

Rule: Follow Adult Directions at All Times

Social Skill: Following Directions

Character Education Trait: Respect and Responsibility

Purpose: practice active listening to support following adult directions.

Instructional Strategies:

Input/Modeling [Demonstrate]

Explain the purpose of the activity: Today we are going to practice something called “active listening” to help us follow adult directions the first time given. There are four steps to doing this. Display the first step [Look]. First, you look at the person who is speaking to show that you are paying attention. Display the second step [Respond]. Second, you let the other person know that you understand the directions. You can nod your head or say something to show that you know what to do. Display the third step [Act]. Third, you do what you have been asked to do right away. This way you are more likely to remember what you are supposed to do. Display the last step [Check]. Fourth, you check back with the teacher to let [her] know that you have followed directions.

Place a poster on display in a prominent place for future reference.

Let me demonstrate for you what this looks like. I have a role-play card here and I would like _____ to be the teacher who is giving me the directions on this card. If I need to remember what I am supposed to do, I know I can always reference the poster on display.

Demonstrate active listening using several cards. When finished, say, Thank you ___ for helping me.

Guided Practice [Demonstrate]

Ask several students to demonstrate active listening using the role-playing cards. Provide supportive feedback for appropriate behavior (e.g., That was super, Maria. You looked at me and let me know that you understood the directions. Then you did what I asked you to do and checked with me to let me know you were done.). Provide corrective feedback for inappropriate examples (e.g., Good, George, but do not forget to check back with me to let me know that you followed directions.).

Organize students into pairs. Have each student practice active listening using one of the roleplaying cards. When both students have practiced the first card, have them exchange cards with another group and do the activity again. Provide supportive and corrective feedback.

Rule: Follow Adult Directions at All Times (continued)

Independent Practice [Practice]

Have students practice active listening and following directions in pairs or small groups using roleplaying cards.

Move around the classroom and provide supportive and corrective feedback. After 5 minutes, say, I noticed some great active listening and following directions as I walked around...Share some of the ‘good’ things you saw during the role-plays that supported the activity.

End by saying, You all are experts at this. From now on, I will expect you to “Follow Adult Directions at All Times” using the steps that we just learned and practiced. I will leave the role-play cards _____ (in the Social Skills Center/Social Skills Bulletin Board) for you to practice with a partner if you want to do it again at a later time.

Check for Understanding [Prove]

Make a chart of active listening and following directions when students enter the room.

Use a simple rubric to keep track of active listening and following directions:

Do my students look at me when I give directions? Yes No

Do my students say "Okay" or provide another response to indicate understanding? Yes No

Do my students follow directions in a timely manner? Yes No

Do my students let me know when they have followed my directions? Yes No

Use Praise to Support Behavior Instruction and Learning:

General Praise Specific Behavior Praise Positive Peer Praise

"Wow! You did a great job following my directions the first time given!"

"I am impressed! Every one of you had your eyes on ___ as he/she was speaking to us."

"Thank you ___ for looking at me as I was giving directions."

"___, you made me proud when you let our visitor know that you were following directions."

"I would like to compliment ___. When I was talking to him/her, he/she looked at me and listened to what I had to say without interrupting."

Materials:

1. Sentence Strips, Transparency and/or Poster of Active Listening steps
2. Role Playing cards

REVIEW: Active Listening Steps

Step Looks Like

1. Look
2. Respond
3. Act
4. Check