



classroom activity - self value

An honest conduct

AGE	3 – 6 years old
VALUES	honesty
MATERIALS	images
TIME	30 minutes
GROUP SIZE	up to 20 children
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop in the children notions about honesty.
METHODOLOGY	conversation, story, observation, practical actions
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STEP BY STEP IMPLEMENTATION

Honesty constitutes one of the most important values in the formation of the child's personality because it is the base of personal relations in which the projection towards others implies a disinterested personal affection, and a respect that is strengthened through the very same interrelations.

The knowledge of what one can or cannot do, and which conduct is good, is a fundamental aspect in the development of honesty. Many children think honesty means you "don't tell a lie"-- and speaking the truth is a big part of being honest. But honesty means more than "not lying." Honesty means your actions are truthful too.

Honesty includes not hiding the truth (deceiving), not breaking rules to gain an advantage (cheating), and not taking something that isn't yours (stealing) and any other action that you would hide because it is against what you consider morally right.

As it is, honesty is a value or general concept that includes others more specific, such as respect for others, not to take control of other people's things, to be sincere in relations, not to lie, to always tell the truth.

The first activity will be a conversation of the facilitator with the children on the subject in which she/he will tell a story, in the second activity children will make drawings on the content of the story, and finally, in the third activity, they will prepare an exhibition with all the drawings made. Later the parents will make a visit to see the exhibition.

Step 1)

The facilitator will explore the subject through a dialogue to determine what children know or think about honesty.

Step 2)

To tell the story "An honest conduct".

"An honest conduct"

Once upon a time there was a very poor child who lived with his parents in a poor area in the outskirts of the city. John*, that is how the child was called, used to go early every morning to the city market, to look for something to do so that the retailers helped him with some things that they gave him: fruit, vegetables, produce, with which he contributed to the household's economy, since as a child; he could not obtain a lot.

One day he was sitting in front of a fruit shop when he saw an elderly person buying some things, which she threw in a big bag. John came up to her to try to help her, but the elderly person, when she saw him dressed in rags, sent him away because she feared that the child was going to take some of her fruit. John did not mind this, thinking that perhaps the old woman had previously had some disagreeable type of experience, and he started to look for other things to do.

When the elderly person was walking away and, as she was very old, she put her purse in the bag, and it fell to the ground without her noticing it. John ran where the purse had fallen, and when he opened it: Wow, there was enough money so that all his family could eat for one week! How lucky!

And do you know what John did? He ran towards the elderly person who was already leaving the market, and when she saw him again she said to him: "Look child, I already told you that I do not want you to help me!"

"Lady" answered John, this is not the reason I am here, and I want to return this bag to you that dropped over there without noticing it."

The incredulous elderly person took the purse, she looked inside and she exclaimed: "How unfair I have been, such an honest child and I rejected him. But come; come with me to my house, so that I give you everything that you need for you and for your family."

And they say that since then everybody in the neighborhood calls John "The honest one" for the honest conduct he showed.

*Note: name can be adapted in each country.

Once the story is finished, the facilitator will give the children the possibility to make comments on what happened in the story, she/he will guide the conversation towards John's honest conduct, she/he will speak to the children on what honesty is, she/he will define what are good actions, how to consider somebody as honest, so that they understand what honesty is, and how the relations among honest people must be.

Step 3)

The facilitator will invite the children to make drawings and paintings to show how to help other people. Firstly, she/he will talk with the children on the importance of such drawings so that they understand well what honesty is, helping them with questions until they can give an elementary description of what honesty is. Once this part is concluded the children will start to elaborate the drawings and paintings under the direction of the facilitator.

Step 4)

With the drawings the children will organize the „Mural of honesty" with the best drawings, and they will invite the parents to visit their exhibition.

CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

OBSERVED BEHAVIOR	YES	NO	COMMENTS
Children had at the beginning of the activity little notion about honesty.			
Children knew how to give a right opinion about the honest conduct of the character.			
Children showed interest in having an honest conduct.			
Children related what happened in the story to some of their own experiences.			

Being honest may not get you a lot of friends but it'll always get you the right ones. - John Lennon



Teachers' Selfcare tips and hints:

Practice gratitude and positivity, while acknowledging that there will always be things you cannot change.
