

AESOP'S FABLE



Courtesy is:

- * Showing politeness in what you do and what you say.
- * Thinking about the needs and feelings of others and being mindful of what will make them happy.

Synonyms:

- * thoughtfulness
- * respect

Important Phrase:

- * The little things in life make a big difference.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To understand that if you show courtesy to others, they will return this courtesy to you.

Suggested Resources:

Several copies of *The Lion and the Mouse* one of Aesop's fables (various adaptations available); handwriting cards with the phrase 'The little things in life make a big difference' written upon them; lined paper; pencils; and colouring pencils.

Script:

Begin by asking children how they feel when someone shows them kindness. "Can you remember a time when someone showed courtesy to you and share it with the class? Does someone have to show courtesy in a big way to make you feel happy?" Guide the discussion towards a phrase introduced in Year 1, 'The little things in life make a big difference.' Explain that children are going to listen to a story about a big roaring lion and a tiny little mouse and that you want children to listen for the times when the lion and the mouse show courtesy. Children can quietly raise their hands when they think they hear it. As the story is read, pause to discuss what is happening in the story.

Suggested Activities:

All Together: Close the circle time discussion with questions that encourage children to focus on the end of the story, when an act of kindness is returned with another act of kindness.

Story Time: Children read through an illustrated copy of *The Lion and the Mouse* in small groups.

Writing: Children copy 'The little things in life can make a big difference' to practise their handwriting. Children think of their own example to write below it.

Creative: Children illustrate their example of a time when a little act of courtesy made a big difference for them.

Plenary:

Regroup in a circle to share children's examples of times when a little act of courtesy made a big difference. How did it make them feel? Have/will they show courtesy to that child?



Character Coaching

Meaningful Praise:

Thank you for your story about a little thing making a big difference. How is your story like the story of the lion and the mouse?

Guidance:

Remember that courteous actions like pushing your chair in or holding the door open for someone can make the biggest difference in someone's day.

Correction:

You have left your chair out. What difference do you think it might make if you tuck it under your table?

