Honesty is:
- Speaking the truth.
- Refusing to cheat or take something that does not belong to you.
- Admitting your mistakes.
- Being true to yourself.

Important Phrase:
- Honesty is the best policy.

Learning Objectives:
Children know that it is always best to tell the truth, even if they might get into trouble.
Children understand the meaning of ‘honesty is the best policy’.

Suggested Resources:
Plain paper and colouring pencils.

Script:
“Have you ever done something wrong? Is there something that you wished you hadn’t done? What did you do when you were found out?”

Take a few answers from the class or provide your own.
Based on the children’s answers respond with ‘well done, you were honest’ or, if children were not, ask what they think they should have done. Explain that telling the truth – saying what really happened – is being honest. This is an important thing to do because then people will know what really happened and also how they can help put things right.

Suggested Activities:
Provide the children with plain paper and colouring pencils. Describe a scenario, for example ‘Tom broke a pencil. Later on in the day his mum asked who broke the pencil.’ Children must draw a picture of what Tom should do. If necessary, give children some support deciding how they could draw Tom being honest.

Character Coaching

Meaningful Praise:
Thank you for being honest.
Thank you for admitting what you did, I appreciate your honesty.

Guidance:
Remember that being honest is very important because it helps people to know that you can be trusted.

Correction:
How could you use honesty next time this happens?
I need someone to practise honesty so that I know what really happened.
I was saddened that you did not practise honesty today. What will you do differently next time?
Please practise honesty.