

ABOUT MORNINGSIDE CENTER

Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility's evidence-validated programs engage young people in learning essential social and emotional skills and help educators build productive and respectful schools. The 4Rs Program combines superior children's books with engaging SEL activities that explore community, feelings, relationships, conflict, and problem-solving, adding depth to literacy instruction.

Puppet Role Play, Good Listening

By: The 4Rs



Puppet Role Play: Good Listening

Note to the teacher:

Good Listening with puppets is an excerpt from The 4Rs[™] [Reading, Writing, Respect & Resolution] Teaching Guide for Grade 1, Unit 1, Building Community, p. 9.

The 4Rs[™] kits for Grades PK-2 include a pair of "The 4Rs" puppets. You can use puppets you've used for other classroom activities, or make a pair of stick puppets to use with Puppet Role Plays.

Time: 10 minutes

Materials: chart paper and markers

Introduce the class puppets. Say that they are part of the class and will be helping us from time to time. You can name them or involve the children in naming them.

Present a puppet skit in which one puppet is telling the other about her trip to the dentist, and the other puppet doesn't listen well. He yawns, fidgets, interrupts, starts talking about his trip to the dentist.

Ask if ______ is doing a good job of listening.

How they think ______ (the other puppet) is feeling?

Explain that one way of sharing is listening. When we listen, we share our time and attention with the other person. Listening is at the heart of a caring community. How could ______ do a better job of listening? What would he have to do? Elicit ideas such as looking at the person, not interrupting.

Replay the skit with good listening. How is ______ feeling now? Make a brief checklist of guidelines for good listening.

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