

PATIENT HANDS



Patience is:

- * Waiting calmly without getting upset.
- * Trusting that things will turn out right in the end.
- * Taking time to do something properly.
- * Tolerating delays without complaining.
- * Waiting for your turn.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To understand that patience creates a peaceful and orderly classroom.

Preparation:

This lesson focuses on the importance of being patient in the classroom. It encourages children to put their hands up when they need something or wish to speak. If your school or classroom has a *no hands up* policy then you may wish to use this lesson to promote the method you have selected to encourage children to wait patiently rather than calling out.

Suggested Resources:

Write-on whiteboards and dry wipe pens, or scrap paper.

Script:

Read the definition of patience. “How do we practise patience during a lesson?”

Pick someone who has their hand up. Allow them to share their understanding of patience.

“Well done (name of pupil), I chose you because you put your hand up. One of the most important ways in which you can show me that you are practising patience is by putting your hand up and waiting to be chosen to speak rather than calling out.”

“What does it mean when we have our hand up? Does it only mean one thing, or are there many reasons why we might put our hand up? Write down as many as you can on your whiteboards.”

Give the class enough time to list their reasons, and when sufficient time has elapsed take one reason from each child and briefly discuss.

“I am going to ask you to take five of the most important reasons and combine them into a poster which will let others know how a raised hand might let a teacher know that we are waiting patiently for something. By understanding this we can help to maintain a calm and patient atmosphere in the classroom.”

Suggested Activities:

Ask each child to draw around their hand and to write in each finger some of the messages a raised hand might signify. For instance:

- * I need help.
- * I'm stuck.
- * I know the answer to your question.
- * I'd like to ask a question.
- * Please pick me.
- * I've finished.
- * I have something I'd like to say.
- * Can I leave the room?
- * I need a drink of water.
- * I'm ready to go out to break.

