

Honesty

HONESTY means being truthful in thoughts, words and actions.

LESSON 1

Read the definition of **HONESTY**. Emphasize that an honest person tells the truth. Read the following: **Deidra was trying to get her room cleaned up to surprise her mom. When she went to get the broom to sweep the floor, she accidentally broke a valuable vase. She knew she was going to get in trouble because that vase was very special. When her mom came home from work, she noticed that her vase was missing from the shelf. At the dinner table, she asked if anyone knew what happened to the vase.** Call on students to tell what they think Deidra should say and tell why. Ask them what they would do in that situation. Emphasize the importance of always being honest and telling the truth regardless of the consequences.

School/Home Link Ask students to ask a family member to tell about a time when it was hard to tell the truth.

LESSON 2

Review the definition of **HONESTY**. Write the following sentence on the board: **Honest people tell the truth.** Read the sentence and ask students to repeat it after you. Tell them they will learn a song about honest people. Teach the students the following song (sung to the tune of London Bridge is Falling Down): **Honest people tell the truth, tell the truth, tell the truth. Honest people tell the truth. I am HONEST!** As time allows, add additional verses to the song.

School/Home Link Ask students to sing the song about honesty to a family member.

LESSON 3

Review the meaning of **HONESTY**. Emphasize that an honest person doesn't steal, lie, or cheat. Call on two to four students to role-play the following scenario. Read: **At the grocery store you pay the cashier for some ice cream and he gives you back too much change. There's a long line of people waiting and you can tell the cashier wants you to hurry. Should you tell him and return the extra change? Would it depend on the amount of money you got back? Would you tell him if he gave you a nickel too much? A dollar? Ten dollars? How would you decide?** Ask the students to applaud for an honest action.

School/Home Link Ask students to share the grocery store example with a family member and ask how they would respond in a similar situation.

LESSON 4

Review the meaning of **HONESTY**. Tell children you are going to play a game called the "Truth Detectives," and they are going to be the detectives to find the truth. Begin the game by making a simple statement such as: ***"The door in our classroom is shaped like a circle, or the leaves on the trees are purple."*** Invite children to show thumbs up if what you say is true, and to show thumbs down if what you say is not true. Continue making other true and untrue statements for a few minutes. When an untrue statement is correctly identified, ask children to make it a true statement. Congratulate children for being good "truth detectives."

School/Home Link Tell students to play the "Truth Detective Game" with a family member.

LESSON 5

Review the meaning of **HONESTY**. Remind students that an honest person tells the truth. Explain to students that telling a lie is the opposite of telling the truth. Talk about why telling a lie is wrong. Tell students that children of good character are honest and do not tell lies. Invite students to stand if they tell the truth. Have them make an "I am a truth teller" badge as time allows.

School/Home Link Tell students to show their "I am a Truth Teller" badge to a family member.