

TREATING OTHERS WITH RESPECT

Treating people with respect makes your world a better place to live in, whether it's at home, at school, or out in your community. And it's easy - all you have to do is treat people the way you like to have them treat you. Here are a few ideas.

- Don't insult people or make fun of them.
- Listen to others when they speak.
- Value other people's opinions.
- Be considerate of people's likes and dislikes.
- Don't mock or tease people.
- Don't talk about people behind their backs.
- Be sensitive to other people's feelings.
- Don't pressure someone to do something he or she doesn't want to do.

We live in a diverse nation made up of many different cultures, languages, races, and backgrounds. That kind of variety can make all our lives a lot more fun and interesting, but only if we get along with each other. And to do that we have to respect each other. In addition to the list above, here are some ways we can respect people who are different from us.

- Try to learn something from the other person.
- Never stereotype people.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it feel like to be respected?
2. What does it feel like to be disrespected?
3. What role does respect play in your relationships with friends and family?
4. What are some respectful behaviors?
5. How important is respect in our lives? Why?
6. Do you consider yourself to be a respectful person? Why or why not? In what ways do you show respect to others?
7. Do you have to like someone to respect him or her. Do you agree? Why or why not?
8. Describe one person you respect in your life. What does this person do to earn your respect?

9. Does a person have to earn respect, or do all people deserve it?
10. How do *you* show respect to others? Do you show respect to strangers differently than you do to friends?
11. Does it feel different to be disrespected by a stranger than to be disrespected by a friend? How?
12. What are the benefits of people treating each other with respect?
13. When was the last time you disrespected someone? What was the reason? How did you express this disrespect? What effect did your behavior have?
14. When was the last time someone disrespected you? What do you think was their reason for treating you in that way?
15. What are some reasons people show disrespect for others?
16. How do you feel when someone judges you without knowing you or giving you a chance?
17. How do you feel when someone you disagree with calls you a name?
18. How do you feel when someone bumps into you in the hall and doesn't apologize? What does saying "I'm sorry" have to do with respect?
19. Agree or disagree: Courtesy and politeness are only for adults. Explain your answer.
20. If someone treats you with disrespect, you don't have to treat that person with respect. Do you agree? How should you respond to someone who is disrespectful of you?
21. How do you think respect affects your community, the world?
22. Does everyone deserve respect? Why or why not?
23. What is the difference between respecting a person and respecting others' property, school property, etc.?