Character Education Lesson

Honesty- Worksheet-based, Grades K-1

Objective

Students will understand the following:

1. Honesty is about being truthful in what you say and in what you do.
2. Honesty includes telling the truth (not lying), not hiding the truth (deceiving), and acting in a way that is morally right (not stealing, cheating).
3. Honesty is important in how we all work together in society

Grade Level

Grades K-1

Standards

Supports learning standards in social studies and health.

1. Students understand the individual responsibilities of citizenship and promoting a civil society.
2. Students demonstrate the ability to use decision-making skills to enhance health and to create positive personal relationships.

Materials

1. What is Honesty Worksheet, Grades K-1
2. What is Honesty PowerPoint, Grades K-1

Vocabulary

Honesty- Only doing or saying things that are truthful.

- telling the truth (not lying)
• acting in a way that is truthful and doesn’t hide the truth (not deceiving)
• only doing things that are morally right (not stealing or cheating)

Truthful: How something really is or how it really happened.

Morally right: The people we live and work with (society) consider some actions to be right and some wrong because of how they help or hurt our ability to get along with each other. Examples of actions that are right include telling the truth and being kind to others. Some examples that are “wrong” include lying, stealing, and cheating.

**Procedures**

Define honesty and discuss examples of what honesty is.
If using the [What is Honesty Presentation, Grades K-1](#), use the images to demonstrate examples of honesty.

Discuss the concept of honesty (see vocabulary section). Ask the class for examples of behaviors that are honest and dishonest.

Some examples of honesty may include telling the truth, treating people fairly / not taking advantage of people, really meaning what you say, doing what you say you will do, telling the whole truth.

Examples of dishonesty may include: lying, not telling the whole truth, bending the truth, hiding the truth, stealing, cheating.

Discuss why honesty is important to a society.
Pose the question, “What if it was ok to be dishonest? What if our society and laws said it was ok for people to lie and steal?” Allow the children to talk about what could happen and how that would feel.

Honesty is important for people to live together peacefully. We need to know our friends, family, and leaders have a common belief in being truthful and trustworthy in order to feel safe and to get along.

Discuss why honesty is important in friendships.
Discuss how honesty is essential to having positive relationships. For relationships to work, we each need to know we will treat each other fairly and truthfully.

Pose some questions that reveal how honesty is important to maintaining positive friendships:

“What if each time your friend came over, she took one of your toys without asking, decided it was hers, and brought it home forever.” (Stealing)

“What if your friend lost a school book but told the teacher you were the one who lost it?” (Lying)

Complete the honesty worksheet
Using the picture-based [What is Honesty Worksheet, Grades K-1](#), have children circle Green if the action is Honest or Red if it is dishonest.

**More resources to extend the lesson**

Quotes on honesty – quotes to share, pin, print
Posters – Motivational posters with themes about honesty and conscience