



A GOOD TIDINGS TEACHER RESOURCE

Superhero Bulletin Board Ideas

Eight ways to bring hero energy into your classroom — all year long



Inspired by "Stink Butt" from the Good Tidings picture book · goodtidingsbooks.com

Every classroom already has a room full of superheroes — they just don't know it yet. Kids who ask a hundred questions, kids who move a little louder or a little slower than everyone else, kids who are still figuring out their thing: they're all one good bulletin board away from seeing themselves as capable, brave, and worth celebrating.

That's the whole spirit behind "Stink Butt," the poem-story in *Good Tidings* about the most unlikely hero you'll ever meet. He's not fast, strong, or particularly graceful — but he saves the day anyway, in his own smelly, specific way. This guide takes that same idea and turns it into eight bulletin boards you can actually use, not just look at. Some are quick weekend projects. Some grow and change all year. Pick the ones that fit your classroom, mix and match, or use all eight as your theme for the year.

Eight Superhero Bulletin Board Ideas

1 Every Kid Is a Superhero

A back-to-school welcome board where each student introduces themselves as a comic-book hero — a warm, low-pressure way to learn names and start building classroom identity in week one.

MATERIALS

- Colored cardstock in 3–4 shades, cut into simple cape shapes
- Student photos or self-portraits
- A "Hero Bio" card template (name, superpower, how they help others)
- Hand-lettered or die-cut banner: "Every Kid Is a Superhero"
- Star stickers or a star hole-punch for scatter decoration

DIRECTIONS

1. Cut cape shapes ahead of time in varied colors so the board doesn't look too uniform.
2. On the first day, have students fill out their Hero Bio card: their hero name (first name plus a fun adjective, like "Marvelous Maya"), their superpower (something they're genuinely good at), and how they'd use it to help someone.
3. Attach the photo or self-portrait to the top of the cape and the bio card just below it.
4. Pin capes to the board under the banner, scattering stars in the empty spaces between them.

KEEP IT GOING

Leave a few blank capes in reserve for students who join later in the year. Revisit the bios during morning meeting or small-group time so the board stays part of classroom conversation, not just wall decor.

BEST FOR

First week of school, SEL and community-building, any grade K–5.

2 Reading Is My Superpower

A reading-corner tracker that turns independent reading time into hero training, with milestones that celebrate volume and consistency rather than book difficulty.

MATERIALS

- One large cape or shield cutout as the board's centerpiece
- Small cape-shaped or badge-shaped name tags, one per student
- Mini book cutouts, star stickers, or a hole-punch for tracking
- A simple "hero rank" ladder (Sidekick → Junior Hero → Reading Champion → Legend)

DIRECTIONS

1. Post the large cape/shield in the center with "Reading Missions" across it.
2. Give each student a small name tag to keep pinned near the board.
3. Every time a student finishes a book, they add a sticker or mini book cutout to their tag.
4. Set milestone thresholds (you choose the numbers based on your class) and move name tags up the rank ladder as students hit them.

KEEP IT GOING

Update during independent reading time so it becomes part of the routine, not an extra task. Add a small "Hero Recommends" pocket where kids can drop a card recommending a book to a classmate — it keeps the board interactive and gives quieter readers a way to contribute.

BEST FOR

ELA, independent reading incentive programs, and differentiation — since points are tied to books finished, not reading level, every reader has a real shot at leveling up.

3 Caught Being a Super Citizen

A positive-behavior board built around catching kids doing the right thing — kindness, responsibility, courage — instead of only responding to what goes wrong.

MATERIALS

- Shield or badge cutout templates (keep a stack handy, not just on the board)
- A pen or marker at your desk for quick write-ups
- Header banner: "Caught Being a Super Citizen"

DIRECTIONS

1. Post the board with a handful of shields already up to model what counts.
2. Keep a small stack of blank shields near your desk or on a clipboard.
3. Whenever you (or a classmate) notices someone being kind, responsible, or brave, jot their name and what they did on a shield and pin it up right away — the immediacy matters.
4. Read a few shields aloud during your weekly class meeting to close the loop publicly.

KEEP IT GOING

Rotate shields out weekly so the board stays current, but keep a folder of retired ones — they're genuinely useful when you're writing report card comments or emailing a parent something positive out of the blue.

BEST FOR

Classroom management and character education, any grade; especially strong in classrooms working on shifting from a reactive to a proactive behavior system.

Defeat the Villain: A Growth Mindset Board

Turns everyday academic struggles into cartoon villains that get defeated with real, concrete strategies — a playful way to normalize mistakes and make "what do I do when I'm stuck" a visible, teachable routine.

MATERIALS

- Villain cutouts, either pre-made or student-illustrated
- Speech bubble or strategy-card cutouts
- A "Defeated!" section clearly marked off on the board

DIRECTIONS

1. Introduce a few common classroom "villains" as a class — things like "Dr. Give-Up," "The Distractor," or "Mr. I-Can't."
2. Have students illustrate their own version of a villain that represents a challenge they're personally working on (rushing through work, not asking for help, giving up too early).
3. Under each villain, pin real strategy cards — concrete tools like "ask a friend," "reread the question," or "take a breath and try again."
4. As a student successfully uses a strategy to push through, move that villain into the "Defeated!" section as a small, visible win.

KEEP IT GOING

Introduce a new villain or strategy each month tied to whatever skill the class is building. Villains can also be subject-specific — a "Math Monster" for one unit, a "Spelling Struggler" for another — so the board evolves with your curriculum instead of going stale.

BEST FOR

Growth mindset and SEL instruction; works across every subject since the villain simply represents whatever the current struggle is.

5 Hero Squad Classroom Jobs

Your existing classroom job chart, reimagined with hero titles and short "powers" descriptions — a five-minute rebrand that makes routine responsibilities feel a little more exciting.

MATERIALS

- Name tags or photo badges for each student
- Laminated role cards, one per job
- A small cape or badge icon to repeat across the board for visual consistency

DIRECTIONS

1. Rename your existing classroom jobs with hero flair — Line Leader becomes "The Navigator," Paper Passer becomes "The Distributor," Light Helper becomes "The Illuminator," Table Captain becomes "The Squad Leader."
2. Make a small card for each role with the hero title and a one-line description of the job's "power" (what the role actually does).
3. Rotate student names weekly using a spinner, clothespins, or sliding name tags — whatever system you already use for jobs will slot right in.

KEEP IT GOING

Let students help name new roles as classroom needs come up over the year. Occasionally let a student "train" a classmate for their upcoming role so more kids get comfortable with more jobs.

BEST FOR

Classroom management and shared responsibility, any grade — especially useful for classrooms that already have a job system and want to freshen it up mid-year.

6 Hero Training Academy: Goal Setting

A visual progress tracker that frames personal goals — academic or behavioral — as leveling up, giving students a concrete, ongoing sense of movement toward something they chose themselves.

MATERIALS

- A leveling path visual — a ladder, a winding path, or a rising rocket trail works well
- Small name tags that can be moved along the path
- Star stickers to mark milestones

DIRECTIONS

1. Post the leveling path under the header "Hero Training Academy."
2. At the start of a unit or month, have each student set one personal goal — academic ("master my multiplication facts") or behavioral ("raise my hand before speaking").
3. Move each student's name tag along the path as they make visible progress.
4. Celebrate small when someone reaches the top — a shoutout, a sticker, first choice of classroom job for the day.

KEEP IT GOING

Reset the path at each grading period so goals stay current. Keeping the goals student-chosen (rather than teacher-assigned) makes a real difference in buy-in — kids move faster toward a finish line they picked themselves.

BEST FOR

Goal-setting and differentiated instruction; flexible enough to track academic skills, behavior goals, or both side by side.

A direct tie-in to "Stink Butt" from Good Tidings — this board uses the story's message that heroism doesn't require perfection to help kids reframe the things they're self-conscious about as strengths.

MATERIALS

- A copy of Good Tidings, for reading "Stink Butt" aloud
- A cape template for each student to illustrate
- Sentence-starter cards: "My superpower is ___"

DIRECTIONS

1. Read "Stink Butt" aloud and talk as a class about what makes this hero unlikely — and why he's still, genuinely, a hero.
2. Have students complete the sentence "My superpower is ___," encouraging them to pick something true and specific — even something they've felt shy about, like a loud laugh, asking a lot of questions, or needing more time than others. The goal is reframing it as a strength, not hiding it.
3. Students illustrate themselves as their own unlikely-hero selves using the cape template.
4. Display the illustrations together under the line: "You don't have to be perfect to be a hero."

KEEP IT GOING

Add a rotating "Hero of the Week" spotlight that revisits this same exercise for one student at a time in more depth — a nice option for a morning meeting share or a quick one-on-one check-in.

BEST FOR

SEL, read-aloud response, and identity-building; a natural companion piece to the free "If You Were a Superhero" printable from Good Tidings.

8 Power Words: A Superhero Word Wall

A vocabulary board where new words are treated like superpowers to unlock, giving kids a visible, gamified reason to actually use the words you're teaching.

MATERIALS

- Word cards cut into lightning bolt or star shapes
- Small star stickers for tracking word use
- A "Legendary Words" section for retired, mastered words

DIRECTIONS

1. Title the board "Power Words" and post it at student eye level.
2. Each week, add a small batch of new vocabulary words as bolt- or star-shaped cards.
3. When a student correctly uses one of the words in writing or discussion, they add a star sticker to that word's card.
4. Once a word collects enough stars, move it into a permanent "Legendary Words" hall of fame section.

KEEP IT GOING

Pull words from more than just ELA — adding science and social studies vocabulary keeps the board relevant across subjects and gives it a reason to stay up all year instead of just during a reading unit.

BEST FOR

Vocabulary instruction across ELA, science, and social studies; works well in any grade that's building academic vocabulary.

A Few General Tips

- **Vary your cape colors.** Two or three shades of the same material keeps a board from looking flat or overly uniform.
- **Let kids build it with you.** Cutting, coloring, and assembling their own pieces builds ownership — and saves you time.
- **Keep interactive pieces reachable.** If students are meant to move a name tag or add a sticker, make sure the board is at their height, not just yours.
- **Refresh instead of replace.** Most of these boards are built to evolve — swap out shields, villains, or vocabulary words regularly so the board stays part of the classroom's daily rhythm instead of fading into the background.
- **Laminate anything reusable.** Role cards, strategy cards, and rank ladders are worth laminating once so you can reuse them year after year.

However you use it – happy decorating, and here's to a classroom full of everyday heroes.
– Good Tidings

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