A community building activity to use in a classroom is using the book, The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle. It tells about a pirate going to school for the first time and not fitting in, but the little girl, Tilda, accepted him and actually liked him.

Read the book to the class and have them pair up and share what it was like to be a new student. Each pair also should come up with ways they could lend a helping hand to other students that might be having trouble fitting in.

Then to tie up the activity, have students pledge to lend helping hands and have them make a banner like this one on pinterest <http://www.pinterest.com/pin/169799848424148255/>

One modification you might make is to have them help each other when making the hands for the banner and work in pairs to share ideas.