

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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SOCIAL SKILL: ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY

CASEL COMPETENCY: RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *Pedrito's Day*

Author: Luis Garay

Publisher: Orchard Books

Year: 1997

ISBN Number: 0531095223

Number of Pages: 32 pages

Reading Level: Kindergarten - 3rd grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Shining shoes to earn money for a bicycle, young Pedrito dreams about owning a bicycle. A bicycle would mean independence and freedom. However, after he carelessly loses a relative's money, he demonstrates his strong sense of honesty and responsibility. He wants to make things right. He accepts responsibility, takes money from his hard earned bicycle fund, and pays back the money he lost.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

To teach the importance of taking responsibility.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCED PREPARATION

YouTube Video Clips

Materials: None needed.

Preparation: Watch videos in advance and make sure you know the video content. Make advance preparation to use the internet and make sure you have the technology to share the videos with the children.

Plane Crash Activity

Materials: obstacle course materials such as a long rope, chairs, and markers of some sort; several blind fold; socks or paper bags (to cover hands)

Preparation: Prepare the obstacle course.

"What If" Game

Materials: a sample lunch, for example, a sandwich, a piece of fruit, carton of

Preparation: None needed.

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Taking responsibility - being the one who must answer or account for something

Abuela - grandmother in Spanish

Tortilla - a round corn or wheat flour baked on a griddle

Pedro - the Spanish name for Peter

Pedrito - the Spanish name for "little Peter"

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Explain to the students that in this story we are reading about a little boy who is from a Northern Latin American country (since they make tortillas in the story it could take place in Mexico or Central America) where the people speak Spanish. In some Latin American countries, financial difficulties make it so parents may look for work away from home. Such is the case with Pedrito's family. To earn money Pedrito shines shoes, which allows him to help support his family and save up for a special bike he wants.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- How was Pedrito irresponsible in the story?
- How could he have avoided his mistake?
- How did he correct his mistake?

Remind the students that being the **most** responsible is to make good choices and to avoid making mistakes when possible (**proactive responsibility**). However, when a mistake is made, we must take responsibility for our actions and right the wrong when possible (**reactive responsibility**). Ask the students to share examples that they can think of involving both proactive and reactive responsibility.

POST READING ACTIVITY

YouTube Video Clips

Watch the following videos and have a short discussion about responsibility.

- Responsibility Rap (2 minutes & 9 seconds)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOuvJMibfVo>
- Explanation of Responsibility (1 minute & 42 seconds)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QRqIGznHvU>
- Lion King - Explains Responsibility to Simba (1 minute & 13 seconds)

https://youtu.be/bW7PITaawfQ?list=PLTMaFZeFB_jtNYvhPaRz5wQebtEXimgiR

The "What if...?" Game

Ask the students a series of "What if...?" questions.

1. What if the farmer who grew the grain to make the bread for this sandwich decided to play ball instead of harvesting the grain? (*Explain that we wouldn't have any bread to eat, then take the bread off of the sandwich and lay it aside.*)
2. What if the farmer who raised the animals for the meat decided he was just too tired to take the animals to market? (*Take the meat out of the sandwich and lay it aside.*)
3. What if the dairy farmer decided it was too cold and rainy to go out and milk the cows in the morning? (*Take away the cheese and milk and lay these aside.*)
4. What if the workers who harvest fruits and vegetables were too busy watching TV to work in the fields? (*Take away any fruit and vegetables*)
5. What if the store manager and employees at the grocery store didn't feel like working for a few weeks and played with friends instead? (*Take away everything else and explain that the store wouldn't be open and we could not get the things we need.*)
6. See what can happen when people do not show responsibility? We count on others to be responsible and do their job correctly and on time. The jobs that you have are just as important. (*Ask the students to give examples of their jobs.*)

When you do what is expected of you--- to the best of your ability--- then you are being responsible and others can count on YOU! (www.charactercenter.com)

Plane Rescue (grades 3-6)

Set up a simple obstacle course that students can navigate safely as a team. This team building exercise requires that different members of the group play different roles and take responsibility for each other. In this game the group imagines they have been in a plane crash in the mountains. They must travel across a designated distance in order to reach the pick-up point where they will meet their rescuers. However, different members of the group have received different injuries in the crash. One or more persons may be blinded (use blindfolds); another may be unable to use their hands (either use socks to put on the hands or use an elastic band or tape to secure a paper or plastic sack over the hands as a reminder that they cannot use their hands); another person may be completely paralyzed in their legs and unable to walk or crawl and will require having a couple of people to grasp arms and hands to make a human chair lift. The goal of the game is for the entire group to get to the rescue point all together, leaving no one behind. They must rely on the strengths that each person has to offer. Assign injuries according to each student's ability to play the role and complete the task. You can divide the class into small groups of 6 students, so that each can actively participate.

CLOSURE

Post the quote (included), reminding students to be responsible! Review the social skill steps below with the class.

Steps for Accepting Responsibility

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a calm body and voice.
3. Say what you are sorry about.
4. Say what you'll do differently next time.

"The moment you are
old enough to take the
wheel,

responsibility
lies with you."



--J. K. Rowling

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