

Fairness

FAIRNESS means to be just. A fair person plays by the rules, share, take turns, and listens to what others have to say.

LESSON 1

Read the definition of **FAIRNESS**. Ask students to explain what being fair means to them. Ask: **What does it mean if someone “shows favoritism”?** (Treats people unequally, rewards someone unjustly, prejudiced, etc.) Discuss how it feels to be treated with favoritism or prejudice. Emphasize that a fair person treats people without favoritism or prejudice. Read: **Today, all students wearing green will get ice cream with their lunch. Those wearing any other color will get spinach.** Ask the class if this is fair or unfair. Discuss how the statement could be changed to be fair to all students.

School/Home Link - Ask students to ask a family member to tell them about a time when he or she was not treated fairly and how he or she felt.

LESSON 2

Review the definition of **FAIRNESS**. Emphasize that a fair person plays by the rules, takes turns, and shares with others. Ask students to find a solution to the following problem: **Leon has been waiting in line to buy a candy at the candy store. Lashonna is in line in front of him. Mary asks Lashonna if she can cut in line because she is in a hurry. Lashonna allows Mary to cut in line. Did Mary act fairly?** Allow students to share their ideas about how to fairly handle the situation.

School/Home Link - Ask students to discuss with a family member a solution for the following situation: Two family members want to watch a different TV show playing at the same time.

LESSON 3

Review the definition of **FAIRNESS**. Ask: **When someone says everything is “fair and square” what do you think it means?** Allow time for students to share their thoughts. Explain how all sides of a square are the same (or equal), no matter how you look at it. As times allows, have students draw a square to show four equal sides.

School/Home Link - Ask students to draw a square for a family member and explain what “fair and square” means.

LESSON 4

Review the definition of **FAIRNESS**. Emphasize that fairness involves taking turns. To illustrate, pair students and have them play the simple game of Tic-Tac-Toe. Draw the following grid on the board:

(ADD GRID). Ask one student in each pair to copy it on a sheet of paper. Have the student who did not draw the grid go first by marking an “X” in one of the spaces. The other student should then mark an “O” in an empty space of choice. Students should take turns until the grid is full, or until one player gets three in a row. Once students have completed the game, ask them if they could have played if they did not take turns. Ask why or why not?

School/Home Link - Ask students to practice fairness by playing Tic-Tac-Toe with a family member.

LESSON 5

Review the definition of **FAIRNESS**. Tell students that playing fairly and being a good sport are more important than winning. Read the following situation to the students: **At recess, the first graders were playing the second graders in a game of kickball. The first graders were up first. They scored two runs. The second graders then scored two runs. On their second turn up, the first graders had just scored one run when the bell rang. As they went to line up, the first graders shouted, “We won 3-2!” Did the first graders win fair and square? Why or why not?**

School/Home Link - Ask students to ask a family member to discuss the importance of fair play.