



# Honesty

**HONESTY** means being truthful in thoughts, words and actions.

## LESSON 1

Read the definition of **HONESTY**. Write on the board the saying: **Honesty is the Best Policy**. Ask students to think of reasons to tell the truth. Create a class list under the heading, Good Reasons to Tell the Truth. Write the numbers one to five vertically. Begin the list with reasons such as: 1) Telling the truth means someone doesn't get blamed for something they didn't do. 2) You don't have to remember a bunch of lies to keep your story straight. Ask students to continue thinking of other good reasons. As time allows, ask students to copy the list.

*School/Home Link Ask students to show the list to a family member and discuss reasons to tell the truth.*

## LESSON 2

Review the definition of **HONESTY**. Read the following scenario to students: **Cedric's mother gave him \$1.50 to buy a loaf of bread. The clerk gave him 30 cents in change that he used to buy himself some candy. When he returned home, he gave his mom the bread. She asked him for the change and he said he didn't have any. Was Cedric honest in his reply? Why or why not? Do you think his mom felt he was telling the truth? Why or why not?** Ask students what they would have done in that situation. As time allows, ask students to write a mathematical sentence to determine the cost of the loaf of bread. (Answer:  $\$1.50 - \$0.30 = \$1.20$ ) Check for accuracy.

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

## 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?** (Allow students to role-play their response.) Ask students in the audience to applaud for honest actions. Discuss the scenario and ask students if the amount of money they got back would impact how they responded. Ask: **Would you tell him if he gave you a nickel too much? A dollar? Ten dollars? How would you decide?** Emphasize that honesty is about doing what is right, even if it is not convenient.

*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**. Ask students how they feel when they know someone is honest with them. Ask how they feel when someone is dishonest. Instruct students to draw a smiley face on one side of a sheet of paper and a sad face on the other side. Instruct them to write the word "HONEST" under the smiley face and the word "DISHONEST" under the sad face. Read the following scenarios and ask students to show the side of the paper with the face that best describes how the person would feel in each situation. Read: 1) **Steven forgot to do his homework. He tells his teacher that his dog ate it.** (frown) 2) **Sandy saw Jenny drop some money. Sandy uses the money to buy gum.** (frown) 3) **Oscar found an iPod on the playground and he took it to the lost and found.** (smile) 4) **Heidi broke a crystal vase. She told her mom that her baby brother broke it so she wouldn't get in trouble.** (frown) 5) **Dana told her mom she would take the garbage out after she finished playing her game, and she did.** (smile)

*School/Home Link Ask students to show the paper with the happy and sad faces to a family member and explain that being honest makes them feel happy.*

## LESSON 5

Review the meaning of **HONESTY**. Tell your students Aesop's fable about the *Boy Who Cried Wolf*. Read: **There was once a shepherd boy who was bored while tending the sheep. To entertain himself one day, he cried out that a wolf was attacking his sheep. When people came rushing from the village to help him, he laughed and said it was a joke. He did this several times, each time laughing at the villagers who came to help. One day, a wolf really did attack his sheep, and the boy yelled, "WOLF! WOLF!" but no one came to help him.** Ask students to explain why no one came to help the boy the last time he cried "wolf." Explain that because he had lied before, the villagers did not believe him when he told the truth. Emphasize that lying hurts people who are lied to AND the person who tells the lie. As time allows, have students create a new fable about a shepherd boy who was honest.

*School/Home Link Ask students to explain the story of the Boy Who Cried Wolf to a family member.*

## Louisiana Content Standards and Grade Level Expectations

ELA-1-E6, ELA-4-E2, ELA-4-E5, ELA-4-E7, ELA-3-E3, ELA-7-E1, ELA-7-E2, ELA-7-E4