

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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SOCIAL SKILL: ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY
CASEL COMPETENCY: RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *The Enchanted Wood*
Author: Ruth Sanderson
Publisher: Little Brown and Company
Year: 1995
ISBN Number: 0316771023
Number of Pages: 32 pages
Reading Level: Kindergarten - 5th grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

A widowed and grief-stricken king calls on his three sons to end the drought that has ravaged the kingdom. The princes eagerly accept the quest to find the Heart of the World, which, once found, will save the land. One by one each prince confidently enters the Enchanted Wood. Each of the brothers sets out on the journey, but only the third is generous along the way and also sticks to the appointed path despite temptation, thus winning his father's throne and the affection of the girl whose help he has accepted.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

Show children the importance of accepting responsibility. If you promise to do something, you need to do it despite distractions and temptations.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCED PREPARATION

Role Play

No materials or preparation needed.

Paper Chain

Materials: precut strips of colored construction paper 2" by 8 ½ "----one for each student; stapler or tape to connect the paper chain links; writing utensils for each student
Preparation: None needed.

Charades

Materials: None needed.

Preparation: Make word strips of the following 7 ways to show responsibility (listed in the activity).

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Promise - telling someone that you'll do something; if you make a promise you need to keep it

Responsible - keeping a promise and doing the job you're supposed to

Accountable - being responsible for our actions and choices

Consequences - the result that happens after we make a choice; depending on the situation, consequences can be good or bad

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Show the front cover of the book. Ask the students if they have ever been given a job to do (like chores, etc.)? Have they followed through and completed their chores?

Ask the students if they have ever made a promise? Did they keep it? What happened when they did what they were supposed to? What happened when they didn't? Introduce vocabulary and concepts.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- Why was the youngest prince different from his brothers?
- How did he show responsibility and keep his promise? (He didn't get distracted, did what he said he would do.)
- How do you feel about others when they are responsible and keep their promise (ask for an example or provide an example).
- How do you feel about yourself when you keep a promise you have made to another person? Provide an example or ask for an example.

POST READING ACTIVITY

Role Play (suggested for grades 3 - 5)

Divide the students into small groups and ask them to develop a skit about responsibility. Give students 5 minutes to organize, then let each group share their role play with the classroom. Be sure and discuss each skit after the students have finished and point out the responsible behavior. If they have trouble thinking up an example for their role play, use the suggested word strips for the charade game (below).

Paper Chain (suggested for all ages)

On the strip of colored construction paper, ask each child to write something that they do or will do show responsibility. Assemble the strips in a paper chain. Explain that without each link or piece of paper, the chain would break. Each link has to do its part, just like we need to do our jobs.

Charades (suggested for grades 3-6)

Explain that the word strips are to be acted out one at a time. Each is an example of *showing responsibility*. Ask for volunteers to role play (one at a time). They can ask for help if they get stuck and students are not able to guess.

1. Complete your homework and chores on time without being reminded.
2. Follow through on your commitments, even when you don't feel like it.
3. Accept responsibility for your mistakes and learn from them. Don't make excuses or blame others.
4. Take care of your things and those of other people. Return items you borrow.
5. Find out what needs to be done and do it.
6. Make wise choices, such as choosing to eat healthy foods and wearing a helmet when bike riding.
7. Always do your very best. Others are counting on you!

CLOSURE

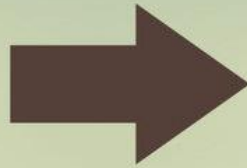
Hang the poster (provided) in the room. Review the social skill steps below with your class.

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.

ACCEPT *responsibility*
FOR YOUR LIFE.

KNOW THAT IT IS
WHO WILL GET
WHERE *You* **WANT TO GO,**
No One Else.



- LES BROWN



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