

Trustworthiness

TRUSTWORTHINESS means being honest, reliable, and truthful.

LESSON 1

Read the definition of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Emphasize that a trustworthy person keeps his or her word. Explain that if you promise to do something, you should do it. Read: **You make a promise to go to bed at 8:00. Your cousin is spending the night at your house and wants to stay up later. What do you do? Do you: 1) Stay up late with your cousin. 2) Pretend to be asleep when your parents check on you. 3) Tell your cousin you can't stay up late and go to bed at 8:00.** Tell students to hold up one, two, or three fingers to show which answer they would choose. Select two to three students to explain their choice.

***School/Home Link** Ask students to discuss the importance of making and keeping promises with a family member.*

LESSON 2

Review the meaning of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Tell students to pretend they each have a hundred dollars. Direct students to write the names of three people they would trust to hold it for them. Ask students to think about why they trust those people. Read the following and instruct students to raise their hands if it is a good reason to trust someone. Read: **1) I trust them because of where they live. 2) I trust them because they lied to me. 3) I trust them because they eat jellybeans. 4) I trust them because they have always told me the truth. 5) I trust them because I have never seen them steal. 6) I trust them because they can sing. 7) I trust them because they are my friends.** Emphasize that they should place their trust in someone who is honest and reliable in all their dealings. Ask students to answer the following question:

Would someone give YOU a hundred dollars to hold for them?

***School/Home Link** Ask students to ask a family member who could be trusted to hold a hundred dollars and why the person selected was chosen.*

LESSON 3

Review the meaning of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Emphasize that a trustworthy person is someone who will not hurt you with unkind words or actions. Brainstorm with students to think of groups of people they believe to be trustworthy. Examples could include: teachers, police officers, doctors, etc. Write the heading **Trustworthy People** on the board and record student responses under it. As time allows, have students tell why they feel each group is trustworthy.

***School/Home Link** Ask students to ask a family member who could be trusted to hold a hundred dollars and why the person selected was chosen.*

LESSON 4

Review the meaning of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Emphasize that a trustworthy person is honest. Read: **Kendra's mother gave her a quarter to buy two pencils at the school store. Each pencil costs ten cents. Kendra gave the quarter to the lady selling the pencils and got back three nickels.** Invite a student to work the math problem on the board. Call on two to three students to tell what Kendra should do.

***School/Home Link** Ask students to discuss with a family member how being honest makes a person trustworthy.*

LESSON 5

Review the meaning of **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Ask students to reflect on actions that are opposite of being trustworthy, such as cheating, being dishonest, or untruthful. Write these two statements on the board: Lying is wrong because... Stealing is wrong because... Call on 2-3 students to explain why that behavior is wrong by completing one of the statements. As time allows, invite additional students to share their ideas.

***School/Home Link** Ask students to ask a family member why lying and stealing are wrong, and discuss consequences for untrustworthy behavior.*