

First Day School Plan on: Speaking Truth to Power

Spiritual Reflection: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you (Luke 6:31), “ and the King will answer them,’ Truly, I say to you as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’
“Matthew 25:40 New International Version.

Songs: #282 In the Very Middle

Story: *Just Say Something* by Peggy Moss ages 5-8

Bootsie Barker Bites by Barbara Bottner ages 3-8

Opening: Our story tells about a situation that is common in some schools and outside of school. A person, who would never be so unkind to a schoolmate, has to make a decision about what she will do. Sometimes doing nothing can feel like doing the wrong thing.

Wondering Questions:

1. I wonder if you can name some of the feelings you had when you heard this story?
2. I wonder what part of the story feels the most important right now?
3. I wonder where you are in the story or what part of the story is about you?
4. I wonder if you have ever seen people treat each other like this in your neighborhood, at the park?
5. I wonder what you would do if you were in the girl’s situation?

Activity: Role play the situations in the book using the helping pages after the story. If children bring up situations in their own lives, have the group bring up potential responses that they might try. It is important to practice the language and actions before being faced with them in a real situation.

Remind the children that confiding in a trusted adult is not tattling. Children shouldn't be expected to solve every problem on their own.

Focus questions after the role play.

When you were role playing what did you feel?

If you were the bully, how did you feel? (Teacher might ask can you think of why you might have felt that way.)

Materials: Explore the websites listed in the back of the book as well as the following: *Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander* by Barbara Coloroso
Early Childhood Adventures in Peacemaking: A Conflict Resolution Activity Guide for Early Childhood Educators by William J. Kreidler

Notes to Parents: Today we read a story about children who were bullied and what one child finally did in response. We encourage you to continue to dialogue with your children, and have them "practice" what they will say if they see someone being bullied or get bullied themselves.