collaboration skills using this strategy.

*Adaptation- For some classes if asking 3 is too challenging to maintain, we may need to scaffold this activity by starting with asking one friend.

Model/Demonstrate with Examples
Brainstorm with students a list of different scenarios in which they may need to ask for help (Ex: solving a math problem, reading, clarification on directions, reminder of what to do when my pencil breaks). Then, model for students by asking individuals to help you with different scenarios. For example, “Jamal, can you remind me what we are supposed to do when we are finished?”

Practice in All Relevant Settings
Practice using different scenarios during small group work time. For example, put some example questions in a bowl and have a random student pick a question to ask three peers. Make sure you specify what voice level to use when asking peers your question. After teaching and practicing, it may be helpful to prompt students with reminders before small group activities.

Monitor & Provide Positive Feedback and Reinforcement
Teachers can provide students with behavior specific praise when they ask three peers prior to asking the teacher. Praise should also be offered during practice time to help reinforce the routine. “Karla, thank you for asking Emily, Tonio, and Destiny for help when you got stuck. Great job!”

Based on Data, Adjust Instruction & Reteach
Teachers should monitor if students are not using this routine. If students forget, it may be time to reteach and increase praise to reestablish the classroom routine.

Evidence of Student Success
- Student success will be demonstrated when students ask up to 3 peers for help prior to asking the teacher working with a small group.

**Distance Learning Supports**
- This concept can be utilized during break out rooms etc.

**Engaging Families**
- Explain and share the reason for “Ask 3 Before Me” with families so they can discuss with their students the importance and ensure students understand that their teacher wants them to learn skills like problem-solving, communication, and collaboration.