

# HUMAN•KiND

## Honesty

A LITTLE GOOD IN A BIG WORLD ...

### Outline

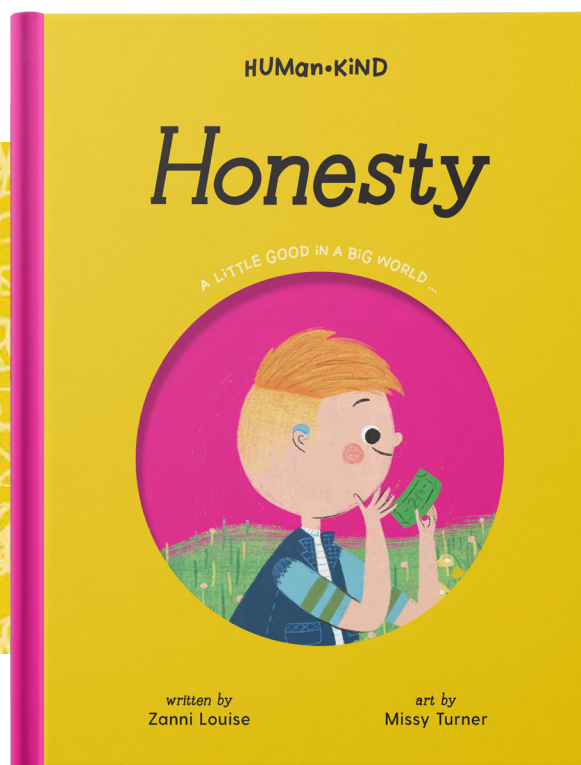
Honesty is an important value that allows people to trust one another. In this story, we meet five children who learn about the ways that honesty makes our lives better.



### Discussion Questions & Activities

#### Before reading

- What is a value? Can you think of some examples of values? What are some values that you demonstrate every day as an individual or in your family? What are the values you demonstrate as a class or a school?
- In this story, we will hear about the value of honesty. Do you know what honesty means? Are there any hints on the cover that might tell you what the story might be about?
- After reading, compare your discussion before reading to what the book was actually about. What was the same? Was there anything different or surprising?



### About The Author

Zanni Louise is the author of 12 books for children, including picture books and chapter books for young readers

Titles include *Errol!*, *Tiggy and the Magic Paintbrush*, and her sparkling new fiction series, *Stardust School of Dance*. Her books are sold internationally, and have been long-listed in the CBCA Awards

Zanni tours Australia, visiting schools, festivals, and running workshops for adults. Zanni lives in Northern NSW



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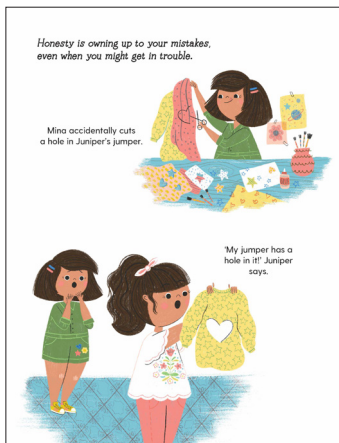
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## Discussion Questions & Activities Continued

### Text discussion

1. The story says that there are many ways to be honest. What are some of the ways that you remember from the story? Are there other examples you can think of?
2. Mina owns up to accidentally cutting a hole in Juniper's jumper. Why is it important for her to tell the truth? How do you think she might be feeling before she tells Juniper?



3. Honesty is standing up for what you believe in. Can you think of a time that you had to stand up for something you believed in, even when everyone else believed something else? Why is it important for people to stay true to their beliefs?
4. Rosie is upset and angry at things that are not related to the thing she is really worried about. Have you ever been in a bad mood because you were worried about something? What happened when Rosie told her friend about her worries?



5. Jack sees a woman drop some money and hands it back to her instead of keeping it for himself. Imagine what might have happened if he hadn't handed it back. How would the woman feel when she noticed it was gone? How would Jack feel if he had used it to go to the pool, even though it wasn't his money to spend?



6. Lila decides it is more important to tell the truth than to win the card game. Have you ever cheated to win a game? How does it feel compared to winning without cheating?
7. Why does Mina lie about being able to do a handstand? Why do you think Li Wei lies about being sick?
8. Why is it important to be honest? Think about what might happen if the law said that it was OK to lie, cheat and steal. What would the world look like? What might people do that they are not allowed to do now? How would everyone feel in that world?
9. Is it ever OK to lie? What makes a lie OK or not OK?



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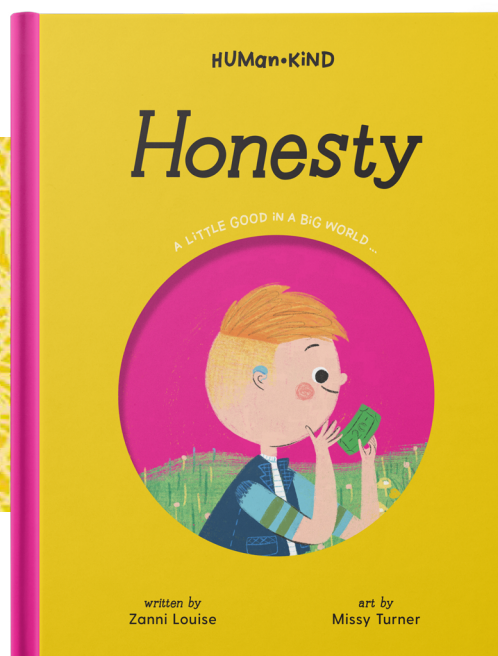
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## Discussion Questions & Activities Continued

### Activities

1. Choose an issue where there are two sides to debate but neither is necessarily 'right'. For example, chocolate is better than strawberry. Assign chocolate to one person and strawberry to three or four others, and have each side of the debate come up with some reasons to back up their argument. Then have the debate, and emphasise the importance of staying strong in your convictions even when there is peer pressure to conform to another way of thinking. For older children, an extension could be to discuss when it's appropriate to change your position. For example, if experts suddenly discovered that strawberries were poisonous, would it still be important to stay true to your opinion that strawberry was better?
2. Think about some of the examples you discussed in question 8 about what the world might look like if the law said you could lie, cheat, steal and be dishonest. What's the craziest thing you can think of that might happen in that world? Draw a picture or a comic strip describing your crazy scenario. (Examples to get children thinking: Selling a dog to someone but telling them it's a cat; making a cake out of something inedible; selling tickets to 'the best water park in the world' that's really just a puddle)
3. For younger children, hold up pictures one by one in front of the class. Ask the children to come up with a true or untrue statement about the picture, or give one yourself. The rest of the children decide whether the statement is true or not, based on the picture. As an extension, children could observe how the child/teacher who is giving the statement looks or sounds when they are telling the truth compared to when they are telling a lie.
4. When you tell a lie, it is easy to get tangled up in lots more lies that you need to tell to cover up the first lie. Play a game where one child answers questions from classmates untruthfully about something that has happened. See how quickly the class can catch the lie out.



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