

# HONESTY

## Teacher Resource

### WHAT IS HONESTY?

Telling the truth.

### BENCHMARKS

- ✓ **HE.K.R.1.4** Identify the difference between the truth and a lie.
- ✓ **HE.1.R.1.4** Define and give examples of honesty.
- ✓ **HE.2.R.1.3** Explain the importance of being truthful.

### PURPOSE

- ▶ These interactive activities will help your students learn the characteristic of honesty and the importance of being truthful. Share the suggested introduction with your students, choose one or more of the activities below, and conclude with the suggested wrap-up. Feel free to modify or revisit activities throughout the week to continue reinforcing honesty.



### Suggested Introduction:

"Today, we are going to learn about honesty. Honesty is an important part of being respectful, responsible and showing good character. There may be times where honesty may be difficult, but telling the truth shows good character and respect to everyone around us."



### Activities to Build Honesty:

#### 1 Honesty Sorting

Create two baskets and label one as "Honest" and the other as "Dishonest." Create scenario cards that either display honesty or dishonesty. Read each card to the class and have students identify which card goes in which basket. Allow students to take turns placing scenario cards in the basket. Afterward, discuss with students how we know the difference between truths and lies, and reinforce that telling the truth is the right thing to do even when it is difficult.

#### Scenarios could include:

- You accidentally broke a toy at home. You tell your parents right away and offer to help fix it.
- You accidentally knocked over a friend's block tower and you say, "I didn't do that!"
- You accidentally spill juice on the floor and the teacher asks who did it. You raise your hand and say, "I spilled the juice."
- You were supposed to only eat one cookie but took one more when no one was looking. You later admitted that you took an extra cookie.

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### Activities to Build Honesty (Continued):

#### 2 Classroom “Honesty Book”

Get a blank journal or paper to create a book and have each student write or draw a page in the classroom “**Honesty** Book,” describing what **honesty** means to him or her and giving an example of when he or she told the truth. Keep the book in the classroom library for students to read and revisit often. This activity helps students contribute their definition of **honesty** in a lasting way.

#### 3 The “Honest Helper” Reward

Encourage **honest** behavior by selecting an object to represent the “**Honest** Helper” (e.g., stuffed animal, badge). At the end of each day or week, recognize a student who has been especially **honest** and place the reward on the student’s desk for the next day or week. Be sure to take a few minutes to highlight what he or she has done to earn the reward, and have the class discuss and explain the importance of being **honest** using the examples from the student. This is a great way to celebrate **honesty** in your classroom each day!



### Suggested Wrap-Up:

*Guide student responses or provide sentence stems.*

**“Can someone tell me what it means to be **honest**? You all did a great job identifying the difference between the truth and a lie! Even when you don’t want to be **honest**, **honesty** is important because it shows others you are trustworthy and have good character. **Honesty** is always the best policy.”**



# HONEST HELPER REWARD

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*STUDENT*

has demonstrated the Resiliency  
Characteristic of **Honesty!**

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*TEACHER*

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*DATE*