

Grade 4 | At Home Learning Activities

Too Good for Violence – Social Perspectives

Lesson 1 **Goal Boosters and Goal Busters** - *Setting Reachable Goals*

Literacy

Read a chapter book in which a character pursues a goal. Write a paragraph about your character's goal, how your character set the goal, and if he or she reached the goal.

Arts Extender

With your child develop a list of ten encouraging words or statements. Then, display these encouraging words or phrases throughout your home

Literacy

Read a book in which the main character makes a major decision. Then, write a book review. Describe the decision-making steps the character used or did not use. How did the character's decision turn out? Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?

Language Arts Extender

Write a short story titled "The Biggest Decision I Ever Made." This story can be fiction or non-fiction. In your story, demonstrate how your character uses the decision-making steps to make a big decision. Then, write about how your character's decision turned out and what your character learned from making this big decision.

Social Studies Extender

The first settlers of your state had to make many decisions about where to live, how to feed themselves, and how to survive. Imagine you and your friends are the first settlers to a new land. Write a paragraph about the big decisions you would need to make to establish a place to live.

Consider your state's terrain to help you decide which areas you would develop first and why. Which foods would you eat? What kind of structures would you live in? What other decisions would you have to make? Keep in mind the decisions you make will affect all of the settlers.

Literacy

Read a chapter book and keep a list of the emotions each character experiences throughout the book. Then, select two characters from your book. Imagine what they look like and draw a picture of their faces expressing an emotion each character felt in the story.

Language Arts Extender

Choose one of the following situations. Write a paragraph to describe your emotions in that situation. Explain why you would feel this way and what you could do to manage your emotions.

- It is the last day of school before summer vacation, and there are four hours left before the final bell rings to dismiss you.
- You are standing in line at the theme park to ride the new roller coaster with your friends. You heard it is the most thrilling roller coaster ever! You can hear the people on the ride yelling and screaming.
- Your teacher is handing out report cards.

Language Arts Extender

Select one of the research projects below and complete the assignment:

Project 1

With your child research online to find jobs that require effective speaking skills. Have your child select one job, and write a paragraph about the speaking skills a person would need and why these skills are necessary to perform the job.

Project 2

With your child research online to find jobs that require active listening skills. Have your child select one job, and write a paragraph about the listening skills a person would need and why these skills are necessary to perform the job.

Science Extender

Ask your child if he or she knows that some people talk to their plants to help them grow. With your child conduct an experiment to determine if, how, and when talking to plants affects their growth. Help your child find out if the plants' growth responds differently to aggressive, passive, or assertive styles.

Use four identical plants. Label one "Control," one "Aggressive," another one "Passive," and the last one "Assertive." Place each plant in a different room. Be sure each plant receives the same amount of sunlight, water, and healthy soil. Then, have your child speak to each plant every day. Have your child speak to the "Aggressive" plant in an aggressive tone. Speak to the "Passive" plant in a passive tone, and speak to the "assertive" plant in an assertive tone. Make sure your child doesn't speak to the "Control" plant. Have your child measure and record the plants' growth each day continuing this process for 10 days. Have your child write what conclusions can they draw from this experiment.

Literacy

Read E. B. White's *Charlotte's Web*, or another book about friendship, with your child. After each reading session, discuss with your child the healthy and unhealthy friendship qualities each character displays.

Language Arts Extender

Write a paragraph that starts with "My best friend is the best because..." You may write the paragraph about a real or imaginary best friend. What healthy friendship qualities does your best friend have? How does your friend show these qualities? How long have you been friends? Do you and your best friend share common interests? How did you meet?

Language Arts Extender

Write a song, poem, or rap about the kind of friend you are. Include the friendship qualities you demonstrate to your friends and why you would make a good friend.

Social Studies Extender

There are different ways to show respect in different countries. Choose two countries and research how different cultures show respect. What gestures or nonverbal communication are traditionally considered respectful or disrespectful in each culture? How do these cultures show respect when greeting each other or saying goodbye? What about eating at the dinner table? Write a report of your findings.

Art Extender

Trace your right or left hand on a blank piece of construction paper. Where you've traced the palm of your hand, write the word "respect." Next, take a moment to think of things you say or do to show respect. On the paper, where you've traced your fingers, write one way you show respect for yourself and others on each finger. Then decorate the blank paper around your hand.

Art Extender

With your child design a board game to practice cooperative approaches to resolving conflicts. Your game should include at least 10-15 conflict situations that need to be resolved. Your game should also include rules for playing.

Language Arts Extender

Think about a time you had a conflict with a friend and you didn't work together to resolve it. Write a short story explaining what happened. Create fictional character names for you and your friend. How did you feel when you were fighting? How did you eventually resolve the conflict? Are you still friends? Include what you learned from the situation.

Lesson 9 Building an Inclusive Community

Identifying & Managing Bullying Situations

Language Arts Extender

With your child, write a short role play in which the main character assertively responds to bullying behavior. Remember, the main character can be the target or the witness. Be sure to include where the bullying situation takes place.

Math Extender

Take a poll. Ask your friends, classmates, and family members to name three positive qualities of their role model. Using the data, create a bar graph to show the most common positive qualities of a role model.

Social Studies

Conduct a phone interview with a grandparent or an older person who inspires you to be your best self. Ask the following questions: Who was your positive role model when you were my age? What obstacles were you inspired to overcome? What goals did you reach because of your role model's positive influence? Then write a report and summarize what you learned. In your report, explain why this person is your role model. How does this person inspire you to overcome obstacles and reach your goals? How are your role model's obstacles different from the obstacles you face today? How are they the same? Do the qualities of a positive role model change over time?

Language Arts Extender

Write about the following Booker T. Washington quote: "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has overcome." What is the meaning communicated by the author? Think about a time when you had to overcome an obstacle in order to reach a goal. How did you overcome the obstacle? Do you think you inspired others to do the same?

Art Extender

Think about someone you know who is a positive role model. It can be a friend, a classmate, a family member, or another person. Design and decorate a card for the person. Write and illustrate why you think that person is a positive role model. Don't be shy! Give the person the card. They might not even realize other people look up to them and follow their lead.