

Courtesy Lesson

Ms./Mr. Manners

Introduction:

A violent argument at a basketball game reminds Colt Barron that both children and adults can teach others to be courteous by modeling courteous behavior themselves.

Essential
Question:

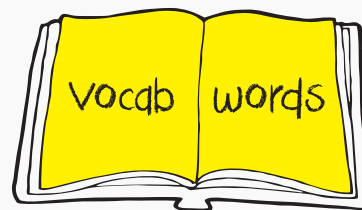
Why is it important
to show courtesy to
others?



A Ms./Mr. Manners costume (this could be anything from a full-fledged costume to a simple pair of glasses or a hat or a wig; whatever the costume, it should change not only the way the teacher looks but also how the teacher talks)

Courtesy and Politeness Points list

Courtesy drawing page



appropriate

courtesy

Pre-viewing:

The following can be asked/done before watching video.

- Ask the students if they have ever played the game, “Mother, May I?” Explain the rules:
 - One person is “Mother” or “Father” (the game leader) and the rest play the children and line up at the far end of a space facing “Mother.”
 - One at a time, the children ask permission to move forward toward the leader, being sure to use the polite phrase, “Mother, may I take 3 steps forward?”
 - Sometimes there are silly kinds of steps such as baby steps, giant steps, banana steps, karate steps, bunny steps, or scissors steps.
 - Mother replies either, “Yes, you may,” to which the child responds, “Thank you, Mother,” and the child does that correct number and kind of steps, or Mother says, “No, you may not, but you may take ___ steps (in another direction or in another manner).”
 - The first child to reach “Mother” becomes the caller.
- If space and time permit, play at least two rounds with a two groups of students: the players and the observers. Ask the observers to be ready to answer your questions about courtesy after the game is over. Have the groups switch roles for the second round.
- Ask students to explain why this is a game of good manners. What are the words the players must use? How do these words show good manners and courtesy?
- Point out that “May I?” is the correct way to politely ask permission to do something, as opposed to “Can I?” which is the way to ask if one is able or has the ability to do something.

Pre-viewing Continued:

- What are some other words that show good manners and courtesy?
- When should we use good manners and courtesy? Why?
- Introduce the video about good manners and courtesy.

Notes:

Discussion Questions:

The following can be asked/done after watching video:

- What are some of the phrases the people in the video use to show courtesy and manners? What are some simple actions the people in the video do to show courtesy and manners? Do you ever say or do these things? Explain.
- Why is it important to be courteous to others?
- Have you ever been in a situation when someone was rude to you? How did it make you feel?
- Why do you think some people are not always as courteous as they should be?
- How do you show courtesy to your parents, siblings, friends, teachers and other adults?

Notes:

Procedure:

Introduction:

In this exercise, the teacher plays “Ms./Mr. Manners.”

- Tell students that you are going to pretend to be Ms./Mr. Manners who is writing a story for the newspaper about manners: polite words and actions.
- Explain that you will turn around and then turn back to them, and when you turn back, you will no longer be (teacher), but you will be Ms./Mr. Manners.

Direct Instructions (I do)

- Turn away from students, put on your ‘costume,’ ask them to count to three out loud. When they say, “Three!” turn back to students in your costume and greet them as Ms./Mr. Manners.
- Ms./Mr. Manners explains she/he is thrilled to be with a group of experts — the students in this class — on polite words and actions because her/his new job is writing about manners for the newspaper. Ms./Mr. Manners is not really sure if she/he got the research right, so the class will be a huge help.
- Ms./Mr. Manners will read one of the manners points and the students will politely explain if this is correct. If not, they must provide an example or demonstration of the correct thing to do.

Procedure Continued:

Guided Exploration (We do)

- Ms./Mr. Manners asks students to demonstrate the polite, courteous way of letting her/him know if the manners point is correct.
 - How will they let her/him know if the point is correct without hurting Ms./Mr. Manners's feelings?
 - How will they courteously ask for a turn?
 - How will they be polite and courteous to the others in the class?

Independent Practice (You do)

- Prepare a list of manners points (or use the list provided for you at the end of this lesson). Read one and ask the students to use courtesy in helping you understand.
- Ask students to demonstrate their suggestions.
- If a student does something incorrectly, avoid saying things like, "No, that's not it," or "Wrong!" Instead of negating the child's efforts, you might say, "I don't understand. Would someone else be willing to help explain?"
- When Ms./Mr. Manners has enough information, thank the children for their help and politely excuse yourself. Ask if you may return to their class if you need another dose of courtesy support.

Notes:

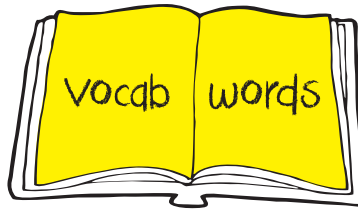
Procedure Continued:

Conclusion

- Turn away from students, remove your ‘costume,’ ask students to count to three out loud. When they say, “Three!” turn back to students and greet them as yourself.
- Ask students to recap what happened when Ms./Mr. Manners was in the room — reminding them to continue with courtesy and politeness.
- Ask students about how they can apply the courtesy and politeness points in the classroom every day.
- If possible, have students draw a picture and write a sentence about one of the courtesy and politeness points. Post them for future reference.

Notes:

Vocabulary & Definitions



appropriate (adj.) Definition: correct or right for a particular time, situation or purpose

Context: Because Karley is 10 years old, it is not appropriate for her to watch a rated R movie.

courtesy (n.) Definition: the state of being polite; polite behavior that shows that a person respects other people

Context: Habib's mother was proud of his display of courtesy when he offered his seat to an elderly lady.

Source: Longman's Advanced American Dictionary. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited, 2000.

COURTESY & POLITENESS POINTS

- When you burp, you should cover your mouth and say, "Excuse me."
- When you sneeze, you should point your face at all the people in the room and sneeze all over everyone.
- When you eat dinner, you should fill your mouth with food and talk out loud.
- When you eat dinner, you should put your napkin on your lap.
- When you meet someone for the first time, you should look at the floor and be silent.
- When you arrive at school and see your teacher, you should say, "Good morning, (Name of teacher.)"
- When someone does something nice for you, you should say, "Thank you."
- When you stand in line for the water fountain, you should push everyone around you.
- When someone says, "Thank you," to you, you should reply by saying, "What's it to you?"
- When you sit at a desk or a table, it is good to put your feet up on the desk or table.
- When the teacher asks for a volunteer, you should jump up and down and shout, "Pick me! Pick me!"
- When you are the first to arrive at a door, you should open the door and hold it for the next person to go through first.

Courtesy Lesson

Ms./Mr. Manners

My Example of Courtesy



K-2