

# RESPONSIBILITY

## Teacher Resource

### WHAT IS RESPONSIBILITY?

Owning my actions, using good judgment and practicing self-control.

### BENCHMARKS

- ✓ **HE.K.R.2.2** Demonstrate the ability to follow rules and directions.
- ✓ **HE.1.R.2.1** Identify my role and responsibilities in the school, community and family. Clarification: Following directions, rules and procedures.
- ✓ **HE.2.R.2.3** Demonstrate healthy ways to express needs, wants and listening skills. Clarification: Paying attention, making eye contact and asking for help.

### PURPOSE

- These interactive activities will help your students learn the characteristic of responsibility and how to use good judgment, self-control and owning their actions. 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 responsibility.



### Suggested Introduction:

"Today, we are going to learn about responsibility. Responsibility means making good choices, demonstrating self-control and owning our actions. We demonstrate responsibility every time we think before we act. If a teacher says to raise your hand to be called on in class, and you listen to this rule and raise your hand before being called on, you are practicing responsibility. If a friend is speaking and you wait your turn before speaking, you are practicing responsibility by controlling your actions. Every time we use good judgment before making a decision, we are being responsible."



### Activities to Build Responsibility:

#### 1 "Simon Says" With a Twist

Help students practice following directions and paying attention in a fun way. Play "Simon Says" with a twist by including school-related commands (e.g., raise your hand to speak, stand quietly in line, push in your chair). Following each round, ask students to explain why these school rules are important to maintain a safe classroom and school environment. Emphasize the importance of listening carefully, making eye contact and following rules.

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### Activities to Build Responsibility (Continued):

#### 2 The Pencil Challenge

Have students practice **responsibility** by keeping track of two pencils throughout the week. Start by writing the students' names on the pencils and introduce ownership and **responsibility**. The goal of the pencil challenge is to keep track of the pencils, use them appropriately, and avoid losing or damaging them. Each day, take a quick moment to check in with students to see if they still have their pencils. Students who manage to keep their pencils all week earn a small reward or recognition (e.g., sticker, praise, privilege), reinforcing positive habits and personal **responsibility**.

#### 3 My Responsibilities and Roles

Discuss with students what **responsibility** looks like in the classroom. Have students draw or write about themselves doing one or more of these **responsibilities**. Help students recognize that being **responsible** and following rules helps the class run smoothly, builds trust and shows they care about their classroom community.

##### Example classroom jobs include:

- Watering class plants
- Turning off lights when leaving the room
- Passing out or collecting materials
- Cleaning up supplies or classroom areas
- Being a line leader



### Suggested Wrap-Up:

*Guide student responses or provide sentence stems.*

**"Can someone tell me what it means to show **responsibility**? You all did a great job finding ways to be **responsible** by following rules and expressing your needs in a healthy, honest way! Remember, if you are ever unsure of how to follow a rule or express what you need, it's okay to ask for help from a parent, teacher or friend."**