

Respect!

Respect: The Pillar of Character for October

October is the month of Respect! Respect is the second pillar of the Six Pillars program from Character Counts.

A respectful person follows the Golden Rule: treat others the way you would like to be treated.



You can help! As a way of modeling the Golden Rule at home, parents are encouraged to talk about your feelings with your children. When you feel mad, sad or frustrated, try modeling for your children how to act in a respectful way. Afterwards, talk to your child about how you controlled your emotions.

When someone does something nice for you, return the favor by doing something nice back. By reinforcing positive behavior, you increase your child's chances of doing that same behavior again.

Children's books on Respecting others, respecting property, and respecting feelings:
Clifford's Birthday by Norman Bridwell

Respect and Take Care of Things (Learning To Get Along) by Cheri J. Meiners & Meredith Johnson

Treat Me Right!: Kids Talk About Respect by Loewen, Nancy, Wesley and Omarr

The Berenstain Bears Show Some Respect (Berenstain Bears/Living Lights) by Jan Berenstain and Mike Berenstain

I Am a Booger... Treat Me With Respect! by Julia Cook and Carson Cook

Show Some Respect (Main Street School) (Main Street School) by Anastasia Suen and Jeff Ebbeler

If Everybody Did by Jo Ann Stover

I Don't Care! (Values) by Brian Moses

How Full Is Your Bucket? For Kids by Tom Rath

Fill a Bucket: A Guide to Daily... by Kathy Martin, Carol McCloud

Have you filled your Bucket today by Carol McCloud

How to Be a Friend: A Guide to. By Marc Brown, Laurene Krasny Brown

Respect also means having Manners.



You can Help! There are moments to practice good manners outside of school: when in a store, a restaurant, at the park, at an activity, a play date, at your house, and even at the dinner table. Model for your children how to behave by using your manners. You could also remind your children of ways to show good manners by asking them, “what do we say?” when you would like them to use manner words. We use words like:

please
thank you & no thank you
you're welcome
excuse me
I'm sorry
may I...
Can I...
I would like...

Children's books on Manners:

Dude, That's Rude!: (Get Some Manners) (Laugh & Learn) by Pamela Espeland & Elizabeth Verdick

Manners by Alik

Manners Can Be Fun by Munro Leaf

Excuse Me!: A Little Book of Manners by Karen Katz

Manners at School (Way to Be! Manners) by Finn, Carrie, Lensch and Chris

The Berenstain Bears Forget Their Manners by Stan Berenstain and Jan Berenstain

Oops, Sorry! A First Book of Manners by Richard Morgan

A Little Book of Manners: Courtesy & Kindness for Young Ladies by Emilie Barnes, Anne Christian Buchanan and Michal Sparks

Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners by Laurie Keller

A Smart Girl's Guide To Manners (American Girl Library) by Nancy Holyoke

A Little Book of Manners for Boys: A Game Plan for Getting Along with Others by Bob Barnes, Emilie Barnes and Michal Sparks

My Mouth Is a Volcano! by Julia Cook and Carrie Hartman

Words Are Not for Hurting by Elizabeth Verdick

Respect means Accepting Differences.



As our nation grows more diverse, there has never been a better opportunity to learn to live respectfully together and benefit from one another's wisdom and experiences. Sometimes fear and uncertainty prevents people from talking to each other, but children can learn to reach out and be more sensitive to others by watching how the adults in their lives relate to each other. With positive modeling, you can build on children's tolerance. Most important, when a child learns to be tolerant and accept differences in others, your child becomes able to value the things that make each of us special and unique.

You can help! You could read books or sing songs about accepting others. In addition, whenever you refer to religious or ethnic groups, use their correct names and show respect for others. You could also help your child learn about your own culture as well as others. You could honor other heritages by learning traditional crafts, dances, and recipes. Why not attend events held by other cultures or your child's school so that your child can gain appreciation for what people of different backgrounds offer. Lastly, be a good role model by showing tolerance to others.

Children's books on accepting differences:

Everyone Matters: A First Look at Respect for Others by Pat Thomas and Lesley Harker

Why Am I Different? by Norma Simon

All the Colors of the Earth by Shelia Hamanaka

Amazingly... Alpie! Understanding and Accepting Different Ways of Being by Roz Espin and Beverley Ransom

Accept and Value Each Person (Learning to Get Along) by Cheri J. Meiners

It's Okay To Be Different by Todd Parr

I Like Myself! by Karen Beaumont and David Catrow

All Kinds of Children by Norma Simon and Diane Paterson

We're Different, We're the Same (Sesame Street) by Bobbi Kates and Joe Mathieu

Whoever You Are (Reading Rainbow Books) by Mem Fox and Leslie Staub

The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister

Respect means Solving Problems Peacefully.



Children love to have fun, play, and learn, but occasionally a problem arises between another child, their sibling, their parent, or even their teacher. Instead of acting on impulse, we need to teach our children to think about choices and talk about their feelings. When we help children to understand themselves better, we help them make smarter choices that lead to a positive outcome.

You can help! When a problem arises at home between you and your child or between siblings, you can invite your child/children to talk about the problem, talk about their feelings, and brainstorm ways of resolving the conflict. Teach your child the win/win strategy where everyone can win in a conflict. You can also show your children that there are ways of solving problems without resorting to physical or emotional harm. They can talk it out, share, take turns, go to another activity, use nice words, and use manners. By modeling how to act during a conflict, you teach them how to solve problems peacefully.

Children's books on Solving Problems:

The Pepins and Their Problems by Polly Horvath and Marilyn Hafner

Why Be Bossy? (Problem Solvers) by Janine Amos

Why Fight? (Problem Solvers) by Janine Amos

Why Be Unfriendly? (Problem Solvers) by Janine Amos

Communication by Alik

Talk and work it out by Cheri J Meiners

Cool Down and Work Through Anger by Cheri J. Meiners

The Problem With Chickens (New York Times Best Illustrated Books) by Bruce McMillan

Pordy's Prickly Problem (Janette Oke's Animal Friends) by Janette Oke

I Have a Little Problem, Said the Bear by Heinz Janisch and Silke Leffler

The Playground Problem by Margaret McNamara and Mike Gordon